

APPENDIX 3-H

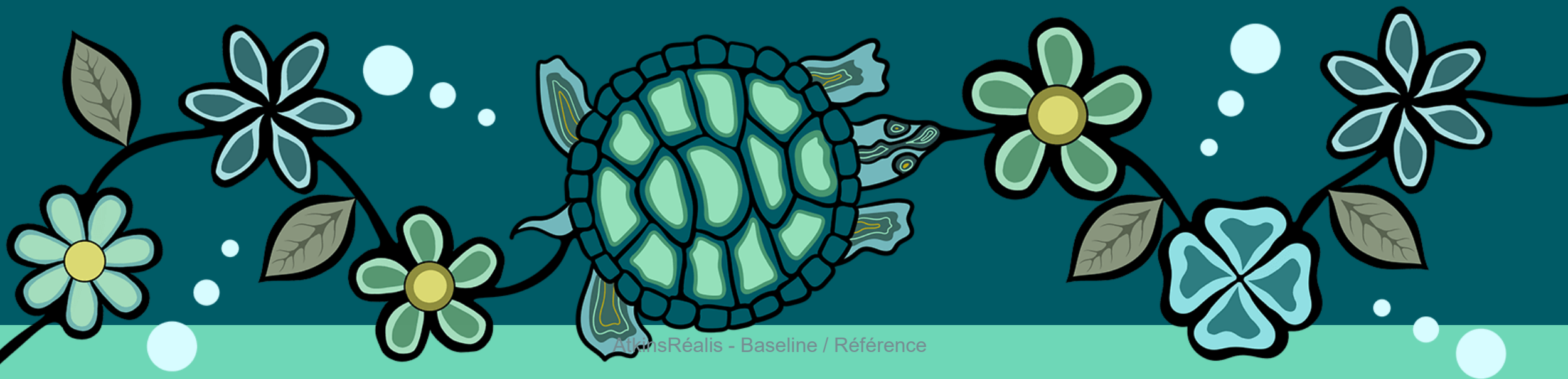
Indigenous Community Open House #1 Presentation



Northshore Link and Northeast Power Line Project Community Meeting

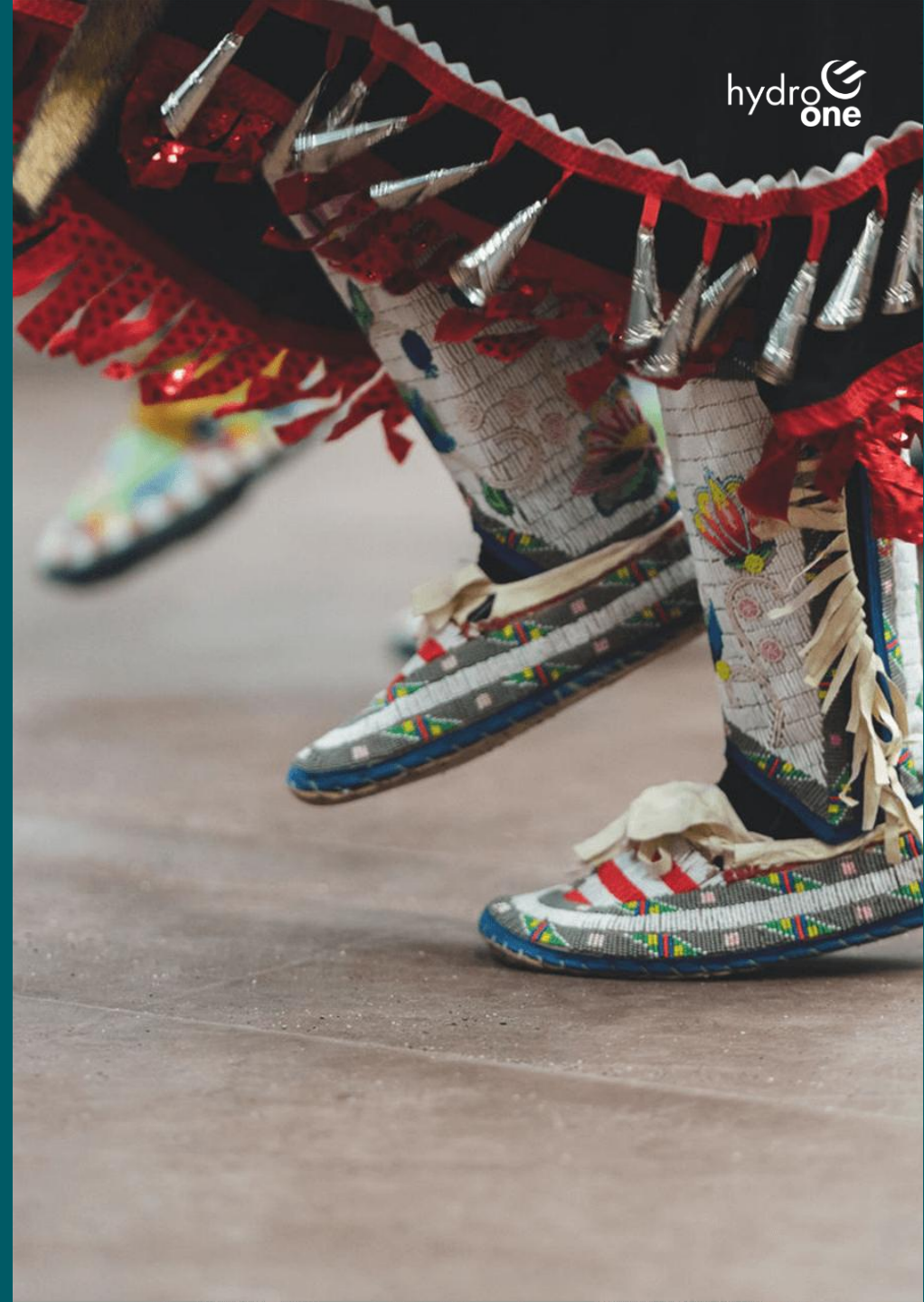
Indigenous Community

Date

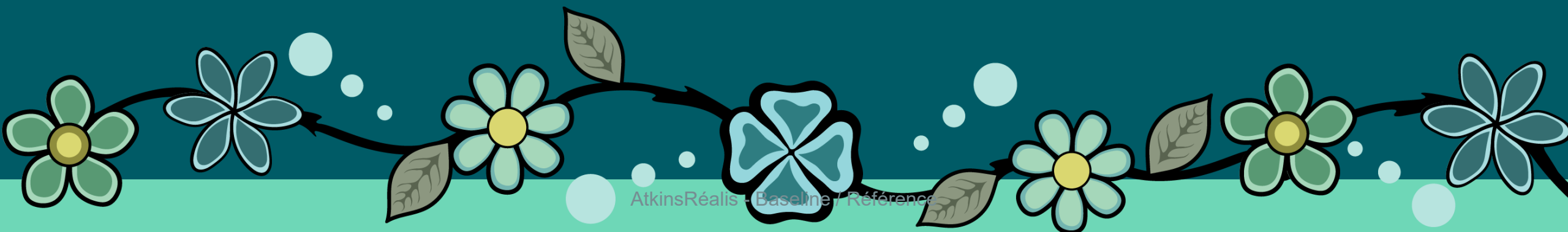


Opening

AtkinsRéal - Baseline / Référence



Welcome & Introductions



Meeting Agenda

Opening

Welcome & Introductions

Partnership Overview

Energy 101

North Shore Link Project (NSL)

- Project Overview
- Project Timelines
- Class Environmental Assessment Process
- Next steps
- Q&A

Northeast Powerline Project (NEPL)

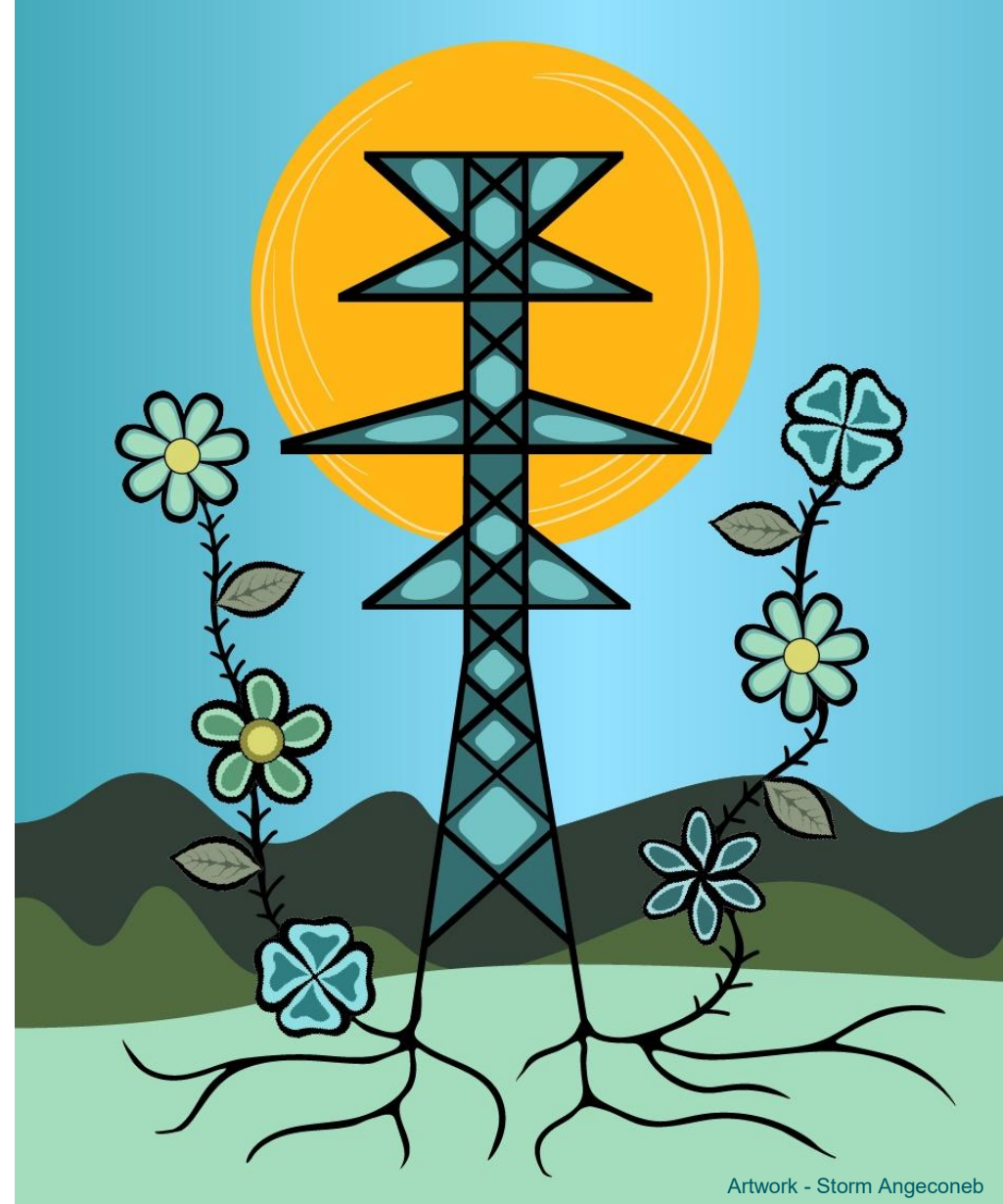
- Project Overview
- Project Timelines
- Environmental Update Process
- Next steps
- Q&A

Capacity Funding

Closing Remarks & Open Session

Goal for our meeting

- Project information and work to date
- First Nation Equity Partnership Model
- Overview of the NSL Class EA process and community involvement and update on the NEPL project
- Understand how communities want to be engaged for these projects
- Review of next steps



Artwork - Storm Angeconeb

Hydro One is Listening, our Approach Transforming

Indigenous Communities in Ontario have told us they want:



A voice with a seat at the table



Employment and Procurement



Investment Opportunities



Equity Ownership



Sustainable Revenue



Partnerships



Early and On-Going Engagement
(Projects and Operations)



A Partner They Trust



Working with Indigenous Communities

- Hydro One is committed to working with Indigenous communities in the spirit of cooperation and shared responsibility.
- Forging meaningful relationships with Indigenous communities based upon trust, transparency, and accountability is vital to building partnerships and advancing meaningful Reconciliation.
- Our engagement, advocacy and strategic direction are set by the Indigenous Relations Policy and led in collaboration with the Indigenous communities we work with every day.
- The Hydro One First Nations equity partnership model will apply to this project, and we are in discussion with potential First Nation partners.



Excelling at
Engagement



Working with
Integrity



Holding
Ourselves
Accountable



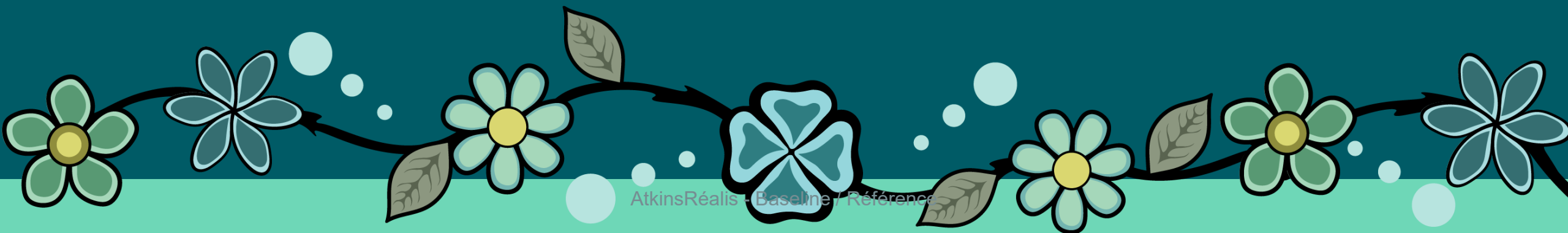
Breaking
Barriers

First Nations Equity Partnership Model

- New transmission lines in Ontario with a capital expenditure exceeding \$100 million in rate base.
- Net-zero supporting greenfield infrastructure.
- Meaningful commitments to early engagement and collaboration on decision making from the beginning.
- Support and collaboration on project financing, buy-in at electrification.
- Significant construction procurement and employment commitments for Indigenous community members and businesses.



Energy Sector 101



Electricity Sector Overview



Hydro One enables electricity supply by building and maintaining the transmission grid.



The Ministry of Energy sets the overall policy for the energy sector, mainly through laws and regulations.

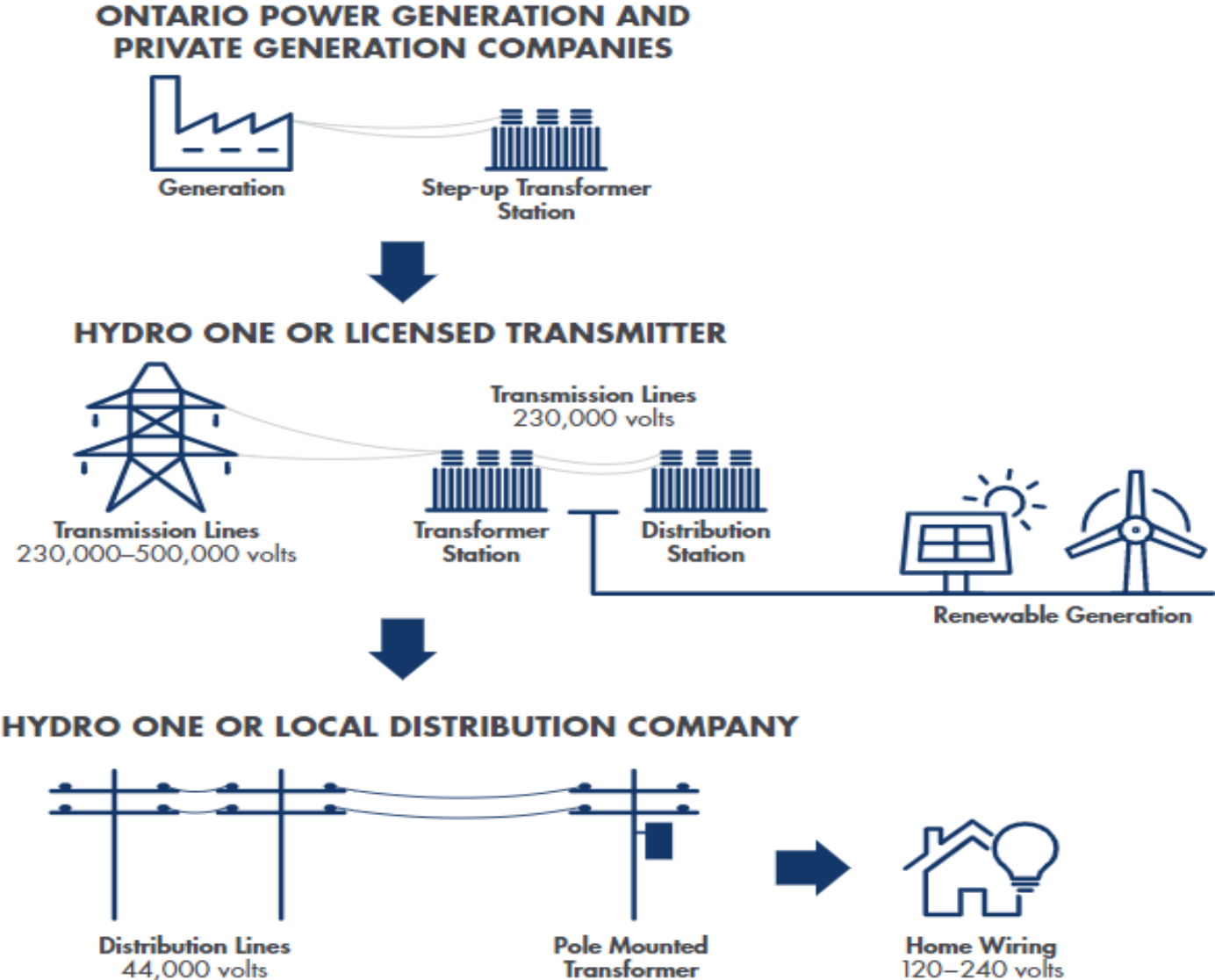


The IESO plans for the bulk transmission and generation resources needed to meet Ontario's future electricity needs.

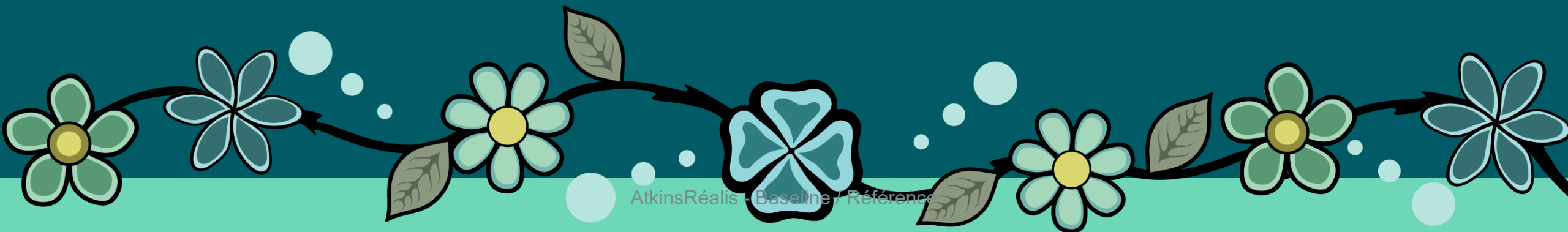


The Ontario Energy Board is the independent electricity and natural gas regulators in Ontario.

How the System Works



North Shore Link (NSL) Project Overview

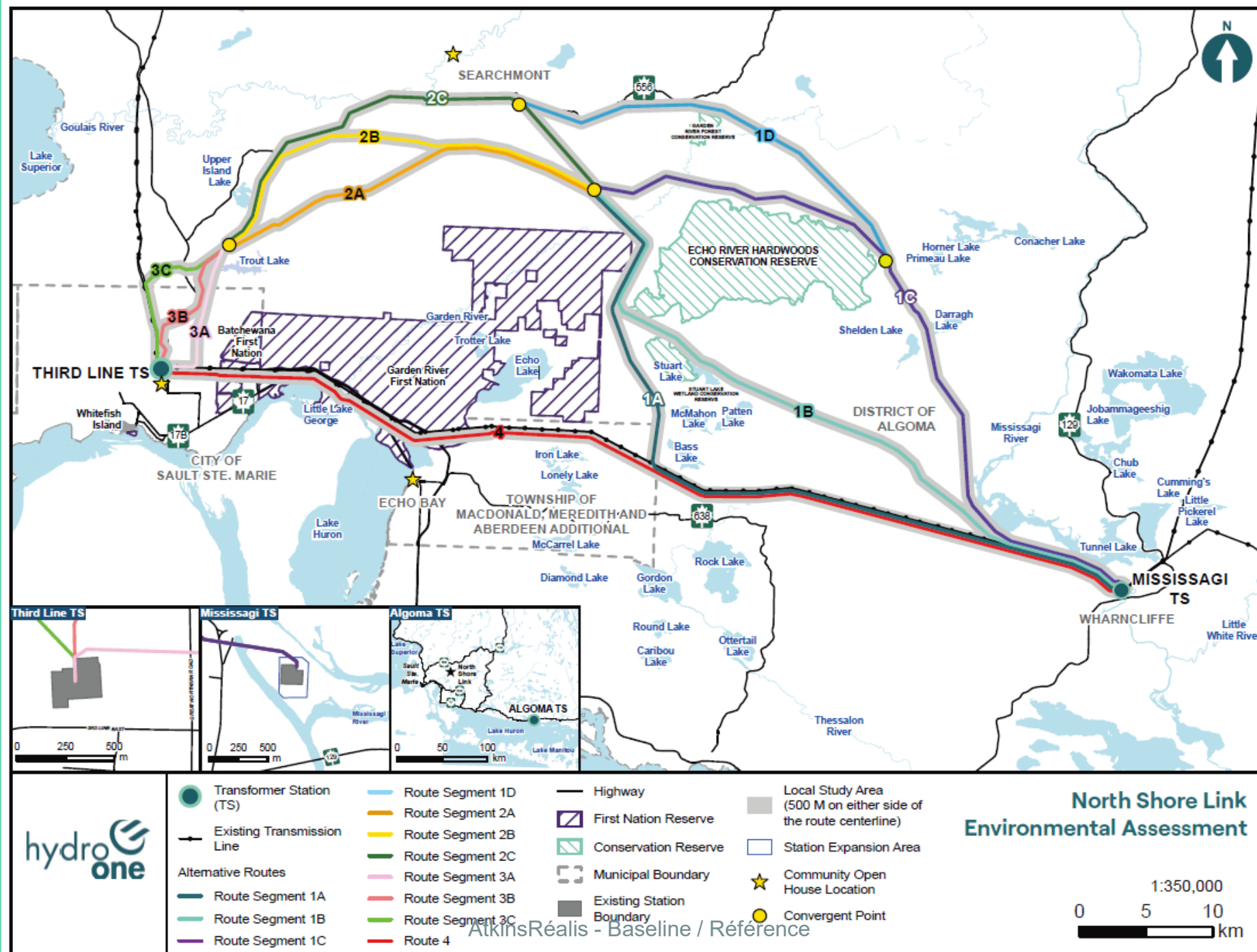


Project Information - NSL

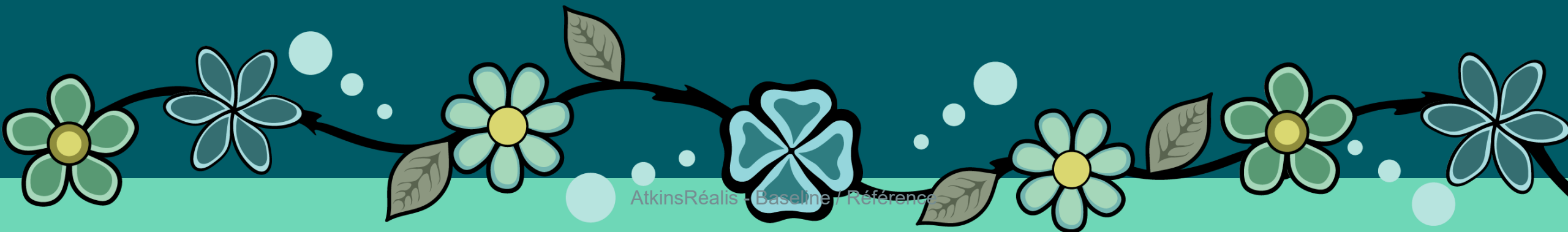
- Demand in Northeast Ontario is expected to significantly increase due to increase in provincial electricity demand from decarbonization and electrification initiatives.
- The North Shore Link was identified as part of the Independent Electricity System Operator's (IESO) electricity plans to address future growth in the region and improve the overall resiliency of the northern Ontario transmission network.

North Shore Link Project

- The North Shore Link is a new double circuit 230 kilovolt (kV) transmission line that will extend between Mississagi Transformer Station (near Wharncliffe) and Third Line Transformer Station (in Sault Ste. Marie)
- As part of the Class Environmental Assessment, alternative routes have been identified for the new line. These alternatives will be studied and evaluated to ultimately select a preferred route for the line.



North Shore Link Project Timelines



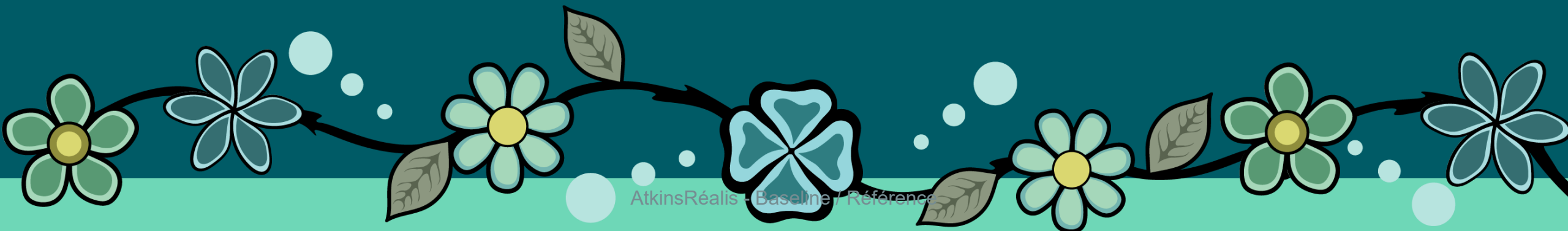
Overview: Project Timelines - NSL

Milestone	Date
Early engagement with communities	2023
Designation of Project to Hydro One	October 2023
Routing Study (and engagement with communities on route alternatives to be carried forward)	December 2023 – July 2024
Notice of Commencement	July 2024
Community Open House to introduce Project and Route Evaluation Process	Fall 2024
Field surveys (including natural environment & archaeology)	Summer and Fall 2024 Spring/Summer/Fall 2025 & 2026
Route Evaluation including Technical Advisory Committee Workshops with Communities	Fall 2024/Winter 2025

Overview: Project Timelines – NSL (cont'd)

Milestone	Date
Preferred Route Announcement	Spring 2025
Draft Environmental Study Report (ESR)	Spring 2026
Final ESR to complete the Class EA	Fall 2026
Permits & approvals (including S.92)	2026-2027
Construction start	2027
Project in service	2029

North Shore Link Class Environmental Assessment Process



Project Team - NSL

- Project Proponent:
- Environmental Consultant



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NSL EA Process

What is a Class Environmental Assessment?



Ongoing Engagement

Steps of a Class EA:

- Engage with Indigenous communities, the public, municipalities, interest groups and government agencies
- Collect environmental information
- Identify and evaluate route alternatives
- Select a preferred route
- Identify potential environmental effects and mitigation measures
- Prepare a draft Environmental Study Report (ESR) that will be made available for a 30-day public review and comment period
- Submit the final ESR



NSL – Evaluation of Route Segments

Over the course of the EA, we will continue to learn more about the existing environment within the study area by gathering:

- Information obtained through Indigenous engagement and local community consultation.
- Data from existing reports, plans, maps, aerial photographs and other sources.
- Field data collected from environmental surveys such as fish/fish habitat and vegetation surveys.
- Project specific research such as an archaeological assessment.

Through this process, we will evaluate and compare the advantages and disadvantages of each of the alternative route segments and select preferred route segments. The set of route segments chosen through this process will ultimately form the preferred route.

Route Evaluation Criteria Overview

The preferred route will be selected based on an evaluation process that balances project specific criteria in five categories:

Category	Examples
 Indigenous Community Values	• Traditional land use areas • Areas of known Indigenous cultural significance • Values identified from Indigenous Knowledge
 Natural Environment	• Wetlands • Provincial Parks • Waterbodies • Species at risk • Conservation areas
 Socio-Economic Environment	• Commercial and industrial facilities • Mining claims • Urban/residential areas • Properties/land parcels
 Cultural Heritage Features and Resources	• Archaeological sites
 Technical Considerations	• Reducing the number of angles • Crossing of physical features like rivers, lakes, buildings and/or steep terrain features • Real estate and land rights considerations • Construction complexity and ability to complete construction on time



Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

- First Nation Technical Advisory Committee has been formed representing technical individuals from each community
- Opportunity to gather input on route evaluation and criteria
- Sharing of Indigenous community values as input into the assessment
- 3 TAC workshops over the course of the evaluation

Near-Term Project Activities - NSL

Activity	Date
Community Open Houses	Fall 2024/Winter 2025
Outreach for field participation	Ahead of 2025 field season; notice of 2-week upcoming field work
Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment (AA)	Winter 2025
Stage 2 AA outreach for monitors/techs	Spring 2025
Stage 2 AA field work	Spring/Summer/Fall 2025 & 2026
2025 field season for environmental surveys	Spring/Summer/Fall 2025
Environmental Study Report public review period	Spring 2026
Environmental Study Report	Fall 2026

NSL

Natural Environment Field Work

- **Bat Maternity Roosting** – Spring 2025 (before leaf out)
- **Turtle Overwintering** – Spring 2025 (after ice out)
- **Amphibian Surveys** – Spring 2025
- **Bat Acoustic Recording Units (ARU)** – June 2025
- **Least Bittern/Wetland Birds** – May/June 2025



Joe Kosack



NSL

Natural Environment Field Work

- **Breeding Birds – June 2025**
- **Crepuscular Birds – June/July 2025**



NSL Natural Environment Field Work

ELC/Wetlands/Botanical Surveys

- Survey 1: July 29 – August 2
- Survey 2: September 16 – 22
- Spring/Summer/Fall Surveys for 2025



AtkinsReals - Baseline / Référence



NSL Natural Environment Field Work

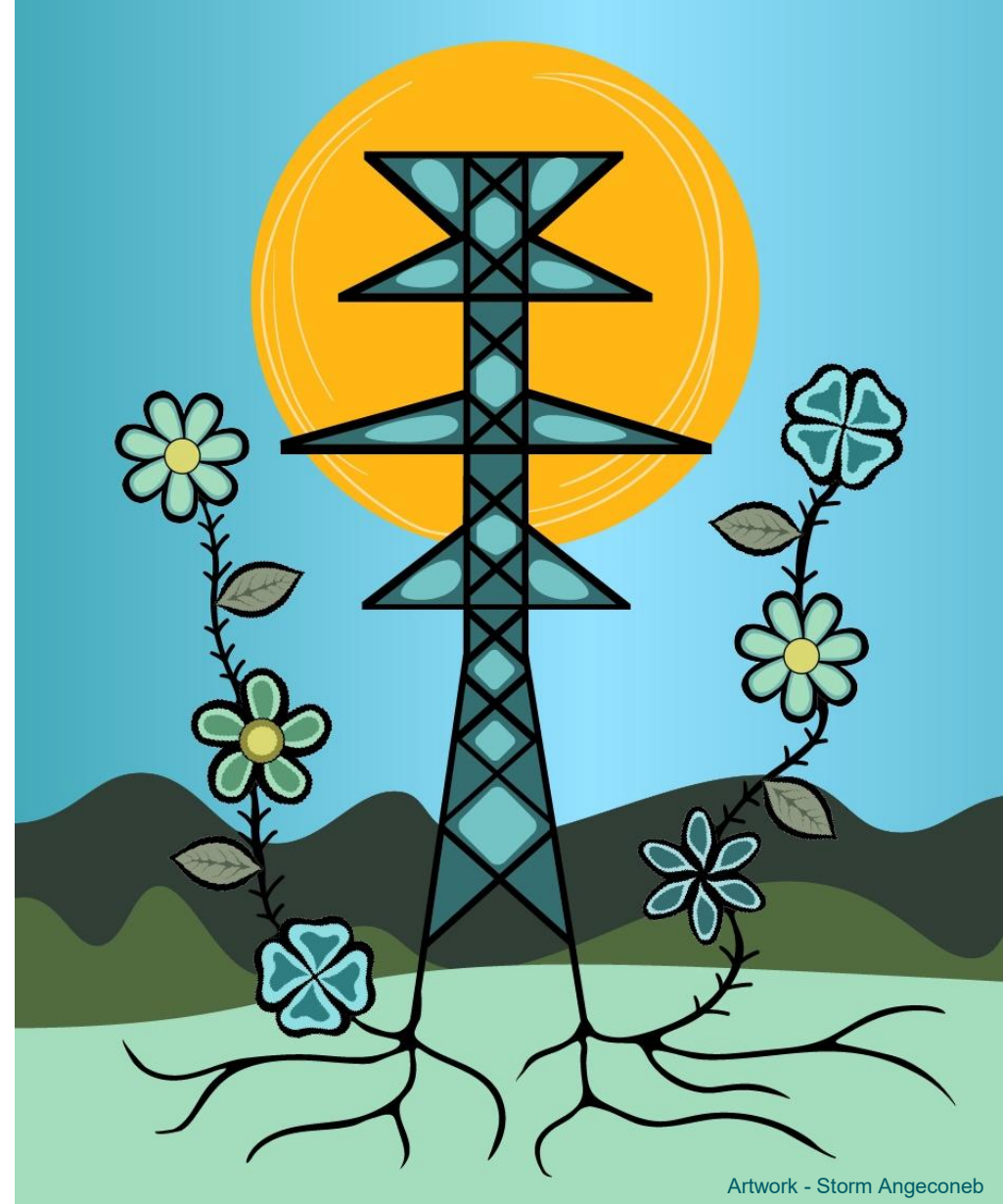
Fish and Fish Habitat

- Survey 1: August 26 - 30
- Survey 2: October 16 – 19
- Survey 3: November 1 – 4
- Summer/Fall Surveys for 2025



NSL Natural Environment Field Work

- Field opportunities for all surveys for 2024 field season
- There will be additional opportunities for 2025 field season
- Hydro One will continue to follow-up for interest & availability, we will update dates and schedule ahead of the 2025 field season and provide a 2-week look-ahead schedule once we begin the season

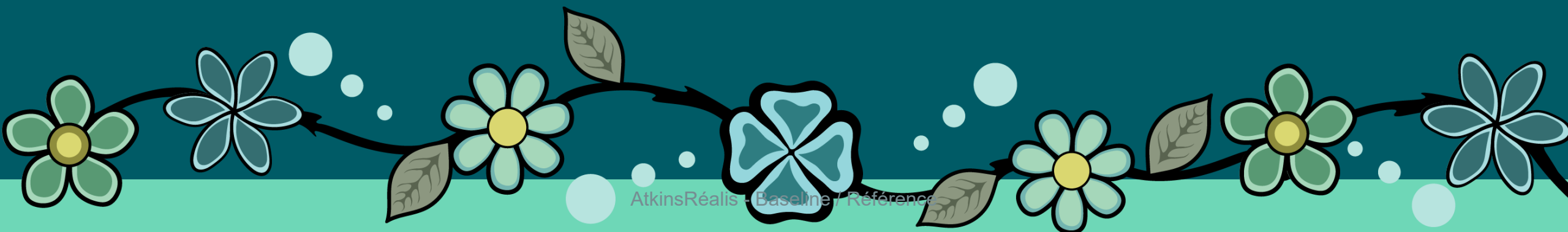


Artwork - Storm Angeconeb

Key Input Opportunities & Next Steps - NSL

- Participation in environmental field surveys
- Participation in archaeological assessments
- Community open houses
- First Nation Technical Advisory Committee Workshops
- Environmental Study Report
- Hydro One will be providing opportunities for meaningful Indigenous community involvement and input along every step of the Project

Northeast Powerline Project Overview



Project Information - NEPL

- Demand in Northeast Ontario is expected to significantly increase due to increase in provincial electricity demand from decarbonization and electrification initiatives.
- In 2022, IESO triggered a bulk system study and identified the need for three major transmission projects to support the development of the area, including NEPL and NSL.

Northeast Power Line Project

- New single-circuit 500 kV transmission line (approx. 205 km in length) between Hanmer TS, located in the City of Sudbury, to Mississagi TS, located in the District of Algoma.
- An EA was conducted for this project in the 1980s. This project will undergo an Environmental Update to re-do all field surveys (including archeology)

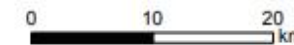


- Transformer Station (TS)
- Highway
- Existing Transmission Line
- First Nation Reserve
- Municipal Boundary
- Existing Corridor for Future Northeast Power Line

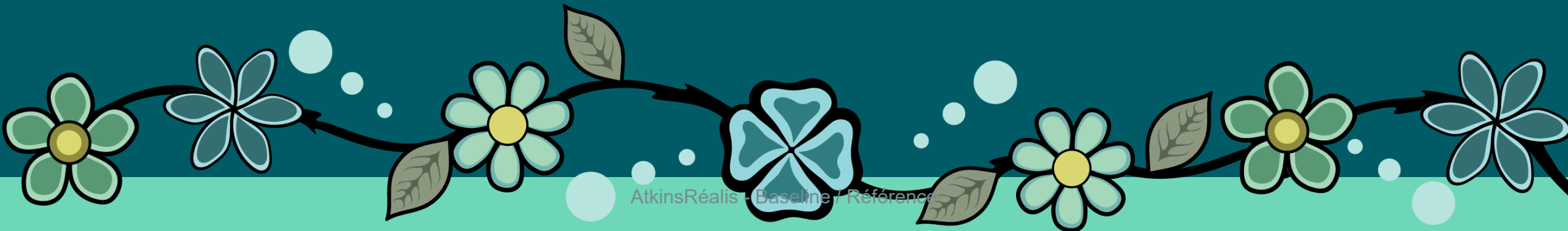
AtkinsRéalis - Baseline / Référence

Northeast Power Line:
General Area Map

1:500,000



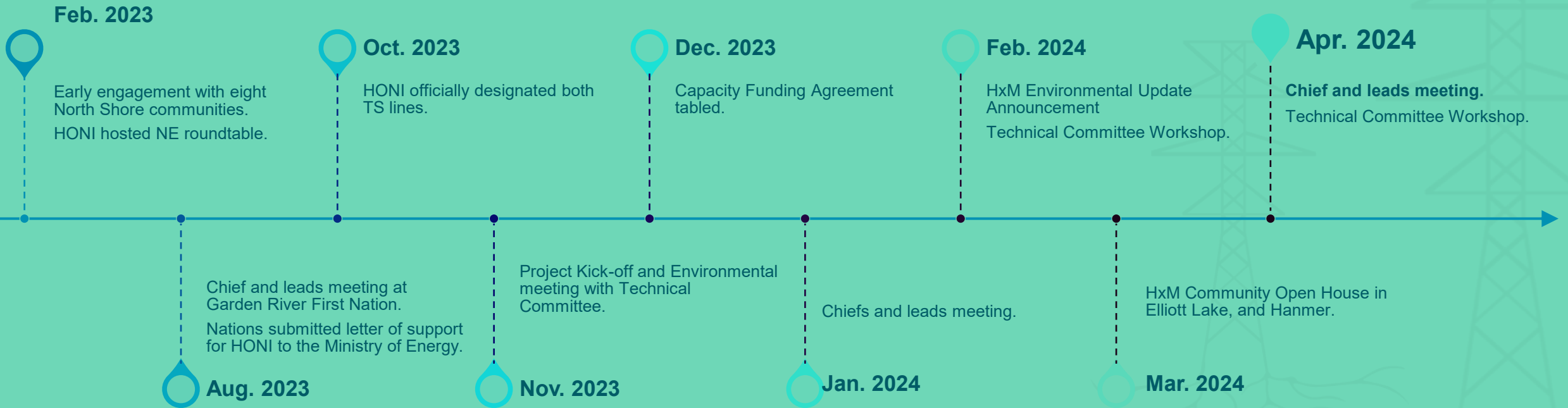
Northeast Powerline Project Timelines



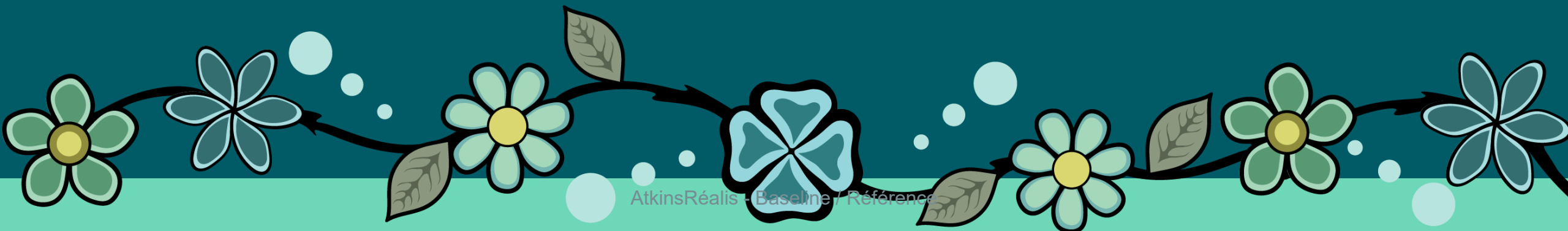
Overview: Project Timelines - NEPL

Milestone	Date
Early engagement with communities	2023
Designation of Project to Hydro One	October 2023
Project Announcement of Environmental Update	February 2024
Field surveys (including natural environment & archaeology)	Spring/Summer/Fall 2024-2025
Permits & approvals (including S.92)	2026-2027
Construction start	2027
Project in service	2029

Our Work To Date - NEPL



Northeast Powerline Project (NEPL) Environmental Update Overview



Project Team - NEPL

- Project Proponent:
- Environmental Consultant
- Archaeology Consultant (Stage 1&2):



Archaeological
Services
Inc.



NEPL Environmental Update Process

- We will be re-doing all of the technical environmental surveys along the approved corridor to update to today's standards.
- We will have 2 field seasons, in 2024 and 2025 to study the approved route corridor.
- Waasmoowin Partners and Hydro One will review the Environmental Update Report including results from field surveys at the end of both field seasons
- Field monitoring and archaeological monitoring positions will be available during each field season



NEPL Environmental Update Report

- Summary of field survey findings
- Effects and mitigation of the project
- Summary of archaeological assessments
- Record of consultation and engagement



Near-Term Project Activities - NEPL

Activity	Date
Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment (AA)	Completed May 2024
Stage 2 AA field work	July to end of fall 2024, spring/summer/fall 2025
2024 field season for environmental surveys	April to end of fall 2024
2025 field season for any outstanding surveys	April to September 2025
Environmental Update Report	December 2025

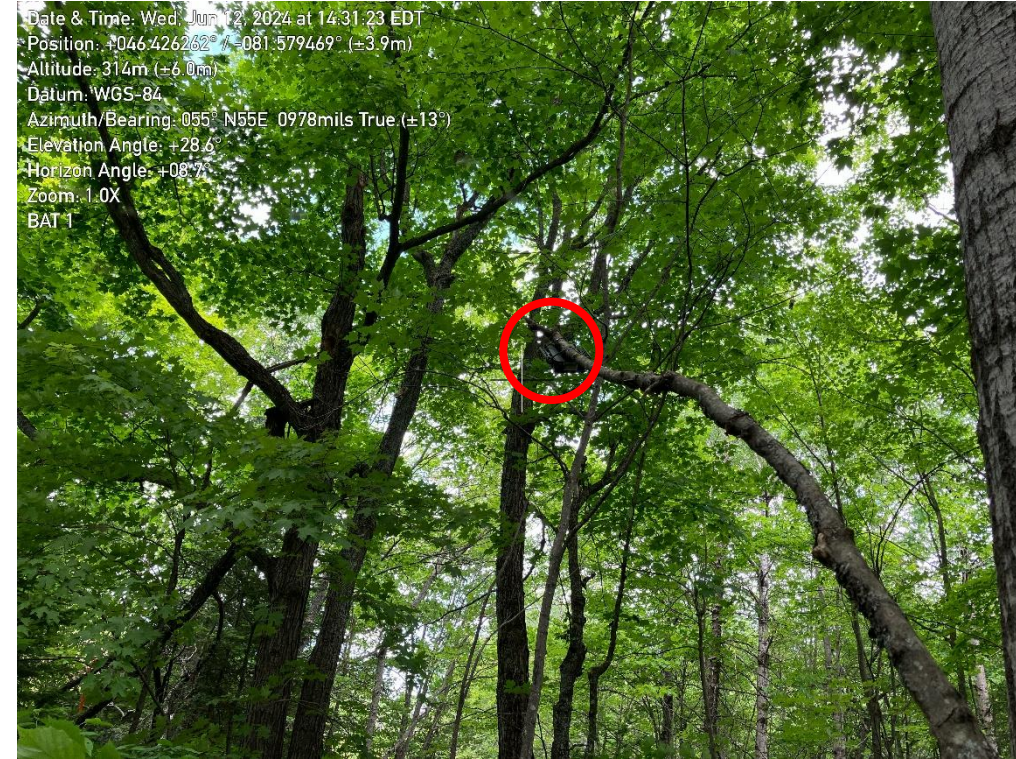
Natural Environment Field Work

- **Bat maternity** - April 22-29 (Completed)

Preliminary findings: majority of targeted areas were confirmed as suitable Bat Maternity Roost Habitat

- **Bat Acoustic Recording Units (ARU)** - Deploy week of June 10 & retrieve week of July 2 (Completed)

Preliminary findings: data is being processed



Natural Environment Field Work

- **Least Bittern/Wetland Birds (Completed):**
 - Survey 1: May 20-24
 - Survey 2: June 17-21
 - Survey 3: July 8-12
 - Will also setup/take down ARUs for amphibian recordings

Preliminary findings: many common marsh birds, no Least Bittern. Amphibian ARU's are collected and data processing has begun.



NEPL Natural Environment Field Work

- **Turtle Overwintering Survey: (Completed)**
 - Survey 1: April 22-26
 - Survey 2: May 6-10
 - Survey 3: May 27-31
 - Survey 4: June 3-6

Preliminary findings: Approximately 60 individuals observed. Primary species was Midland Painted Turtle.



Natural Environment Field Work

- **Breeding Bird Surveys: (Completed)**

- Survey 1: June 10-14
- Survey 2: June 24-28

Preliminary Findings: Point count transects and 26 ARU Locations (data being processed). No Species at Risk. Species of Special Concern include Barn Swallow, Canada Warbler, Wood Thrush, and Evening Grosbeak.

- **ELC/Wetlands/Botanical Surveys: (Completed)**

- Survey 1: May 27-June 3
- Survey 2: July 2-9
- Survey 3: August 12-16

Preliminary Findings: more than 165 plant species identified from surveys.



NEPL Natural Environment Field Work

- **Fish and Fish Habitat** – August 27-September 1 and October 16-19 (completed)
- Conducting habitat assessments, fish community surveys, and eDNA sampling
- Hydro One will continue to follow-up for interest & availability for the 2025 season. We will update dates and schedule ahead of the 2025 field season and provide a 2-week look-ahead schedule once we begin the season



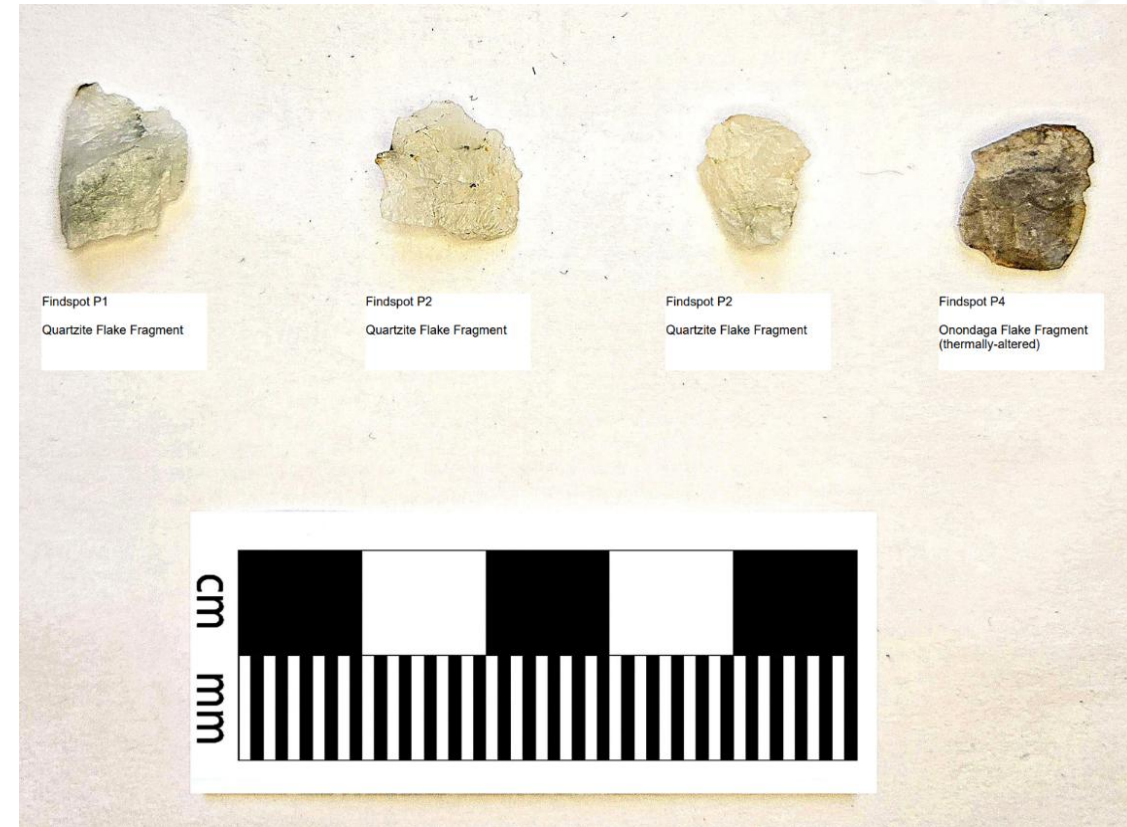
NEPL Archaeological Assessment – Property Inspection

- ASI has been conducting property inspections throughout the 2024 field season to determine if low-potential areas and remote areas have potential and are accessible
- Property inspections wrapping up in Nov, continue in spring 2025



NEPL Archaeological Assessment – Stage 2 test pitting

- ASI has been conducting Stage 2 test pitting on areas determined to have arch potential throughout the 2024 field season
- Stage 2 field work wrapped up in Nov, continue in spring/summer/fall 2025
- 16 site finds in 3 general areas
 - West limit (Mississagi River) - 5+ artifacts
 - Fairbank East Road – 8 artifacts
 - Big Moon – Highway 108 – 70+ artifacts



NEPL Archaeological Assessment – Stage 2 test pitting

- Most artifacts found are lithic flakes
 - Quartzite flake fragment
 - Chert flake fragment
- Some artifacts are still being processed in the lab
- Sites will either require further intensification or Stage 3 AA or be confirmed non-cultural (no further work required)

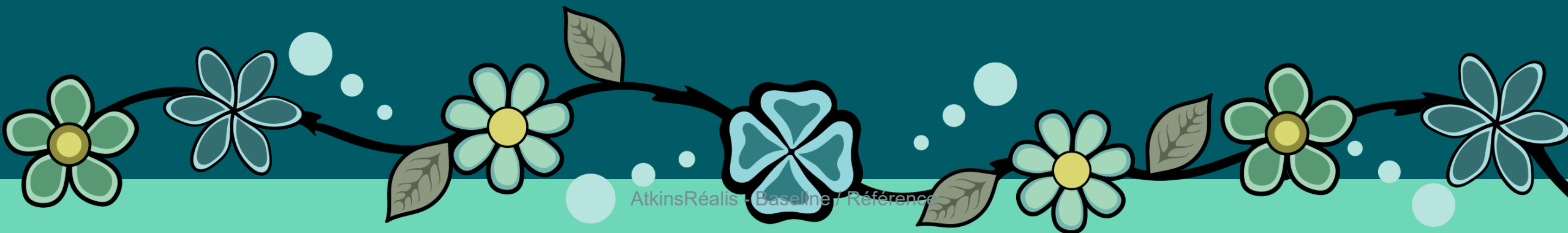


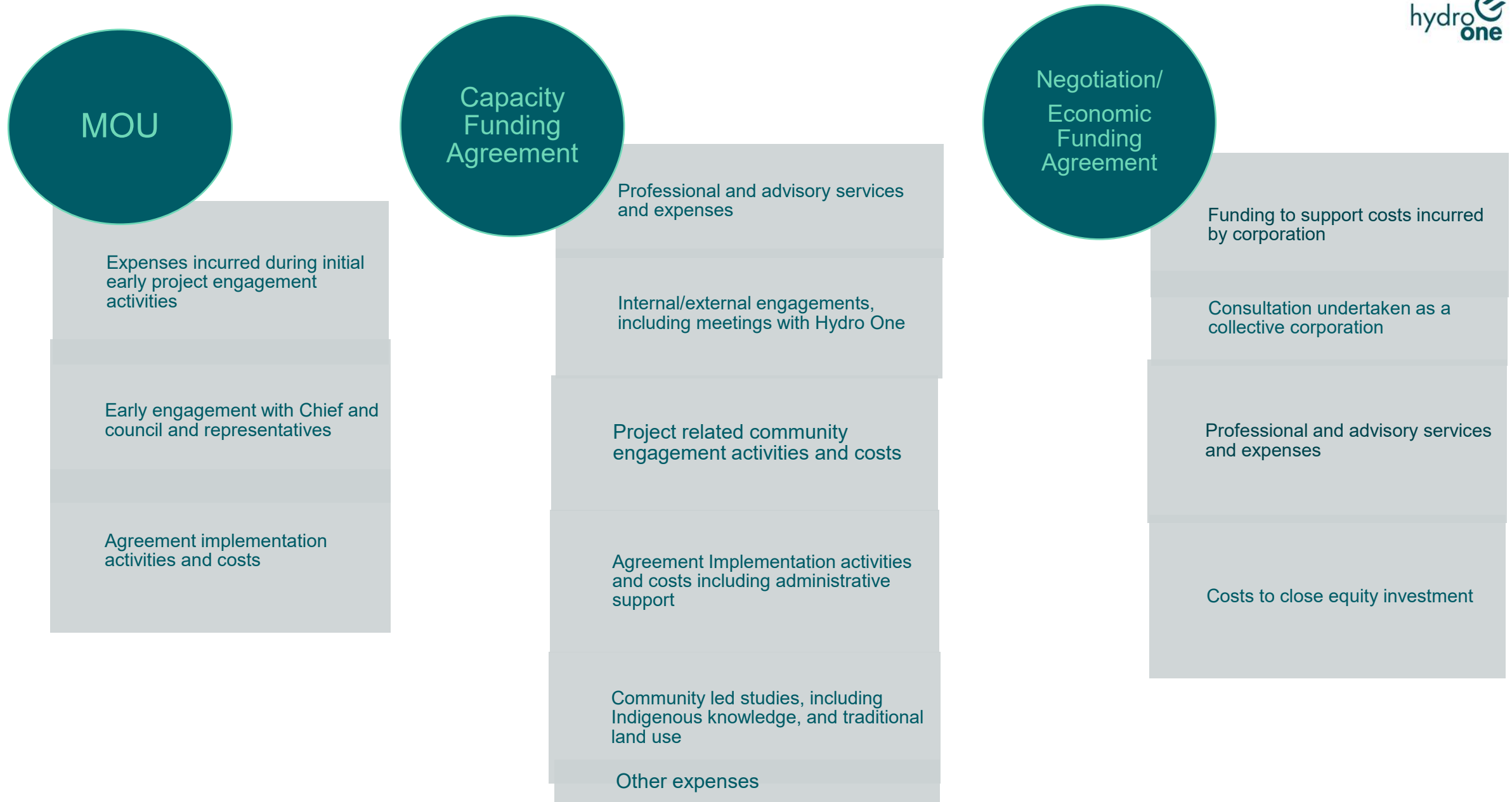
Key Input Opportunities & Next Steps - NEPL

- Participation in environmental field surveys
- Stage 2 AA monitors/technicians
- Stage 2 AA draft report input and review
- Environmental Update Report
- Hydro One will be providing opportunities for meaningful Indigenous community involvement and input along every step of the Project



Capacity Funding





Highlights of types of Funding Support

Partnerships
also include:

Community led Initiative: funding commitment for community need to support engagement on this and future projects

Community investment funding: funding provided during the term of the Agreement, based on project milestones

Core capacity funding: annual funding provided during the term of the Agreement to support ongoing liaising between Hydro One and community

Project engagement funding: a set budget to support specific engagement tasks, to support community built workplans and deliverables

Miigwetch

AtkinsRéalis - Baseline / Référence

