

Hello,

I am writing from the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) about the Northern Road Link Project proposed by Marten Falls First Nation and Webequie First Nation.

In this message includes the following:

- Information about the Project and public comment period – comments due by March 23, 2023
- Guidance to support your participation in the comment period
- Information on how you can submit comments
- Information on registering to attend a virtual information session
- Availability of participant funding
- Additional ways to contact the Agency

Information about the Project and public comment period

Marten Falls First Nation and Webequie First Nation are proposing the construction and operation, including maintenance, of an all-season multi-use public highway located in northern Ontario. As proposed, the Northern Road Link Project would be about 117 to 164 kilometres long and cross the Attawapiskat River. It would connect the proposed Marten Falls Community Access Road and the proposed Webequie Supply Road. The highway would become part of a future all-season road network connecting mineral development activities in the Ring of Fire area to the provincial highway system at Nakina, Ontario.

The Project is subject to the *Impact Assessment Act* and the Agency started a public comment period on the Summary of the Initial Project Description. For an overview of the impact assessment process, you may consider reviewing the [Impact Assessment Process: Timelines and Outputs](#).

Guidance to support your participation in the comment period

The Agency invites the public and Indigenous groups to review the Summary of the Initial Project Description and provide comments on the Project. You may consider the following questions to help develop your comments:

- Has the proponent characterized the positive or negative effects of the Project (on the environment, health, social or economic conditions)?
- Has the Proponent adequately characterized the existing health, social and economic conditions that may be relevant to the Project?

This feedback will help the Agency prepare the Summary of Issues and inform its decision as to whether the Project requires an impact assessment. This is the first federal comment period for the Project. If the Agency determines a federal impact assessment is required, the public and Indigenous groups will have additional opportunities to comment over the course of the impact assessment process.

Information on how to submit comments by the March 23, 2023, deadline

Comments should be submitted online by visiting the Project's Registry page on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry (Reference #84331 at <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/84331>). The Summary of the Initial Project Description is available on the Registry. Participants who wish to provide their input in a different format can contact the Agency by writing to NorthernRoad-RouteDuNord@iaac-aeic.gc.ca.

Submit your comments online in either official language by March 23, 2023. All comments received will be published online as part of the project file.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Information submitted to the Agency to inform this project assessment process may be posted online to the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry (Reference #84331), subject to certain exceptions related to privacy, security or confidentiality. The Agency's Submission Policy (<https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/participation/conditions>) describes what submitted information can be shared publicly, and what should remain private. For more information on how we protect your privacy, please refer to the Privacy Notice (<https://www.iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/protection?culture=en-CA>).

Information on registering for a virtual information session

The Agency invites the public and Indigenous groups to attend a virtual information session via Zoom to learn more about the project, the impact assessment process, and how to submit comments on the Summary of the Initial Project Description.

English Sessions:

March 14, 2023, 12:00 PM – 2:00 PM (Eastern Time)

March 15, 2023, 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM (Eastern Time)

French Session:

March 16, 2023, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM (Eastern Time)

If interested, we invite you to register by email at NorthernRoad-RouteDuNord@iaac-aeic.gc.ca in advance of the session with the date you plan to attend. For more information on how to attend a session, please contact the Agency using the project email above. Please circulate this message to your organization's membership list.

Availability of participant funding

Participant funding will be available to eligible participants during this comment period and details will be announced shortly on the Registry. The Agency will reimburse retroactively eligible participants, for their participation in this first comment period.

Additional ways to contact the Agency

Should you wish to be removed from our distribution list, please let us know at NorthernRoad-RouteDuNord@iaac-aeic.gc.ca.

Direct media inquiries to the Agency's media relations team at media@iaac-aeic.gc.ca or call 343-549-3870.

For more information on the Agency's privacy policies, consult the Privacy Notice (<https://www.iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/protection?culture=en-CA>). Stay updated on the Project by following the Agency on Twitter: @IAAC_AEIC #NorthernRoadLink

Thank you,

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(she/her|elle)

Northern Road Link Project
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