PROJECT NOTICE

WAASIGAN TRANSMISSION LINE -CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT

AUGUST 17, 2022

This notice provides information on the proposed surveys to support the Cultural Heritage Assessment and proposed road/highway survey locations.

SURVEY INFORMATION

The table below provides information on the cultural heritage surveys:

	CULTURAL HERITAGE SURVEYS
WHY are we doing the surveys?	 To identify and evaluate any known or potential built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes in the study area.
WHAT activities are involved?	 Following a desktop assessment, field crews will visually assess and document existing site conditions and identify additional potential built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes. Photographs will be taken from the road/highway to document the sites.
WHEN will the surveys happen?	Field visits to the road/highway survey locations will be completed in September.
WHERE will the survey take place?	• Field visits will be conducted of sites that can be viewed from publicly accessible roads and highways that intersect the alternative routes.

PROPOSED SURVEY LOCATIONS

The proposed road/highway survey locations can be viewed online using a Webviewer at the link below.

We welcome any feedback on the proposed survey locations, including any concerns you may have with our crew visiting and documenting these locations. Maps of the survey locations are also available for download at the link below. Comments can be made in the field map book and sent back to us via email.

CLICK HERE TO VISIT THE WEBVIEWER FOR FIELD SURVEY LOCATIONS

CLICK HERE TO DOWNLOAD THE FIELD MAP BOOK

If there is any information regarding the locations or timing of the proposed surveys that you would like us to be aware of, please contact us using the contact details below. Comments would be appreciated by September 5, 2022 so that they can be considered prior to the start of field work.



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For more information, including how

your community can be involved, please

refer to the attached Cultural Heritage

Assessment overview document.







INDIGENOUS PARTICIPATION

WSP Golder is looking to hire additional Indigenous field crew members, and communities can also participate by sending community-hired field monitors. There is currently capacity for additional community members within all crews. Field work schedules will be shared regularly that include the types of surveys being conducted, number of crews, days and approximate hours, and geographic area. As schedules are subject to change, please confirm with the Project team prior to making arrangements for community monitors to join a crew.

To ensure community-hired field monitors are protected, Hydro One requires proof of the following:

- Property damage and public liability insurance coverage; and
- Workplace Safety and Insurance Board (WSIB) registration.

If you have any questions or concerns pertaining to these requirements, please contact us so that we can work together to ensure there are no barriers to Indigenous community participation in these field surveys.

Indigenous field crew members hired directly by WSP Golder will be covered under WSP Golder's WSIB and liability insurance. This hiring process can take approximately 1 to 2 weeks.

Another option for participation are site visits where members of your community can join a crew in the field to discuss the work being completed. If there is any interest in this approach, please let us know and we can work together to plan a visit.

CONTACT INFORMATION

We encourage you to ask questions and provide comments on the proposed field work. If you are interested in participation opportunities or have comments on the proposed field work, please contact WSP Golder's Environmental Assessment Specialist, Heather Kyer, at 613-314-8473 or <u>heather.kyer@wsp.com</u>.



Waasigan Transmission Line Project Cultural Heritage Assessment - Overview

WAASIGAN TRANSMISSION LINE PROJECT

CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT – OVERVIEW

A Cultural Heritage Assessment is required to be completed as part of the environmental assessment for Waasigan which will assess how the Project may affect built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes. This type of assessment is defined by the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport and does not replace Indigenous Knowledge incorporation into the environmental assessment. The Cultural Heritage Assessment will support the alternative route evaluation by determining if some routes avoid potential for effects to cultural heritage more than others. Similarly, Indigenous Knowledge and values will also be considered in the alternative route evaluation. We understand that Indigenous communities have heritage values they may want to see represented in this assessment and we want to work collaboratively with communities to ensure these important values are protected.

WHAT IS A CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSESSMENT?

A Cultural Heritage Assessment, as set out by the Ministry, is a study of built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes.

Built Heritage Resource: A building, structure, monument, installation or any manufactured or constructed part or remnant that contributes to a property's cultural heritage value or interest as identified by a community, including an Indigenous community. Built heritage resources are located on property that may be designated under Parts IV or V of the *Ontario Heritage Act*, or that may be included on local, provincial, federal and/or international registers.

<u>Cultural Heritage Landscape</u>: A defined geographical area that may have been modified by human activity and is identified as having cultural heritage value or interest by a community, including an Indigenous community. The area may include features such as buildings, structures, spaces, views, archaeological sites or natural elements that are valued together for their interrelationship, meaning or association. Cultural heritage landscapes may be properties that have been determined to have cultural heritage value or interest under the *Ontario Heritage Act*; or have been included in federal and/or international registers, and/or protected through official plan, zoning by-law, or other land use planning mechanisms.

The purpose of the study is to identify and evaluate any known or potential built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes and assess the impacts that may result from development. The assessment includes conservation and mitigation strategies to avoid or reduce potential effects to cultural heritage resources.







WHAT DOES IT INVOLVE?

The scope of the Cultural Heritage Assessment will include the following tasks.

Task 1: Detailed Research	 Information will be gathered to understand the geographical and historical background for the built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes identified along alternative routes.
Task 2: Conduct Field Visits	 Field visits will be conducted from public rights-of-way (e.g., highways) to document existing conditions and identify additional potential built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes. Sites proposed for field visits will be mapped and shared with Indigenous communities. Should communities share back information regarding sites that should not be visited, that guidance will be respected.
Task 3: Assess Impacts	 The predicted effects of the alternative routes on known and potential built heritage resources and cultural heritage landscapes will be assessed. Indigenous communities may provide input through discussion or review of the draft assessment.
Task 4: Recommend Conservation or Mitigation Strategies	 Conservation or mitigation strategies will be recommended to avoid or reduce adverse impacts to cultural heritage resources. Additional recommendations may be shared by Indigenous communities.
Task 5: Prepare Report	 The research results, impact assessment, and recommended conservation or mitigation strategies will be provided in a report for review and comment by Indigenous communities.

The Cultural Heritage Assessment will follow guidance outlined in Hydro One's *Cultural Heritage Identification and Evaluation* (I&E) Process (2020) with additional reference to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture, and Sport *Standards and Guidelines for the Conservation of Provincial Heritage Properties* (2010) and *Information Bulletin 3: Heritage Impact Assessments for Provincial Heritage Properties*.



WHAT IS THE ROLE OF INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE?

Indigenous Knowledge (IK) represents a significant input to understanding places or features of cultural heritage value. Hydro One is encouraging and providing support to Indigenous communities for the completion of IK studies to support the environmental assessment. These IK studies that are currently being completed can feed into the Cultural Heritage Assessment, based on what each community chooses to share and availability of information at the time of the assessment. No additional studies are required to support this assessment.

One of the outcomes of the IK studies will likely be the identification of areas of significant cultural value to each community that could potentially be affected by the Project. The environmental assessment will recognize that Indigenous peoples have the right to practice and revitalize their cultural traditions and customs, which includes the right to maintain, protect and develop their cultural heritage.

WHERE WILL THE SURVEYS BE COMPLETED?

Field visits will be conducted from publicly accessible points where the road/highway intersects the alternative routes. Photos will be taken from the road/highway. If Indigenous cultural heritage sites are provided by communities, these will not be visited unless specifically requested by the community (i.e., the community has already confirmed their presence so they do not need to be documented in the field). The proposed road/highway survey locations can be viewed online (see links in Project Notice).

WHEN WILL THE ASSESSMENT BE COMPLETED?

We are beginning the research component of the Cultural Heritage Assessment now and are requesting input from Indigenous communities on the proposed road/highway survey locations by **September 5, 2022**. Our field work schedule will be updated to include planned site visits as part of this work to allow time to coordinate visits with community members.

As IK studies are completed and provided to Hydro One, they will be incorporated into the Cultural Heritage Assessment. An opportunity to review a draft of the assessment will be provided in October 2022 allowing for additional input.

HOW CAN MY COMMUNITY BE INVOLVED?

We want to work collaboratively with communities to understand how IK can be best reflected in the Cultural Heritage Assessment. In addition to the IK studies being completed by each community, your community can get involved in the Cultural Heritage Assessment by:

- Meeting with Hydro One and WSP Golder to discuss the scope of the assessment and understand how it fits into the environmental assessment and how IK can be incorporated;
- Sharing knowledge including site-specific information regarding built structures or landscapes of cultural value (either as part of the IK studies or separately);
- Reviewing the road/highway sites proposed for field visits to identify any sensitivities or areas of concern;
- Participating in field visits with the field teams; and
- Reviewing a draft of the assessment report.

Any information provided by Indigenous communities will be handled as directed by the community and in accordance with information sharing agreements. Details regarding features and specific locations can be excluded from the final report or reported separately, in a confidential supplementary documentation, for internal purposes only.

We look forward to the opportunity to meet and discuss how communities can provide input on this assessment.