

Enclosure 1: Summary of information available to the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada with respect to the potential adverse impacts of the Upper Beaver Gold Project on Matachewan First Nation's Exercise of Rights

This document was prepared by the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) following the planning phase for the Upper Beaver Gold Project (the Project). The purpose of this document is to set out the Agency's preliminary understanding of the potential adverse impacts of the Project on Matachewan First Nation's exercise of rights. As additional information becomes available throughout the impact assessment process, this document will be updated.

Summary of Information Available to the Agency about:

- a) The nature and extent of Matachewan First Nation's Aboriginal and treaty rights;**
- b) Potential impacts of the Project to the exercise of Matachewan First Nation's rights; and**
- c) Potential impacts of the Project on the health, social, or economic conditions of Matachewan First Nation.**

a) Summary of the information available to the Agency related to the nature and extent of Matachewan First Nation's Aboriginal and treaty rights:

- Members of Matachewan First Nation have Aboriginal and treaty rights that are recognized and affirmed under section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.
- Matachewan First Nation is a signatory to Treaty #9, which provides rights to hunting, trapping and fishing throughout the treaty area.
- Matachewan First Nation's reserve is located approximately 68 kilometres west from the project area.
- The project area is located within Matachewan First Nation's asserted traditional territory.
- Matachewan First Nation is affiliated with Wabun Tribal Council, Chiefs of Ontario and Nishawbe Aski Nation.

b) Summary of the information available to the Agency on the potential impacts to the exercise of Matachewan First Nation's rights resulting from any change to the environment due to the Project are identified below:

Potential impacts to physical and cultural heritage

- No information is currently available.

Potential impacts to the current use of lands and resources for traditional purposes

- Potential changes to access, experience or abundance of lands and resources used for fishing, hunting, trapping, and plant gathering, including in Beaverhouse Lake.
- Potential impacts to the effectiveness of hunters and gatherers due to the loss of ecological knowledge through change in or loss of access to preferred harvesting areas.

Potential impacts to any structure, site, or thing that is of historical, archeological, paleontological, or architectural significance

- Potential impacts to access to sites of historical significance, including access to the boat launch on Beaverhouse Lake.

c) Summary of the information available to the Agency on any potential changes to the health, social, or economic conditions of Matachewan First Nation due to the Project

- Potential impacts to land use from real/perceived risk of contaminants.

- Potential loss of time and interruptions to family traditions in the region, such as community feasts, for those involved in the mine economy.
- Potential harassment and discrimination from outside workers, and higher crime rates in communities.
- Potential barriers for employment for women.

FOR ACTION: The Agency requests that you validate the information set out above and provide any additional information about the impacts the Project may have on Matachewan First Nation's exercise of rights by **February 1, 2023**. Additional details about the nature and extent of potential impacts to Matachewan First Nation or the exercise of rights of Matachewan First Nation may refine our understanding of the potential impacts of the Project and allow the Agency to adjust its consultation approach, where necessary. In addition, the Agency would like to meet with your community to discuss the information set out above to better understand how your community may be impacted by the Project. The Agency encourages Matachewan First Nation to share information with the proponent to inform the development of the proponent's Impact Statement.