

Enclosure 1: Summary of information on potential impacts of the Crawford Nickel Project on Apitipi Anicinapek Nation

This **draft** document was prepared by the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) following the conclusion of the Planning Phase for the Crawford Nickel Project (the Project). The purpose of this document is to set out the Agency's preliminary understanding of the **potential** impacts of the Project on Apitipi Anicinapek Nation. The Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines for the Project identify all of the valued components the Proponent will be required to study during the preparation of its Impact Statement. As additional information about impacts of the Project that are specific to Apitipi Anicinapek Nation becomes available throughout the impact assessment process, this document will be updated, and will inform the Proponent's studies and the impact assessment.

The Proposed Project

Canada Nickel Company (the Proponent) is proposing an open-pit nickel-cobalt mine and metal mill, located 43 kilometres north of Timmins, Ontario. Based on available information, the "project area" includes:

- *a large mine site footprint of > 5000 ha, including open pits, waste rock piles and a tailings management facility, predominantly within the North Driftwood River and West Buskegau River watersheds (the "mine site");*
- *relocation of Highway 655 and existing 500 kV transmission line to the west of the mine, including approximately 20 km of new right of way;*
- *effluent discharge pipe(s) to locations that may include the Mattagami River downstream of Lower Sturgeon Dam, the North Driftwood River, and the West Buskegau River;*
- *a new rail spur from the proposed mine south to Kidd Mine, following Highway 655; and*
- *transport of ore along an existing rail line between Kidd Mine and Kidd metallurgical site.*

Summary of Information Available to the Agency about:

- a) the nature and extent of Apitipi Anicinapek Nation's Aboriginal and treaty rights;**
- b) the potential impacts of the Project to the exercise of Apitipi Anicinapek Nation's rights;**
- c) potential impacts of the Project on health, social, or economic conditions of Apitipi Anicinapek Nation; and**
- d) potential cumulative changes to the exercise of Aboriginal and treaty rights of Apitipi Anicinapek Nation through time.**

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

- Members of Apitipi Anicinapek Nation have Aboriginal and treaty rights that are recognized and affirmed under section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.
- Apitipi Anicinapek Nation is a signatory to Treaty 9, which provides rights to hunting, trapping and fishing throughout the treaty area.
- Apitipi Anicinapek Nation's reserve is located approximately 101 kilometres east of the mine site.
- The project area is located within Apitipi Anicinapek Nation's traditional territory.

- Apitipi Anicinapek Nation is affiliated with Nishnawbe Aski Nation, the Chiefs of Ontario, and the Algonquin Anishinabeg Nation Tribal Council.

b) Summary of the information available to the Agency on the potential impacts to the exercise of Apitipi Anicinapek Nation’s rights resulting from any change to the environment due to the Project:¹

Potential impacts to physical and cultural heritage

Where available, please specify additional information such as location on a map related to the items in bold.

- Potential impacts to the ability of Apitipi Anicinapek Nation members to **carry out ceremonies** within their traditional territory.

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

Where available, please specify additional information such as location on a map or resourced used related to the items in bold.

- Potential impacts on the ability of Apitipi Anicinapek Nation members to exercise their rights, including **hunting, fishing, and trapping**, in proximity to the project area and in the lands and waters downstream of the project area, due to loss of access to, or changes to experience at, **preferred sites** within their traditional territory.
- Potential impacts to Apitipi Anicinapek Nation’s ability to **harvest moose and other wildlife** within their traditional territory.

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

- No information is currently available.

c) Summary of the information available to the Agency on any potential changes to the health, social, or economic conditions of Apitipi Anicinapek Nation’s due to the Project:²

- No information is currently available.

d) Summary of the information available to the Agency on any potential cumulative changes to the exercise of Aboriginal and treaty rights of Apitipi Anicinapek Nation through time:

- Potential impacts on traditional practices, including the Nation’s ability to harvest caribou, due to past and ongoing mining, hydroelectric, forestry, pulp and paper and road projects, as well as climate change.

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 Apitipi Anicinapek Nation. Additional details about the nature and extent of potential impacts to Apitipi Anicinapek Nation or the exercise of rights of Apitipi Anicinapek Nation may refine our understanding of the

¹ The Agency notes that Apitipi Anicinapek Nation intends to conduct a Traditional Knowledge and Land Use Study in the project area, which will inform the Nation’s assessment of the potential impacts of the Project on the exercise of Aboriginal and treaty rights, and the potential impacts of the Project on the Nation’s physical and cultural heritage.

² The Agency notes that Apitipi Anicinapek Nation intends to conduct a Health and Socio-Economic Baseline Study, which will inform the Nation’s assessment of the potential impacts of the Project on the health, social, and economic conditions of Apitipi Anicinapek Nation.

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 Nation to discuss the information set out above to better understand how your Nation may be impacted by the Project. The Agency encourages Apitipi Anicinapek Nation to share information with the Proponent to inform the development of the Proponent's Impact Statement.