

## **Executive Summary – Industry and Economics Panel Presentation**

In June 2025, during a Regional Assessment Working Group (RAWG) meeting in Thunder Bay, members identified the need for a technical workshop focused on industry and economics. To support this priority, five experts from the Roster of Expert Supports were invited to contribute to a panel discussion. The workshop took place on September 16, 2025, in Timmins, Ontario, as part of RAWG’s regular monthly meeting.

Each expert was asked to prepare a brief presentation addressing a selection of questions aligned with their area of expertise. The discussion was structured around three thematic areas:

### Setting the Stage

- What is your awareness of the proposed or potential projects and activities in the Ring of Fire Area?
  - Describe what mining projects in the area could look like (size, intensity, project components etc.)
- What do you know about the valuation of RAWG’s assessment priorities in the Regional Assessment area?
- What are the best practices or methodologies for these types of regional valuations and how can this support communities in the context of resource development?
- How can regional development opportunities affect current socio-economic conditions?

### Lessons Learned from other Communities

- What kinds of benefit agreements, equity stake models, and/or other partnerships with Indigenous communities are being seen as most successful? Why?
- How can the RAWG best address challenges faced by communities who are directly impacted by or involved in mining developments as well as remote communities who are more indirectly affected?
  - Known challenges include employment barriers, murdered and missing Indigenous women, mining camps, remoteness and lack of environmental oversight.

### Strategic Priorities

- What do the presenters see as the most promising and important initiatives the RAWG could explore to advance a more healthy and balanced regional economy that addresses the diverse needs of communities?

- What are the roles of different parties in achieving desired benefits and addressing areas of concern?

Each presentation was followed by a Q&A session with RAWG members, allowing for deeper engagement and clarification of key points.