



FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
Section 4.0 Engagement Summary
November 2023

Acknowledgements

We wish to acknowledge that the Waasigan Transmission Line Project is located within lands that represent the traditional territories and homelands of the Robinson-Superior Treaty (1850) and Treaty #3 (1873) First Nations, and traverse the Red Sky Métis Independent Nation, Northwestern Ontario Métis Community and Northern Lake Superior Métis Community.

Hydro One also wishes to acknowledge Indigenous artist, Storm Angeconeb, for developing the covering page and wildlife designs throughout the Final Environmental Assessment. Storm is a highly recognized visual artist from Lac Seul First Nation in Treaty #3 and currently resides in Red Lake. Many of her works include animals and birds as representations of herself or those close to her. The artist's description of the covering page is presented below.

Hydro One Environmental Study Art:

What stands out in this art piece is the symbolic representation of solar rays as “Bringing Power”; we can see the environment represented through the wildlife and Ojibwe floral visuals. This artwork is an excellent representation of Hope, Life, and Opportunity, visually portrayed through the Black Bear and her two cubs. The colour theme of this artwork comes from the Waasigan Transmission Line Project brand identity.

Artist: Storm Angeconeb

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APPENDIX 4.0-A

Draft Environmental Assessment Comment Responses



4.0 Engagement Summary

Oko-izhichigewinan

This section provides a summary of Indigenous and stakeholder engagement activities completed by Hydro One Networks Inc. (Hydro One) to support the environmental assessment (EA). Engagement from the release of the Notice of Commencement of the EA on March 9, 2022 to September 1, 2023 is included in this summary. This engagement summary has been updated following the Draft EA to reflect activities that occurred after May 2023 to inform this Final EA. This includes receipt of comments on the Draft EA. Comments received on the Draft EA from the public, agency stakeholders and from Indigenous communities and organizations are attached in Appendix 4.0-A, including responses from Hydro One.

Engagement during this period focused on EA methodology and assessment outcomes, including:

- Criteria and indicators;
- Characterizing the baseline environment;
- Alternative route evaluation process and results;-
- Identification of a preliminary preferred route, as the basis for the Project footprint;
- Process for sharing and incorporating shared Indigenous Knowledge (IK) into the EA;
- Process to determine potential effects and recommended mitigation measures, including assessment outcomes; and
- Recommended follow-up monitoring and commitments.

A separate Record of Consultation has been prepared supporting this Final EA Report. In this section, reference is made, where applicable, to the detailed records of EA engagement activities, copies of materials shared and formal correspondence that are appended to the Record of Consultation.

4.1 Provincial Regulatory Requirements

Section 5.1 of Ontario's *Environmental Assessment Act, 1990* (EAA) states that "consultation with interested persons (i.e., individuals or organizations with an interest in a particular undertaking) during the preparation of the environmental assessment is mandatory".



The Code of Practice: Consultation in Ontario's Environmental Assessment Process (MECP 2014b) defines consultation as “a two-way communication process that involves affected and interested persons in the planning, implementation, and monitoring of an undertaking”. Per the MECP's Code of Practice, the purpose of consultation is to:

- Provide information to the public;
- Identify persons and Indigenous peoples who may be affected by or have an interest in the undertaking;
- Ensure government agencies and ministries are notified and consulted early in the EA process;
- Identify concerns that might arise from the undertaking;
- Create an opportunity to develop proponent commitments in response to local input;
- Focus on and address real public concerns rather than regulatory procedures and administration;
- Provide appropriate information to the ministry to enable a fair and balanced decision; and
- Expedite decision-making (MECP 2014b).

Aligned with this Code of Practice and the Code of Practice: Preparing and Reviewing Terms of Reference for Environmental Assessments in Ontario (MECP 2014a), the plans for consultation and engagement included in the Amended ToR “provide the outline for the consultation activities that, at a minimum, will take place during the preparation of the environmental assessment” (Hydro One 2021).

Ontario, as the Crown, has a legal obligation to consult with Indigenous peoples where it contemplates decisions or actions that may negatively affect asserted or established Indigenous or Treaty Rights. The duty to consult, and where appropriate accommodate, is rooted in:

- The Honour of the Crown (a legal principle that requires the Crown, as represented by the federal and provincial governments, to act honourably in their dealings with Indigenous communities); and
- The protection of Indigenous and Treaty Rights under Section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*.

The Crown may delegate procedural aspects of consultation to a proponent, but the ultimate legal responsibility to meet the duty to consult lies with the Crown. The procedural aspect of the Crown's Duty to Consult was delegated to Hydro One via a letter dated October 28, 2018 and a follow-up letter dated April 15, 2020 from the Crown. Procedural aspects of consultation, roles, and responsibilities of the Crown and Hydro One, and communication and coordination



mechanisms, were formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Crown (represented by the Ministry of Energy, North Development and Mines) and Hydro One dated September 8, 2016, and associated Indigenous Consultation Plan (February 2022).

Hydro One has and will continue to exercise due diligence in carrying out the delegated aspects of consultation. In addition to fulfilling its obligations under the MOU, Hydro One has and will continue to carry out relationship-building activities that extend beyond the procedural requirements of consultation. Hydro One will use the term engagement to describe both its delegated procedural aspects and relationship-building activities. It is recognized that the ultimate responsibility for meeting any duty to consult rests with the Crown.

4.1.1 Issues Resolution

In alignment with Hydro One's commitments in the Amended ToR, issues raised through engagement are summarized and were considered in the EA is provided in Section 4.4.4 (Feedback from Stakeholders) and Section 4.5.7 (Feedback from Indigenous Community Members), as well as the Record of Consultation supporting this EA Report.

4.2 Identification of Participants

4.2.1 Indigenous Communities

The Ministry of Energy (formerly Ministry of Energy, North Development and Mines) delegated the procedural aspects of the Crown's duty to consult to Hydro One via a letter dated October 25, 2018. The Ministry of Energy determined the proposed Project may have the potential to affect First Nation and Métis communities who hold, or claim protected Aboriginal or treaty rights.

The Crown has advised that the following First Nation communities should be consulted on the basis they have or may have constitutionally protected Aboriginal or treaty rights that may be adversely affected by the Project:

- Couchiching First Nation*
- Fort William First Nation (Anemki Wajiw)
- Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation (Nezaadikaang)
- Lac La Croix First Nation (Gakijiwanoong)
- Lac Seul First Nation (Obishikokaang)
- Migisi Sahgaigan (Eagle Lake First Nation)
- Mitaanjigamiing First Nation*
- Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation



- Ojibway Nation of Saugeen
- Seine River First Nation (Chima'aganing)
- Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation (Waabigonii Zaaga'igan)

*Note: Added by way of amendment to the consultation list received from Energy on April 15, 2020.

The Crown also recommended Hydro One include Grand Council Treaty #3 on correspondence for information sharing purposes only.

The Crown has also advised that the Project may have adverse impacts on Aboriginal or Treaty rights asserted by present day Métis communities affiliated with the Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) that claim to be connected to historic Métis communities in the vicinity of Rainy River/Lake of the Woods and Northern Lake Superior (Northwestern Ontario Métis Community [NWOMC] and Region 2), or consist of descendants of signatories to the Robinson Superior Treaty 1850 (Red Sky Métis Independent Nation).

MNO's Lands, Resources and Consultations Branch will be the primary point of contact for consultation about the Project with the present-day communities as represented by the MNO. The NWOMC (also known as MNO Region 1), and Region 2 Consultation Committees will be copied on any Project-related information shared by Hydro One with the MNO's Lands, Resources and Consultations Branch.

Hydro One is also engaging with the Gwayakocchigewin Limited Partnership (GLP), a partnership of eight First Nations communities that was formed to facilitate engagement and participation related to, and, where appropriate, accommodation for the Project. The GLP is made up of the following First Nation communities: Fort William First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Lac Seul First Nation, Migisi Sahgaigan, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Ojibway Nation of Saugeen, Seine River First Nation, and Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation.

Hydro One will also work with Métis communities in the Project area, including through their preferred community representatives and governments, to understand their concerns for the purposes of informing the Crown's duty to consult.

Hydro One recognizes that potential impacts of the Project to some Indigenous communities' asserted and/or recognized Aboriginal and treaty rights may be greater than impacts on other communities.

4.2.2 Stakeholder Participants

Hydro One identified a preliminary list of stakeholders at the outset of the Project that might be affected by, or interested in, the Project.



Stakeholders identified included:

- Local municipalities, towns or townships located within the Project area, as defined by the Study Area in Figure 1-1 of the Amended ToR;
- Any elected representative or government agency with an interest in the Project;
- Residents located within the Project area, as defined in the Amended ToR;
- Any member of the public with an expressed interest in the Project; and
- Any other stakeholders (e.g., local businesses, resource-based companies including mining and forestry operations, mining claim holders, non-government organizations, etc.) with a potential interest in the Project.

The Project contact list was updated throughout the EA process as new stakeholders are identified, and when stakeholders asked to be included on the list or asked to be removed.

The Project contact list for contacts affiliated with agencies and organizations including businesses, and interest groups for the current reporting period can be found in the Record of Consultation supporting this EA Report (**RoC-Appendix A** contains the Stakeholder Contact List; **RoC-Appendix H** contains the Indigenous Communities Contact List for Chiefs and Council, Métis leadership, advisor, and staff contacts). Contact information for members of the public who requested inclusion in the contact list are not disclosed.

4.3 Engagement Milestones and Timelines

This section summarizes the engagement approach, methods, and timing of activities during the report period applicable to engagement with all interested parties, referencing the Stakeholder Consultation Plan and Indigenous Community Engagement Plan outlined in Section 10.0 of the Amended ToR. Additional discussion of specific engagement and feedback received during engagement are provided in Section 4.4 Stakeholder Engagement and Section 4.5 Indigenous Engagement.

Engagement and consultation have been an important aspect of the Project throughout the EA. The approach to engagement and consultation during the EA was established to be flexible and adaptable as a means to respect community engagement and consultation preferences and protocols between individuals and/or groups or communities (e.g., those that may be directly affected) and those who may require more consultation than others. Similarly, engagement methods were adapted to public health restrictions and community protocols in response to the COVID-19 pandemic over the course of the engagement period, including creating opportunities for virtual meetings and virtual open houses.

A timeline of key EA engagement activities is provided in Figure 4.3-1. Activities undertaken to achieve these EA milestones and as part of ongoing engagement are described in the following subsections.



Table 4.3-1 summarize engagement methods used during the reporting period for engagement with Indigenous communities and stakeholders interested in the Project. The sections in this report where these engagement methods are detailed are also referenced.



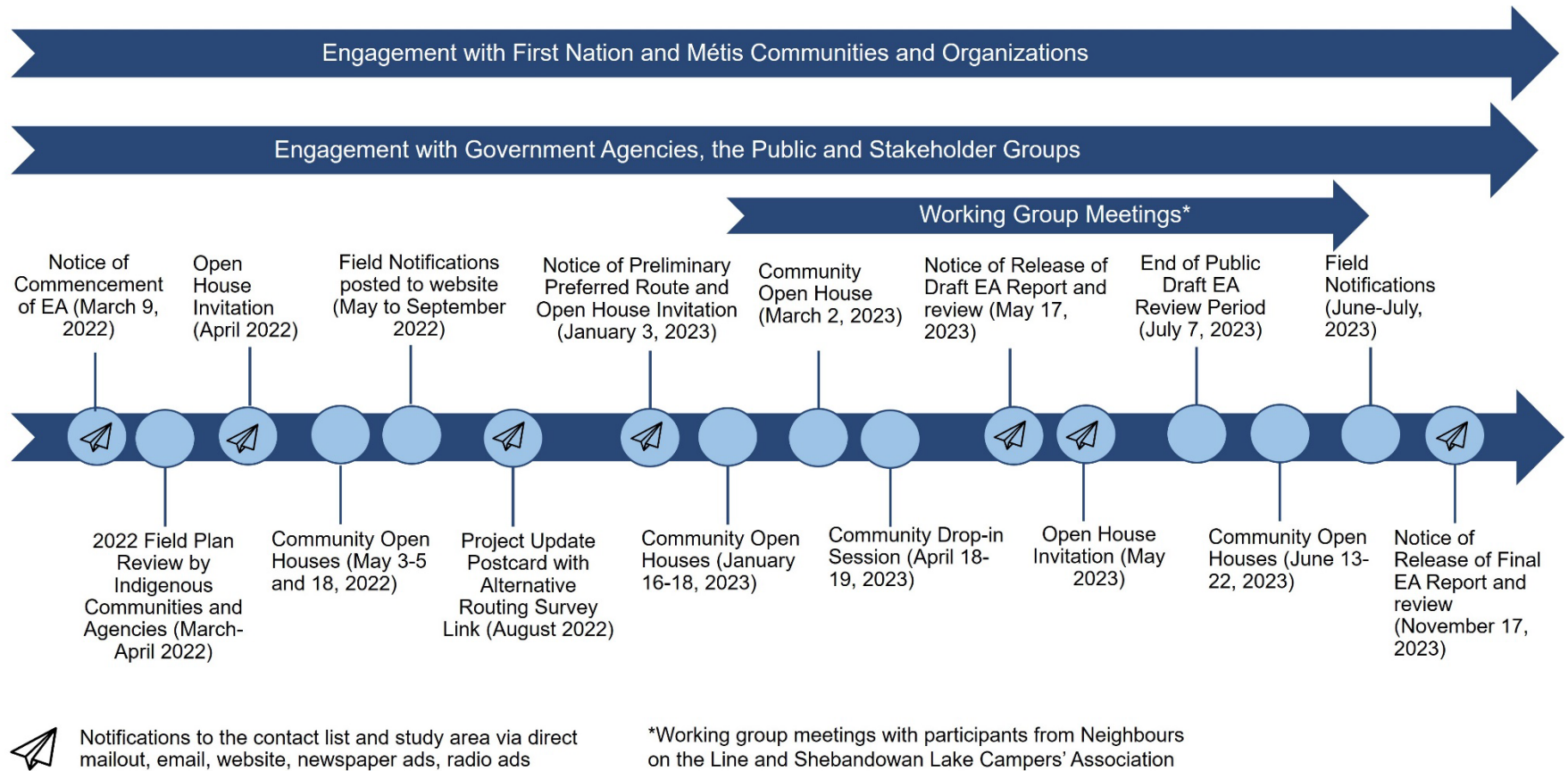


Figure 4.3-1: EA Engagement Activities



Table 4.3-1: Engagement Activities per EA Milestone

EA Milestone	Purpose of Engagement	Engagement Activities	Timing
Notice of Commencement of EA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Advise that the EA has started ● Provide information on the Project and EA process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Publish Notice of Commencement of EA (post notice to website, distribute notice to contact list by email, distribute notices within the study area by mail using postal codes, radio and newspaper ads, social media) (Section 4.3) ● Meetings with government officials and agencies and interested persons and organizations (Section 4.4) ● Meetings with interested Chiefs and Councils, Métis leadership, advisors, staff (e.g., Community Engagement Coordinators) and/or Indigenous communities (Section 4.5) 	March 2022
Baseline Data Collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Request input on study area and baseline data 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Presentation and review of proposed field work plans with interested government officials and agencies (Section 4.4), and interested First Nation Chiefs and Councils, Métis leadership, staff and advisors (Section 4.5) ● Notices of planned field surveys including maps of survey locations and timing emailed to Indigenous communities and posted to the Project website (Section 4.3) ● Coordinate access to lands for planned field surveys, as applicable (Section 4.4) ● Supporting Indigenous communities with IK collection (Section 4.5) ● Cultural awareness training for field staff (Section 4.5) ● Indigenous community participation and employment opportunities (Section 4.5) ● Training and skills development program for knowledge building and fieldwork monitoring participation (Section 4.5) ● Providing bi-weekly progress updates throughout the field program to Indigenous communities (Section 4.5) 	2020-2022

EA Milestone	Purpose of Engagement	Engagement Activities	Timing
EA Process and Alternative Route Evaluation for Identification of Preliminary Preferred Route	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide information and receive feedback on the EA process and alternative route evaluation process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publish Invitation to public Community Open Houses (post notice to website, distribute notice to contact list by email, distribute notices within the study area by mail using postal codes, radio and newspaper ads, social media) (Section 4.3) EA Community Open Houses Round #1 events in Thunder Bay, Atikokan and Dryden, as well a virtually (Section 4.3) EA Community Open Houses events with Migisi Sahgaigan, Lac Seul First Nation, Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Nigigoosiminikaaning First Nation, Seine River First Nation and NWOMC and Region 2 of MNO (Section 4.5) Meetings and workshops with government officials and agencies and interested persons and organizations (Section 4.4) Meetings and workshops with interested Chiefs and Councils, Métis leadership, staff (e.g., Community Engagement Coordinators), advisors (Section 4.5) Alternative routing survey on the Project website (Section 4.3) 	Spring – Fall 2022
Results of Baseline Field Studies, Preliminary Preferred Route, and Process for Effects Assessment, Mitigation Measures, Monitoring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide the results of the field studies, receive input on the preliminary preferred route and effects assessment process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publish Notice of Selection of Preliminary Preferred Route and Invitation to Public Community Open Houses (post notice to website, distribute notice to contact list by email, distribute notices within the study area by mail using postal codes, radio and newspaper ads, social media) (Section 4.3) EA Community Open Houses Round #2 events in Thunder Bay, Atikokan, Dryden and Kaministiquia, as well as virtually (Section 4.3, Section 4.4) EA Community Open Houses events with NWOMC and Region 2 of MNO (Section 4.5) Meetings with interested First Nation Chiefs and Councils, Métis leadership, staff (e.g., Community Engagement Coordinators), advisors (Section 4.5) Meetings with government officials and agencies (Section 4.4) Meetings with interested persons and organizations (Section 4.4) 	Winter 2022- 2023

EA Milestone	Purpose of Engagement	Engagement Activities	Timing
Review of Draft EA Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide an opportunity to review and provide feedback on the Draft EA Report prior to it being finalized 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Publish Notice of Draft EA Report (post notice to website, distribute notice to contact list by email, distribute notices within the study area by mail using postal codes, radio and newspaper ads, social media) (Section 4.3) Make Draft EA Report available on Project website and at public review locations, First Nation Band Offices, Métis Offices, including plain language summary (Section 4.3) EA Community Open Houses Round #3 events in Thunder Bay, Atikokan, Dryden and Kaministiquia (Section 4.3, Section 4.4) EA Community Open Houses events with Migisi Sahgaigan, Lac Seul First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, Fort William First Nation, and NWOMC and Region 2 of MNO (Section 4.5) Meetings with interested First Nation Chiefs and Councils, Métis leadership, staff (e.g., Community Engagement Coordinators) (Section 4.5) Meetings with GLP advisors, including NorthVista Advisors, Maawandoon Inc., and Encompass Environmental (Section 4.4) Meetings with government officials and agencies (Section 4.4) Meetings with interested persons and organizations (Section 4.4) 	Spring-Summer 2023



EA Milestone	Purpose of Engagement	Engagement Activities	Timing
Review period for Final EA Report	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concurrent government and public and Indigenous community opportunity to review and provide feedback on the Final EA required under the <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i> to support MECP review and approval process 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submission to MECP Publish Notice of Final EA Report (post notice to website, distribute notice to contact list by email, distribute notices within the study area by mail using postal codes, radio and newspaper ads, social media) (Section 4.3) Make Final EA Report available on Project website and at public review locations, First Nation Band Offices, Métis Offices, including plain language summary (Section 4.3) 	Fall 2023



4.3.1 EA Engagement Activities

Figure 4.3-1 demonstrates the EA engagement activities from release of the Notice of Commencement of the EA on March 9, 2022, to September 1, 2023. This section further describes the engagement efforts made throughout the EA.

Additional discussion of specific engagement and feedback received is provided in Section 4.4 Stakeholder Engagement and Section 4.5 Indigenous Engagement.

4.3.1.1 Notice of Commencement of EA

Following approval of the Amended ToR by the MECP in February 2022, Hydro One issued a Notice of Commencement of Environmental Assessment to formally initiate the EA stage of the process. The notice defined the Project, provided a description of the EA planning process and opportunities for engagement, and included a map of the alternative routes to be evaluated in the EA. The notice was provided in English and included statements in French and Anishinaabemowin that the Notice was also available on the Project website (or upon request) in those respective languages. The notice was distributed on March 9, 2022 by email to the Project contact list current at the time of distribution. Hard copies of the notice were sent via Canada Post Neighbourhood Mail to approximately 56,000 local property owners, residents and businesses in the Project area that may be potentially affected and/or interested in the Project, and to mailing addresses for stakeholders who have requested accommodation to receive Project updates via mail. Hard copies were shared by addressed mail to identified mining claimholders with staked claims. Hard copies were shared also with licence holders (e.g., trapline, baitfish and bear management areas) and lease/land use permit holders by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF).

Details of the Notice were also released on Hydro One's website and by targeted social media advertisements (Facebook and Instagram), as well as published in the following newspapers as advertisements:

- Atikokan Progress;
- Dryden Bulletin;
- Fort Frances Times;
- Kenora News and Miner;
- Sioux Lookout Bulletin;
- Thunder Bay Chronicle Journal; and
- Thunder Bay Source.

The content of the Notice was shared on the radio in Thunder Bay (CJUK-FM) and Dryden (CKDR-FM) between March 9 and 18, 2022.



A copy of the Notice of Commencement of EA is attached to the Record of Consultation (**RoC-Appendix B** containing copies of Notices) associated with this Final EA Report.

4.3.1.2 *Community Open Houses Round 1*

An invitation to attend in-person community open houses was distributed on April 20, 2022 by email to those on the Project contact list at the time of distribution. The invitation was provided in English and included statements in French and Anishinaabemowin that it was also available on the Project website (or upon request) in those respective languages. Following the same process as for the Notice of Commencement of EA, hard copies were issued via Canada Post Neighbourhood Mail and addressed mailing for mining claimholders and licence holders. As well, details of the invitation were shared on Hydro One's Project website, targeted social media advertisements (Facebook and Instagram), and published in the following newspapers:

- Atikokan Progress;
- Fort Frances Times;
- Kenora News and Miner;
- Neebing News;
- Oliver Paipooonge News;
- Shuniah News;
- Sioux Lookout Bulletin;
- Thunder Bay Chronicle; and
- Thunder Bay Source.

Announcement of the sessions were also made on regional radio stations (CJUK FM Thunder Bay and CKDR FM Dryden from April 25 to May 4, 2022) ahead of the community open houses.

The invitation provided details for the open houses scheduled in Dryden (May 2, 2022), Atikokan (May 4, 2022) and Thunder Bay (May 5, 2022), as well as instructions to participate in a virtual open house (May 18, 2022). A copy of this invitation is attached to the Record of Consultation (**RoC-Appendix B** containing copies of Notices) associated with this Final EA Report.

At the community open houses, the following material was available:

- Display boards describing: the Project, regional benefits, steps of the EA, alternative routes, proposed alternative route analysis process, real estate requirements, early contractor involvement, Project timelines, field surveys, role of Indigenous Knowledge, and the engagement milestones and how to share feedback;



- Handouts including an information sheet on the EA process, a QR code and weblink to access a routing survey, proposed route evaluation criteria, and information from the Independent Electricity System Operator (IESO);
- Tablets to access the Project interactive map and routing survey; and
- Detailed table maps of the alternative routes.

Attendees were invited to sign in upon arrival and encouraged to ask questions, provide comments on the EA process and alternative routes, and fill out comment and evaluation forms. Attendees could view the large format table maps and information display boards and speak one-on-one with Project team members. Hydro One team members present the session included staff from Hydro One’s Environmental Services, Project Management, Community Relations, Indigenous Relations and Real Estate teams. A representative from Hydro One’s environmental consultant (WSP) was also present to answer questions.

On May 18, 2022, Hydro One hosted a virtual open house to provide a Project update. The virtual open house included a live presentation by Hydro One followed by a livestream question and answer period. During the question and answer period, pre-submitted questions were answered and participants had an opportunity to ask live questions. A panel of staff from Hydro One and the IESO were available to answer questions. The livestream presentation and question and answer session ran from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. EDT and included sharing three questions for participants to vote on, summarized in Table 4.3-2.

Table 4.3-2: Virtual Open House Outreach Questions

Questions	Answer Options	Percentage
Why are you joining us this evening?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To learn more about the Project • To learn how to participate in the Project • To ask a question to the Project team • Interest in Project timelines • Another reason 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50.0% • 6.3% • 11.3% • 25.0% • 7.5%
In your opinion, what is the most important category to consider in selecting in a preferred route?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The natural environment • Technical consideration and cost • The socio-economic environment • All of the options • A combination of the above 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15.8% • 38.2% • 6.6% • 29.0% • 10.5%



Questions	Answer Options	Percentage
After this evening’s virtual community open house, what is your level of support for Hydro One’s Waasigan Transmission Line Project?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Very supportive ● Supportive ● Neutral or Unsure ● Not very supportive ● Not supportive at all 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 7.1% ● 10.0% ● 67.1% ● 4.3% ● 11.4%

Table 4.3-3 summarizes the open house details and attendee information.

Table 4.3-3: Community Open Houses – Round 1

Location	Date and Time	Total Attendees
Dryden Royal Canadian Legion 63 34 Queen Street	May 3, 2022 5:30-7:30 p.m. Local time	9
Atikokan Royal Canadian Legion 145 115 O’Brien Street	May 4, 2022 5:30-7:30 p.m. Local time	16
Thunder Bay Current River Community Centre 450 Dewe Avenue	May 5, 2022 5:30-7:30 p.m. Local time	48
Virtual HydroOne.com/Waasigan	May 18, 2022 7:00-8:00 p.m. EDT	2,611

Following these events, Hydro One posted open house material to the Project website, including a recording of the virtual community open house.

Comments received are included in the summary in Section 4.4.4. Copies of open house material are attached to the Record of Consultation (**RoC-Appendix D** containing Open House Materials) associated with this Final EA Report.

4.3.1.3 Project Update Postcard

A postcard was sent via Canada Post Neighbourhood Mail to postal codes within the Project study area (56,000 homes and businesses) in August 2022 summarizing the Project and EA process, the alternative route evaluation process, and next steps. The postcard included a map of the alternative routes and a QR code and weblink to the Project’s online routing survey for interested people to share feedback and comments about the routes being considered and how



they were being assessed. The survey was available until September 30, 2022. Further information on the survey is provided in Section 4.3.2.2.

4.3.1.4 *Community Open Houses Round 2*

A notice sharing that a preliminary preferred route had been identified, including a map, and an invitation to community open houses (January 16-18, 2023) presenting the preliminary preferred route and other Project updates was issued on January 3, 2023. The notice/invitation was provided in English and included statements in French and Anishinaabemowin that it was also available on the Project website in those respective languages. The notice was distributed by email to those on the Project contact list at the time of distribution. Following the same process as previous notices, hard copies were issued using Canada Post Neighbourhood Mail and addressed mailing for mining claim holders and licence holders. Details of the notice/invitation were also released on Hydro One's website and social media, as well as published in the following newspapers:

- Atikokan Progress;
- Fort Frances Times;
- Kenora News and Miner;
- Neebing News;
- Oliver Paipoonge News;
- Sioux Lookout Bulletin;
- Shuniah News;
- Thunder Bay Chronicle; and
- Thunder Bay Source.

Announcement of the sessions were also made on regional radio stations (CKDR-FM Dryden and CJUK-FM Thunder Bay) leading up to the in-person open houses between January 4 and 16, 2023. A copy of the notice is attached to the Record of Consultation (**RoC-Appendix B** containing copies of Notices) associated with this Final EA Report.

Directly impacted property owners with a primary residence located within 100 metres from centreline of the new Project corridor of Phase 1 of the Project received a letter with information about the upcoming open houses, a copy of the notice and information about engagement with Hydro One's Real Estate team. Phase 2 did not receive a letter as an in-service date for that section was unknown at the time.

Community open houses were held in Thunder Bay (January 16, 2023), Atikokan (January 17, 2023), and Dryden (January 18, 2023) to share the results of the alternative route evaluation



and preliminary preferred route and to collect feedback. A virtual open house room was made available on Hydro One’s website beginning January 16, 2023.

At the community open houses, the following material was available:

- Display boards describing: the Project, regional benefits, equity-sharing partnership with nine First Nations, steps in the EA, engagement to date, field programs, alternative route analysis process, preliminary preferred route, environmental effects and mitigation, working with property owners, Project timelines and next steps, construction contractor, and how to provide feedback;
- Handouts of the EA process, alternative route evaluation criteria, electric and magnetic fields, project need and Project mapping showing the preliminary preferred route;
- Detailed table maps of the preliminary preferred route; and
- Tablets to access digital interactive mapping showing the preliminary preferred route.

Attendees were invited to sign in upon arrival and encouraged to ask questions, provide comments on the EA process and the preliminary preferred route, and fill out comment and evaluation forms. Attendees were invited to view the large format table maps and information display boards and speak one-on-one with Project team members. Hydro One team members present at the session included staff from Hydro One’s Environmental Services, Project Management, Community Relations, Indigenous Relations and Real Estate teams. Representatives from Hydro One’s environmental consultant (WSP), contractor (Valard), the Gwayakocchigewin Limited Partnership (GLP), and the IESO were also present to answer questions.

On January 16, 2023, Hydro One opened an online virtual open house room which provides similar materials to those used at the in-person open house sessions, including digital display boards, handouts for download including mapping, as well as interactive mapping including the preliminary preferred route. Access was made available through a link on the Project website.

Table 4.3-4 summarizes the meeting details and attendee information.

Table 4.3-4: Community Open Houses – Round 2

Location	Date and Time	Total Attendees
Thunder Bay Oliver Road Community Centre 563 Oliver Road	January 16, 2023 6:00-8:00 p.m. Local time	86



Location	Date and Time	Total Attendees
Atikokan Royal Canadian Legion 145 115 O'Brien Street	January 17, 2023 6:00-8:00 p.m. Local time	24
Dryden Royal Canadian Legion 63 34 Queen Street	January 18, 2023 6:00-8:00 p.m. Local time	12
Virtual HydroOne.com/Waasigan	January 16, 2023 5:00 pm EDT	222 between January 16 and January 30, 2023

Comments received are included in the summary in Section 4.4.4. Copies of open house materials are attached to the Record of Consultation associated with this Final EA Report (**RoC – Appendix D** containing Open House materials).

4.3.1.5 *Working Groups and Landowner Meetings*

Hydro One and residents in the Kaministiquia area established a working group in March 2023 so that Hydro One could better understand concerns and propose mitigation measures. An open house was held in Kaministiquia in March 2023 to address feedback received through Community Open House Round 2, described in Section 4.4.3.

Hydro One met with the established community group called Neighbours on the Line (NOTL) on February 22, 2023 to listen and better understand their concerns regarding the selection of the preliminary preferred route, and discuss a new route proposed by NOTL. Subsequent engagements with both the broader working group and NOTL's technical experts were held. This included five meetings in March and April 2023 to continue to discuss Project feedback and the alternative route proposed by NOTL. NOTL members also attended the Community Open House Round 3 in Kaministiquia on June 20, 2023.

A community drop-in session was held with potentially affected landowners in Kaministiquia on April 18 and 19, 2023 to share the evaluation results of the NOTL proposed route and engage with the community (see Section 4.4.3). Hydro One held meetings with individual landowners and groups of landowners, including those who attended open houses. Hydro One committed to working with these landowners to better understand the concerns and, where possible, propose mitigation solutions. A summary of these conversations is included in the Issues Identified From Stakeholder Participants Table 4.3-1 in Section 4.4.4.

Hydro One met with residents from the Shebandowan area on February 22, 2023 to hear feedback on the preliminary preferred route. A subsequent meeting was held on March 30, 2023 to discuss refinements that could be made to the preliminary preferred route, based on feedback provided. Hydro One met with the Shebandowan Lake Campers' Association on



April 18, 2023 to discuss the Project, including to present a route refinement, which aligned the preferred route to be adjacent to the existing transmission line.

Further details on engagement with working groups and landowners can be found in Section 4.4.3. Comments received are included in the summary in Section 4.4.4. Copies of open house materials are attached to the Record of Consultation associated with this Final EA Report (**RoC – Appendix D** containing Open House materials).

4.3.1.6 *Notice of Draft Environmental Assessment*

A notice was issued to announce the release of the Draft EA Report for review and comment. The notice defined the Project and included a map of the preferred route, provided a description of the EA planning process, and information on how to access the Draft EA Report and provide feedback. The Draft EA Report was made available for review and comment from May 17, 2023 to July 7, 2023. The notice was provided in English and included statements in French and Anishinaabemowin that it was also available on the Project website, or upon request, in those respective languages. The notice was sent May 17, 2023 by email to those on the Project contact list at the time of distribution. Following the same process as for the Notice of Commencement of EA, hard copies were issued using Canada Post Neighbourhood Mail and addressed mailing for mining claim holders and licence holders. Details of the notice were also shared on Hydro One's Project website, as well as published in local newspapers and using radio ads.

The notice shared that USB flash drives and hard copies of the Draft EA Report were made available at the following locations:

- Atikokan Public Library;
- Dryden Public Library;
- Shuniah Municipal Office;
- Kaministiquia Community Centre; and
- Shebandowan Community Centre.

USB flash drive copies were made available at:

- Ignace Public Library; and
- Thunder Bay Public Library – Waverley Branch.

As well, USB flash drive copies were made available at First Nation community band offices and MNO offices.

A copy of this notice is attached to the Record of Consultation associated with this Final EA Report (**RoC – Appendix B** containing copies of Notices).



4.3.1.7 Community Open Houses Round 3

A notice sharing an invitation to community open houses (June 13-22, 2023) presenting the Draft EA Report was released on May 17, 2023. The notice/invitation was provided in English and included statements in French and Anishinaabemowin that it was also available in those respective languages. The notice was distributed by email to those on the Project contact list at the time of distribution. Following the same process as previous notices, hard copies were issued using Canada Post Neighbourhood Mail and addressed mailing for mining claim holders and licence holders. Details of the notice/invitation were also released on Hydro One's website and social media, as well as published in the following newspapers:

- Atikokan Progress
- Fort Frances Times
- Kenora News and Miner
- Neebing News
- Oliver Paipoonge News
- Sioux Lookout Bulletin
- Shuniah News
- Thunder Bay Chronicle
- Thunder Bay Source.

Announcement of the sessions were also made on regional radio stations (CKDR-FM Dryden and CJUK-FM Thunder Bay) leading up to the in-person open houses between June 13 and June 22, 2023. A copy the notice is attached to the Record of Consultation (**RoC-Appendix B** containing copies of Notices) associated with the Final EA Report.

Directly impacted property owners with a primary residence located within 100 metres from centreline of the new Project corridor of Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the Project received a letter with information about the upcoming open houses, a copy of the notice.

Additional notification of a date change for the session in Thunder Bay was released on the Waasigan Project website, by email to the Project contact list, posted at the venue and on the radio on June 15, 2023, and delivered via letter to Kaministiquia residents, sharing the revision in the date of the event from June 21, 2023 to June 22, 2023.

Community open houses were held in Dryden (June 13, 2023), Atikokan (June 14, 2023), Kaministiquia (June 20, 2023), and Thunder Bay (June 22, 2023) to share the information and gather feedback on the Draft EA.



At the community open houses, the following material was available:

- Display boards describing: the Project, need for the Project, Project update, Project timelines and next steps, Draft EA Report review including an overall summary and conclusions and highlights of the natural environment and socio-economic environment, summary of First Nations and Métis Rights, Interest and Use of Land and Resources, along with how Hydro One will continue working with property owners and how to provide feedback;
- Large format maps of the Project footprint; and
- Available handouts including plain language summary of EA findings, Notice of Release of the Draft EA (English, French and Anishnaabemowin) showing a map of the Project, overview of the EA process, information on electric and magnetic fields (EMF), and summary of topics considered in alternative route evaluation.

Attendees were invited to sign in upon arrival and encouraged to ask questions, provide comments on the draft EA and the Project footprint, and fill out comment forms. Attendees were invited to view the large format table maps and information display boards and speak one-on-one with Project team members. Hydro One team members present at the session included staff from Hydro One's Environmental Services, Project Management, Community Relations, Indigenous Relations and Real Estate teams. Representatives from Hydro One's environmental consultant (WSP), and contractor (Valard).

Table 4.3-5 summarizes the meeting details and attendee information.

Table 4.3-5: Community Open Houses – Round 3

Location	Date and Time	Total Attendees
Dryden Royal Canadian Legion Branch 63 34 Queen Street, Dryden	June 13, 2023 5:00-8:00 p.m. Local time	15
Atikokan Royal Canadian Legion 145 115 O'Brien Street	June 14, 2023 5:00-8:00 p.m. Local time	20
Kaministiquia Kaministiquia Community Centre 6197 Dawson Road, Kaministiquia	June 20, 2023 5:00-8:00 p.m. Local time	20



Location	Date and Time	Total Attendees
Thunder Bay Oliver Road Community Centre 563 Oliver Road, Thunder Bay	June 22, 2023 5:00-8:00 p.m. Local time	17

Comments received are included in the summary in Section 4.4.4. Copies of open house materials, including summary reports, are attached to the Record of Consultation associated with this Final EA Report (**RoC – Appendix D** containing Open House materials).

4.3.1.8 *Notice of Submission of Environmental Assessment*

Hydro One prepared a Notice of Submission of Environmental Assessment for distribution to the Project distribution list, per the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks' Code of Practice: Preparing and Reviewing Environmental Assessments in Ontario. The Notice defined the Project and included information about where to access the final EA Report for review (including online and in-person), how comments and/or concerns should be submitted to MECP and included a map of the preferred route. The Notice was provided in English and included statements in French and Anishinaabemowin that the Notice was also available on the Project website (or upon request) in those respective languages. The Notice was distributed via Canada Post Admail to the Project area in advance of the review period start, and via email on November 17, 2023 to the Project distribution list and posted on the Project website. The Notice was shared with Indigenous communities and stakeholders and accompanied by a cover letter and acknowledgement of receipt form provided by the MECP.

Hard copies of the final EA Report and USB flash drives containing electronic copies of the report were available at the following locations:

- Dryden Public Library;
- Atikokan Public Library;
- Shebandowan Community Centre;
- Ignace Public Library (USBs only);
- Kaministiquia Community Centre;
- Thunder Bay Public Library (USBs only);
- Shuniah Municipal Office; and
- MECP Environmental Assessment Branch.



The Notice was also shared via the following newspapers:

- Kenora News & Miner;
- Atikokan Progress;
- Fort Frances Times;
- Sioux Lookout Bulletin;
- Wataway News;
- Thunder Bay Source; and
- Thunder Bay Chronical Journal.

Announcement of the sessions were also made on regional radio stations (CKDR-FM Dryden and CJUK-FM Thunder Bay). Additionally, a social media ad ran from November 17 to November 10, 2023 across the region.

Information about Hydro One's submission to MECP for review and approval was posted on the environmental assessment projects page of MECP's website.

A copy of the Notice of Submission of Environmental Assessment is attached to the Record of Consultation (**RoC-Appendix B** containing copies of Notices) associated with this Final EA Report.

4.3.2 Ongoing Engagement Tools

In addition to the EA engagement activities described above, additional tools for ongoing outreach to all contacts engaged on the Project occurred throughout the EA process. Ongoing engagement activities included information sharing through digital tools, such as the Project website, a routing input survey, social media, in-person and virtual meetings as well as responding to comments through a Project-dedicated phone line and email address. These tools were available for all Indigenous community and stakeholder participants and are described below.

Other forms of ongoing engagement through the reporting period, specific to the group engaged, are identified and described in Section 4.4 for stakeholder contacts and Section 4.5 for Indigenous communities.

4.3.2.1 Project Website

Hydro One has a dedicated Project website (www.HydroOne.com/Waasigan) to provide information on the Project, including maps, the EA process, Project timeline, how Indigenous communities are being engaged, public consultation and Project approvals. An interactive map is available and has been updated throughout the EA process to show the alternative routes,



and preliminary preferred route and Project footprint. The website provides details for interested parties to contact the Project team to ask questions or submit comments. Materials available to view and download from the website include Project notices, EA documents (including the Amended ToR and field work plans), information sheets, routing input survey, community open house materials (including presentations and panels), and Project maps.

4.3.2.2 *Routing Input Survey*

To help inform Hydro One's identification of a preferred route, an online survey was developed for participants to provide feedback on the alternatives routes, rate the importance of criteria used in the alternative route evaluation, and identify areas of interest and/or concern. The survey was completed by 141 individuals between April 28 and September 30, 2022.

In the first component of the survey, respondents were asked to rate the importance of natural environment (e.g., water, wildlife, and vegetation) and socio-economic (e.g., visual landscapes, infrastructure, and built heritage resources) criteria. More than 70% of respondents identified water, species at risk habitat, and parks and protected areas as very important within the natural environment (ranked 4 out of 5 or higher). Socio-economic criteria identified as very important were potential effects to visual landscapes (60% of respondents), recreation and tourism (57% of respondents) and archaeology (47% of respondents).

The survey also provided a map of the Project area that allowed respondents to drop pins and ask questions about the area and provide comments to identify key features Hydro One should consider when selecting a preferred route. Using the map tool, 185 comments and questions were received.

Following this, participants were asked to rate all alternative route options between Thunder Bay, Atikokan, and Dryden. Results were included in the alternative route evaluation to support the selection of a preliminary preferred route. Based on the results of the survey, it is noted that the preferred route aligns with the most preferred alternative route chosen by participants for all segments.

The final section of the survey gave respondents the opportunity to provide any additional comments they had. Approximately 40 additional comments were shared in the final survey section. Comments and responses shared throughout the survey are included in the summary of feedback from stakeholders in Section 4.4.4, recognizing that input may have also been provided by First Nation or Métis community members, but not disclosed.

More detailed survey results are attached to the Record of Consultation associated with this Final EA Report (**RoC – Appendix B** containing notices).

4.3.2.3 *Social Media*

During the reporting period, Hydro One used social media outlets to increase awareness of the Project and Project activities. Specifically, targeted Facebook and Instagram advertisements were used during key milestones, including to advertise for community open houses.



Advertisements placed in advance of the January 2023 community open houses reached a total of 27,054 unique users/people.

4.3.2.4 Community Relations Phone Line

The Hydro One Community Relations phone line, 1-877-345-6799, was advertised in all Project notices and on the Project website, and was available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, to accept voicemail messages. The phone line was monitored by Hydro One staff during regular business hours throughout the duration of the EA. Project-related comments and inquires made via the phone line were documented and responded to by a Hydro One Project team member.

4.3.2.5 Project Email Address

The Hydro One Community Relations email address, Community.Relations@HydroOne.com, was advertised in all Project notices and on the Project website and was monitored throughout the duration of the EA process. Messages and comments received through this email address were reviewed regularly and forwarded to relevant Project team members to consider feedback and develop a response. Project-related comments and inquires made via e-mail were documented and responded to by a Hydro One Project team member.

4.3.2.6 Meetings and Workshops

Representatives of relevant municipal, provincial, and federal government agencies identified through the Government Review Team (GRT) list provided by the MECP were invited to three workshops during the reporting period, which focused on collecting input on the EA methodology, including the alternative route analysis, and discussing findings of the Draft EA and gathering feedback. Meetings were also held with individual stakeholder groups. These engagements are identified and described in Section 4.4 for stakeholder contacts, specific to the group engaged.

4.4 Stakeholder Engagement

This section describes the consultation and engagement activities undertaken by Hydro One for the reporting period (March 9, 2022, to September 1, 2023) with Project stakeholders, including municipal officials, members of the public, provincial and federal government agencies, community groups, businesses, and other stakeholders, related to the Project.

The Stakeholder Consultation Plan provided in Section 10.2 of the Amended ToR focuses on consultation and engagement activities related to potentially interested and/or affected government officials and agencies, and other interested persons and organizations, including members of the public and property owners, with the objective to:

- Create an understanding and general awareness of the Project, and provide ongoing online and in-person opportunities for interested parties to learn about the Project, ask questions and provide feedback;



- Gather input and respond to inquiries or concerns, and provide full and fair consideration and documentation of the input received during the consultation process and incorporation of such input, where feasible, into Project decision-making;
- Learn about community interests and perspectives; and
- Better understand how the Project may affect stakeholders so that potential effects can be addressed and minimized, as feasible.

4.4.1 Municipal Agencies

Elected officials and key staff from local communities including, but not limited to, mayors, clerks, chief administrative officers (CAOs), and economic development officers, were included in the contact list. First responders, such as emergency medical services, local fire departments and police with jurisdiction in potentially affected communities, were also included on the Project contact list as recommended by the MECP. Representatives of municipalities crossed by the Study Area, including the alternative routes assessed as part of the EA, are identified as part of the Government Review Team (GRT). From east to west these communities are:

- Municipality of Shuniah;
- City of Thunder Bay;
- Municipality of Oliver Paipoonge;
- Township of Conmee;
- Township of O'Connor;
- Town of Atikokan;
- Township of Ignace; and
- City of Dryden.

As well, notifications were shared with the City of Kenora and Town of Fort Frances. Engagement with local service boards, including road boards was initiated also, following the announcement of the preliminary preferred route in 2023.

Engagement with municipalities focused on Project updates so municipal contacts could support their constituents, seeking information about the Project and understanding potentially affected local stakeholder groups for outreach. Methods for engagement focused on sharing Project notices, regular updates and milestones through meetings and workshops. Specific activities are summarized in Table 4.4-1 and detailed further in the Record of Consultation supporting this Final EA Report (**RoC – Appendix E** containing engagement records with municipalities).

Comments received from municipal contacts are summarized in Section 4.4.4.



Table 4.4-1: Summary of Key Municipal Consultation Activities

Date	Method	Purpose
March 9, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed municipal government contacts the Notice of Commencement of EA.
April 14 and April 21, 2022	Newspaper/ Email/ Radio/ Social Media/ Admail	Hydro One sent a notice of open houses providing information about the Project and details of the in-person community open houses in Thunder Bay, Atikokan and Dryden from May 3-5, and how to join the virtual open house on May 18, 2022.
May 3, 2022	Community open house	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Dryden to provide information and engage with stakeholders about the Project.
May 4, 2022	Community open house	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Atikokan to provide information and engage with stakeholders about the Project.
May 5, 2022	Community open house	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Thunder Bay to provide information and engage with stakeholders about the Project.
May 18, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed a reminder notification to the Project contact list regarding the virtual open house event.
May 18, 2022	Virtual open house	Hydro One hosted a virtual open house to provide information, engage with stakeholders about the Project and collect feedback on the alternative routes and evaluation process for the EA.
July 15, 2022	Email	Hydro One requested municipalities provide GIS data.
August 18, 2022	Email	Hydro One sent out a notice about the September 7, 2022 workshop where the Government Review Team (GRT) could provide feedback on the alternative route evaluation process.
September 7, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One held a workshop with GRT members to provide updates about the EA and receive feedback on the alternative route evaluation process.
September 19, 2022	Email	Hydro One invited municipalities to a meeting on October 13, 2022 in Thunder Bay, which included discussion on the Project.
October 11, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed municipalities to thank them for participating in the September 7, 2022 GRT workshop.
October 13, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One hosted a meeting with local industry, interest groups and elected officials to discuss development in the northwest Ontario, including the Project.



Date	Method	Purpose
November 22, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One had an agency workshop with the GRT to provide updates on field work results, consultation and engagement, alternative route evaluation, scheduling, and the draft EA review process.
December 16, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed the GRT to thank them for participating in the November 22, 2022 workshop.
December 19, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with the Town of Atikokan to provide an update on the Project.
January 3, 2022	Newspaper/ Email/ Radio/ Social Media/ Admail	Notice of Preliminary Preferred Route and Invitation to Community Open Houses released.
January 13, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the City of Dryden to provide an update on the Project.
January 13, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the City of Thunder Bay to provide an update on the Project
January 16, 2023	Virtual open house	Hydro One made available a virtual open house room through Project website to provide information, engage with stakeholders about the Project and collect feedback on the preliminary preferred route.
January 16, 2023	Community open house	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Thunder Bay to provide information, engage with stakeholders about the Project and collect feedback on the preliminary preferred route.
January 17, 2023	Community open house	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Atikokan to provide information, engage with stakeholders about the Project and collect feedback on the preliminary preferred route.
January 18, 2023	Community open house	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Dryden to provide information, engage with stakeholders about the Project and collect feedback on the preliminary preferred route.
March 22, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed the Kaministiquia Local Service Board and the Ware Roads Board to discuss the Project.
April 11, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the Town of Atikokan to provide a brief update on the Project, including details of ongoing engagement as part of the EA.
May 17, 2023	Email	Hydro One sent an email to stakeholders notifying them that the draft EA Report was available until July 7, 2023 for review and comment and attached a notice with further details.



Date	Method	Purpose
June 1, 2023	Email	Hydro One sent an email to stakeholders notifying them of upcoming community open houses to be held in Dryden, Atikokan, Kaministiquia, and Thunder Bay. It also included a reminder that the draft EA Report was available until July 7, 2023 for review and comment and attached a notice with further details.
June 13, 2023	Email	Hydro One sent an email to stakeholders to share an update to scheduling of the community open house planned in Thunder Bay from June 21 to June 22.

4.4.2 Provincial and Federal Agencies

Representatives of relevant provincial and federal government agencies were identified through the GRT list provided by the MECP. Additional contacts were added to the list through attendance at agency meetings, requests to be added, and by attending and signing in at community open houses. The list of provincial and federal agencies engaged for the Project are provided in Table 4.4-2.



Table 4.4-2: Provincial, Federal Agencies, and Elected Officials Consulted

Provincial Agencies	Federal Agencies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Infrastructure Ontario (IO) ● Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA) ● Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) ● Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade (MEDJCT) ● Ministry of Energy (formerly part of the Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines [ENDM]) ● Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport (MTCSS) (formerly part of the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries [MHSTCI]) ● Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism (MCM) ● Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) ● Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) (formerly part of the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry [MNDMNRF]) ● Ministry of Mines (formerly part of ENDM and MNDMNRF) ● Ministry of Northern Development (formerly part of ENDM and MNDMNRF) ● Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) ● Ministry of the Solicitor General ● Ministry of Transportation (MTO) ● Ontario Power Generation (OPG) ● Member of Provincial Parliament (MPP) (Thunder Bay – Superior North) ● MPP (Thunder Bay – Atikokan) ● MPP (Kenora – Rainy River) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) ● Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) ● Transport Canada ● Natural Resources Canada ● Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission ● Member of Parliament - Thunder Bay - Superior North ● Member of Parliament - Kenora ● Member of Parliament - Thunder Bay - Rainy River

Engagement with provincial and federal agencies included a range of methods and frequencies based on the group and related engagement goals.

The most frequent engagement included regular meetings between Hydro One, the Ministry of Energy, MNRF and MECP. These agencies are responsible for the EA process (MECP), and



the duty to consult (Ministry of Energy), the procedural elements of which are delegated to Hydro One. Monthly meetings are held to update the contacts at these agencies working on this Project, including EA updates and actions taken to support the procedural aspects of the duty to consult with Indigenous communities.

At EA milestones, such as the process to identify the preliminary preferred route and discussion on comments received from agencies, workshops were held with the GRT to exchange information.

Topic-specific engagements were also held with responsible agencies. For example, working with MECP for information and input related to species at risk and provincial parks.

A summary of key engagement activities is provided in Table 4.4-3. Comments received during engagement activities are summarized in Section 4.4.4 and details of engagement activities are provided in the Record of Consultation that supports this Final EA Report (**RoC – Appendix F** containing engagement records with provincial and federal agencies).

Table 4.4-3: Summary of Key Provincial and Federal Agencies and Elected Officials Consultation Activities

Date	Method	Purpose
March 9, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed federal and provincial government contacts the Notice of Commencement of EA.
March 11, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with NDMNRF (now MNRF) to discuss aquatic field work and Licence to Collect Fish for Scientific Purposes.
March 13, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to advise that approval from the MECP for the Amended ToR for the Project was received in February 2022 and that the Project would be moving forward in accordance with the approved amended ToR.
April 12, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with MECP for the monthly meeting.
April 14, April 21, and April 26, 2022	Email	Hydro One sent an invitation for community open houses in Thunder Bay, Atikokan and Dryden from May 3-5, and a virtual open house on May 18, 2022.
May 3, 2022	Community open house	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Dryden to provide information, engage with the community about the Project and collect feedback on the alternative routes and evaluation process for the EA.



Date	Method	Purpose
May 4, 2022	Community open house	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Atikokan to provide information, engage with the community about the Project and collect feedback on the alternative routes and evaluation process for the EA.
May 5, 2022	Community open house	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Thunder Bay to provide information, engage with the community about the Project and collect feedback on the alternative routes and evaluation process for the EA.
May 10, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with MECP, including the Species at Risk Branch (SARB), to discuss responses to comments on the Terrestrial Field Work Plan from MECP.
May 18, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed a reminder notification to the Project contact list regarding the virtual open house event.
May 18, 2022	Virtual open house	Hydro One hosted a virtual open house to provide information, engage with stakeholders about the Project and collect feedback on the alternative routes and evaluation process for the EA.
May 25, 2022	Email	The Project team sent the MNRF a permit application for the Dryden-Fort Frances-Atikokan District.
June 2, 2022	Email	The Project team sent the MNRF a permit application for the Thunder Bay-Ignace District.
June 6, 2022	Email	Hydro One sent the MECP updated Aquatic and Terrestrial Field Work Plans based on comments from MECP, including the SARB, MNRF and Indigenous communities.
June 8, 2022	Email	The Project team sent the MNRF a permit application for the Dryden-Fort Frances-Atikokan District.
June 9, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with the MECP to discuss community relations engagement update, Indigenous relations, field work plans and EA next steps.
June 15, 2022	Email	The MNRF sent the Project team the Licence to Collect Fish for Scientific Purposes for surveys located in Dryden-Fort Frances-Atikokan District.



Date	Method	Purpose
June 21, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with MECP for the monthly meeting.
June 21, 2022	Email	The MNRF emailed the Project team the Licence to Collect Fish for Scientific Purposes for surveys located in Thunder Bay-Ignace District.
July 8, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with the MNRF to clarify information included in the License to Collect Fish for Scientific Purposes application.
July 11, 2022	Email	The MNRF emailed the Project team the Licence to Collect Fish for Scientific Purposes for surveys located within Dryden-Fort Frances-Atikokan District.
July 12, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with MECP for the monthly meeting.
July 18, 2022	Email	The Project team requested Lakehead Region Conservation Authority provide GIS datasets relevant to the Project.
July 21, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with staff from the Ministry of Energy, MECP and MNRF to review and discuss the Project and Indigenous consultation updates.
July 22, 2022	Email	The Project team requested the MTCS provide municipal GIS data.
July 25, 2022	Email	The Project team requested the MNRF provide municipal GIS data.
August 4, 2022	Email	The Project team requested the MECP to provide GIS datasets.
August 18, 2022	Email	Hydro One sent a notice for the September 7, 2022 workshop where the GRT could provide feedback on the alternative route evaluation process.
August 25, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with the Ministry of Energy, MECP, and MNRF to review and discuss the Project and Indigenous consultation updates.
September 6, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with MECP for the monthly meeting.
September 7, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One held a workshop to provide updates about the EA and receive feedback on the alternative route evaluation process.



Date	Method	Purpose
September 13, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with staff from the MECP to discuss Project evaluation methodology, criteria, and inputs for selecting the preferred route.
September 16, 2022	Email	The Project team inquired if the MNRF would extend the Licence to Collect Fish for Scientific Purposes for the Dryden-Fort Frances-Atikokan District as a result of adhering to surveying protocols within an Indigenous community's traditional territory.
September 20, 2022	Email	The MNRF sent the Project team the amended Licence to Collect Fish for Scientific Purposes for Dryden-Fort Frances-Atikokan District.
September 26, 2022	Email	WSP (formerly WSP Golder) inquired if the MTO would amend the existing permit to include additional properties and extend its expiry date.
September 28, 2022	Email	The MTO sent the Project team the amended permit.
September 30, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with the MECP to discuss wildlife hibernacula in relation to the Project.
October 4, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with MECP for the monthly meeting.
October 6, 2022	Email	The Project team sent the MECP the Atmospheric Work Plan and requested their comments.
October 26, 2022	Email	The Project team inquired if the MECP would provide access to their wildlife data.
November 8, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with MECP for the monthly meeting.
November 8, 2022	Email	Hydro One sent the MECP a detailed noise and vibration plan for their review.
November 21, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with MNRF to provide a Project update and discuss rehabilitation at Steep Rock Mine.
November 22, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One had an agency workshop with the GRT to provide updates on field work results, consultation and engagement, alternative route evaluation, scheduling and the draft EA review process.
November 23, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with MECP SARB regarding acoustic surveys and consideration of bat hibernacula.



Date	Method	Purpose
December 6, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with MECP for the monthly meeting.
December 16, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed the GRT to thank them for participating in the November 22, 2022 workshop.
January 3, 2022	Email	Notice of Preliminary Preferred Route and Invitation to Community Open Houses released.
January 12, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with MPP Rickford (Kenora – Rainy River) to provide an update on the Project.
January 12, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the Legislative Assembly of Ontario (MPP Thunder Bay – Superior North) to provide an overview of the Project and next steps.
January 16, 2023	Virtual open house	Hydro One made available a virtual open house room through Project website to provide information, engage with stakeholders about the Project and collect feedback on the preliminary preferred route.
January 16, 2023	Community open house	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Thunder Bay to provide information, engage with the community about the Project, share the results of the alternative route evaluation and collect feedback on the preliminary preferred route.
January 17, 2023	Community open house	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Atikokan to provide information, engage with the community about the Project, share the results of the alternative route evaluation and collect feedback on the preliminary preferred route.
January 18, 2023	Community open house	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Dryden to provide information, engage with the community about the Project, share the results of the alternative route evaluation and collect feedback on the preliminary preferred route.
January 25, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with MECP and MNRF to discuss the limits of work concept.
January 27, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with MECP regarding protected areas.



Date	Method	Purpose
February 7, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the MECP for their monthly meeting to discuss the Project.
February 9, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the MPP for Thunder Bay – Atikokan to provide an overview of the preliminary preferred route and next steps for the Project.
February 15, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the MNRF to discuss the Limits of Work proposal.
February 16, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the Ministry of Energy, MECP, and MNRF to review and discuss the Project and Indigenous consultation and engagement updates.
March 3, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One had a meeting with the Thunder Bay—Superior North MPP to provide a Project update. The MPP noted they were impressed with Hydro One's engagement efforts and wanted to continually be informed about the Project's progress.
March 6, 2023	Letter	MECP SARB Branch emailed a letter regarding bat hibernacula data.
March 13, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the Thunder Bay—Atikokan MPP to provide a project update.
March 15, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the MECP for their monthly meeting to discuss the Project.
March 15, 2023	Letter	MECP shared a letter to Hydro One they provided a property owner in response to correspondences shared on January 27, 2023, and February 18, 2023 regarding the proposed route near Amp Lake.
April 4, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the MECP for their monthly meeting to discuss the Project.
April 14, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with MTO to discuss the Project.
April 20, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the Ministry of Energy, MECP, and MNRF to review and discuss the Project and Indigenous consultation and engagement updates.
May 2, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed the Government Review Team to notify them of the upcoming Draft EA review period from May 17 to July 7, 2023.
May 3, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the MECP for their monthly meeting to discuss the Project.



Date	Method	Purpose
May 18, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed the Legislative Assembly of Ontario to share additional information about the EA process for the Project. Hydro One provided a summary from the Project Team, a detailed documents outlining the EA process and graphics detailing the route selection process and Project timeline. Hydro One indicated they could also provide a briefing to the Thunder Bay—Atikokan MPP if desired.
June 1, 2023	Email	Hydro One sent an email to stakeholders notifying them of upcoming community open houses to be held in Dryden, Atikokan, Kaministiquia, and Thunder Bay. It also included a reminder that the draft EA report was available until July 7, 2023 for review and comment and attached a notice with further details.
June 13, 2023	Community Open House	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Dryden to provide information, engage with the community about the Project, and collect feedback on the Draft EA.
June 14, 2023	Community Open House	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Atikokan to provide information, engage with the community about the Project, and collect feedback on the Draft EA.
June 16, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the MECP for their monthly meeting to discuss the Project.
June 20, 2023	Community Open House	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Kaministiquia to provide information, engage with the community about the Project, and collect feedback on the Draft EA.
June 22, 2023	Community Open House	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Thunder Bay to provide information, engage with the community about the Project, and collect feedback on the Draft EA.
July 6, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the MECP for their monthly meeting to discuss the Project.
July 20, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with MECP Noise subject matter experts to discuss comments on the Draft EA.



Date	Method	Purpose
August 4, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with MECP Air Quality subject matter experts to discuss comments on the Draft EA.
August 10, 2023	Meeting	Provide an overview and update of the Project, including discussing the Draft EA findings for review and comment.
August 17, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with MECP Ontario Parks to discuss comments received on the Draft EA.
August 18, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with MNRF to discuss comments received on the Draft EA.
August 24, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with MNRF to discuss the approach to Crown Land Use Permits for the Project.
August 29, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with MECP Species at Risk Branch to discuss comments received on the Draft EA.

4.4.3 Communication with Businesses, Interest Groups and Community Members

The contact list for businesses, interest groups and community members consists of those who may reside in or near the Study Area, those who have potential to be affected by the Project, and those with an interest in the Project. Members of the public were able to ask to be added to the contact list through the Project website, Hydro One’s Community Relations phone line and email, by responding to notices received, or by attending and signing in at community open houses.

Efforts were made to identify other key stakeholders through web searches, stakeholder mapping exercises, review of Ontario Energy Board planning documentation regarding the Project, and by asking local municipal staff about active groups and individuals that should be included on the contact list. Publication of notices in commonly read newspapers and social media advertisements throughout the Study Area also provided opportunities for stakeholders to identify themselves. Key stakeholders identified to date include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Common Voice Northwest;
- Thunder Bay Chamber of Commerce;
- Lakehead Rural Municipal Coalition;
- Thunder Bay Community Economic Development Commission (CEDC);
- Northwestern Ontario Prospectors Association (NWOPA);



- Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA);
- Lakehead University;
- Confederation College;
- Labour unions, including Laborers' International Union of North America (LiUNA) and Canadian Union of Skilled Workers (CUSW);
- Non-government organizations representing a variety of interests, such as nature appreciation/education, hunting, fishing, trail users, recreational users (e.g., naturalist clubs, snowmobile clubs, gun clubs, etc.), camping, and tourism organizations;
- Local Roads and Services Boards;
- Contacts managed by the MNRF, including rights, permits, and/or licence holders for Crown land dispositions, trap lines, bait fish blocks, and bear management areas;
- Railway companies, including Canadian Pacific Railway (CPR) and Canadian National Railway (CNR);
- Mining and forestry rights holders and companies, and industry representatives;
- Shebandowan Lake Campers' Association;
- Neighbours on the Line;
- Vendors that may have services to offer during the EA and, if approved, construction and maintenance; and
- Those who have expressed an interest in being kept informed about the Project .

Table 4.4-4 provides a summary of key consultation milestones completed with other stakeholders throughout the EA process for the reporting period. Additional information, including a record of consultation with stakeholders, is included in the Record of Consultation supporting the Final EA Report (**RoC – Appendix G** containing engagement records with non-agency stakeholders). ROC – Appendix G includes copies of comments received from interest groups and community members during the Draft EA review period. Comments and responses from Hydro One are included in Appendix 4.0-A.

Table 4.4-4: Summary of Key Consultation Activities with Businesses, Interest Groups and Community Members

Date	Method	Purpose
March 9, 2022	Newspaper/ Email/ Radio/ Social Media/ Admail	Hydro One provided notification to businesses, interest groups and community members of the approved Amended ToR and EA Notice of Commencement.



Date	Method	Purpose
April 14 and April 21, 2022	Newspaper/ Email/ Radio/ Social Media/ Admail	Hydro One sent a notice of open houses providing information about the Project and details of the in-person community open houses in Thunder Bay, Atikokan and Dryden from May 3-5, and how to join the virtual open house on May 18, 2022.
May 3, 2022 and May 4, 2022	Email	Hydro One informed the contact list about the partnership announcement with the GLP.
May 3, 2022	Community open house	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Dryden to provide information, engage with stakeholders about the Project and collect feedback on the alternative routes and evaluation process for the EA.
May 4, 2022	Community open house	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Atikokan to provide information, engage with stakeholders about the Project and collect feedback on the alternative routes and evaluation process for the EA.
May 5, 2022	Community open house	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Thunder Bay to provide information, engage with stakeholders about the Project and collect feedback on the alternative routes and evaluation process for the EA.
May 18, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed a reminder notification to the Project contact list regarding the virtual open house event.
May 18, 2022	Virtual open house	Hydro One hosted a virtual open house to provide information, engage with stakeholders about the Project and collect feedback on the alternative routes and evaluation process for the EA.
June 1, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Sustainable Forest Licence (SFL) holders to receive updated information on active haul roads, operations and health and safety precautions within the Study Area for the Project.



Date	Method	Purpose
September 19, 2022	Email	Hydro One invited municipalities and representatives of a number of stakeholder groups to a meeting on October 13, 2022 in Thunder Bay, which included discussion on the Project.
October 13, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with interest groups and municipal stakeholders to collaborate and seek feedback on northern Ontario's electricity needs, including Waasigan.
January 3, 2022	Newspaper/ Email/ Radio/Social Media/ Admail	Notice of Preliminary Preferred Route and Invitation to community open house released.
January 16, 2023	Virtual open house	Hydro One made available a virtual open house room through Project website to provide information, engage with stakeholders about the Project and collect feedback on the preliminary preferred route.
January 16, 2023	Community open house	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Thunder Bay to provide information, engage with stakeholders about the Project, share the results of the alternative route evaluation and collect feedback on the preliminary preferred route.
January 17, 2023	Community open house	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Atikokan to provide information, engage with stakeholders about the Project, share the results of the alternative route evaluation and collect feedback on the preliminary preferred route.
January 17, 2023	Phone and email	A community member in the Kaministiquia area identified as belonging to an organization named Neighbours on the Line (NOTL) contacted Hydro One expressing concern and opposition about the location of the preliminary preferred route through the Kaministiquia area and requesting further discussion.
January 18, 2023	Email and letter	A member of NOTL emailed Hydro One to provide further comments and a letter on the preliminary preferred route study area.
January 18, 2023	Community open house	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Dryden to provide information, engage with stakeholders about the Project, share the results of the alternative route evaluation and collect feedback on the preliminary preferred route.



Date	Method	Purpose
February 7, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with Dryden Forest Management Company Ltd. To discuss the Project Access Plan.
February 22, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with residents from the Shebandowan area in Thunder Bay to listen and seek to better understand their feedback about the preliminary preferred route.
February 22, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with NOTL to discuss the alternative route proposed by NOTL.
March 2, 2023	Community open house	Hydro One hosted a community open house in Kaministiquia to discuss ways to mitigate or minimize the impacts of the proposed Project.
March 3, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with NOTL to continue discussing Project feedback and the alternative route proposed by NOTL.
March 14, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with technical experts of NOTL to discuss the route the NOTL proposed and the analysis Hydro One was undertaking.
March 21, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with technical experts of NOTL to discuss the route the NOTL proposed and the analysis Hydro One was undertaking.
March 22 and 23, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed the Kaministiquia and Shebandowan Local Service Boards and the Ware Roads Board to discuss the Project.
March 29, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with NOTL to discuss the analysis of the alternative route proposed by NOTL.
March 30, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with several residents from the Shebandowan area to discuss a refinement that could be made to the preliminary preferred route, based on feedback provided by the residents and further technical analysis.
April 18, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with NOTL to share the evaluation results of NOTL's proposed route.
April 18 and 19, 2023	Community Drop-in Session	Hydro One hosted two in-person community drop-in sessions in Kaministiquia to share the evaluation results of NOTL's proposed route and engage with the community.



Date	Method	Purpose
April 18, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with Shebandowan Lake Campers' Association to discuss the Project, including a refinement to the preliminary preferred route.
April 20, 2023	Email	Hydro One received shapefiles for a second alternative route proposed by NOTL.
May 3, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed stakeholders an announcement of the selected contractor for the Project, and about the IESO's recent identification of an in-service date for Phase 2.
May 11, 2023	Email and Phone	Hydro One emailed NOTL to confirm receipt of the second alternative route proposed and provide comments to it. Hydro One noted they would be releasing the draft EA for public review and encouraged them to provide comments and feedback. Hydro One called to follow-up on this email.
May 12, 2023	Letter	Hydro One received a Letter of Support from the Canadian Union of Skilled Workers (CUSW).
June 1, 2023	Email	Hydro One sent an email to stakeholders notifying them of upcoming community open houses to be held in Dryden, Atikokan, Kaministiquia, and Thunder Bay. It also included a reminder that the Draft EA Report was available until July 7, 2023 for review and comment and attached a notice with further details.
June 13, 2023	Community Open House	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Dryden to provide information, engage with the community about the Project, and collect feedback on the draft EA.
June 14, 2023	Community Open House	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Atikokan to provide information, engage with the community about the Project, and collect feedback on the draft EA.
June 20, 2023	Community Open House	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Kaministiquia to provide information, engage with the community about the Project, and collect feedback on the draft EA.



Date	Method	Purpose
June 20, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed a resident to thank them for attending the Community Open House in Atikokan to learn more about concerns related to the preferred route and proposed route refinement in the Three Mile Bay area. Hydro One noted a response could be provided following an investigation.
June 22, 2023	Community Open House	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Thunder Bay to provide information, engage with the community about the Project, and collect feedback on the draft EA.
June 26, 2023	Email	A resident emailed Hydro One to provide a summary of a discussion they had with a Project Team member at an open house on June 22, 2023. The resident noted they were property owners on Kabaigon Bay and the concerns they had about the impact of the Project on the landscape.
June 30, 2023	Email/Hardcopy Mail	NOTL provided their comments on the Draft EA Report to Hydro One via email and hardcopy mail.
July 3, 2023	Email	NOTL emailed Hydro One to provide their comments on the Draft EA Report.
July 4, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed a resident to noted they had their technical team looking into possible solutions to address concerns the resident mentioned in the Kabaigon Bay area. Hydro One also noted a meeting would be set up once the route evaluation was complete.
August 29, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed a resident to schedule a meeting to discuss Hydro One's investigation into a refinement in the Kabaigon Bay area.
August 31, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with a community member to discuss the Project, review the results of an investigation into a proposed refinement in the Three Mile Bay area and to identify mitigation opportunities through continued engagement.
September 1, 2023	Email	A resident emailed Hydro One to express their disappointment towards the results of the investigation into a proposed route refinement in the Three Mile Bay area and requested Hydro One reconsider.



Hydro One will continue to have ongoing communications with stakeholders to discuss comments received.

4.4.3.1 *Property Owners*

In support of field studies in 2020 and 2022, a contracted third-party land agency (CanAcre) reached out to private property owners where their properties were crossed by any of the alternative routes, to seek agreements for temporary access. Contact was made by phone, mail and in-person visits. Approximately 650 agreements were reached. Where property owners did not agree to a temporary access agreement, properties were not accessed for field studies.

In January 2023, following the selection of a preliminary preferred route, directly impacted property owners located in Phase 1 of the Project received a letter from Hydro One introducing their dedicated real estate representative, outlining the company's land acquisition program principles, and providing property-specific mapping. Following the IESO's announcement of an in-service date for Phase 2 of the Project, directly impacted property owners located in Phase 2 were mailed a letter from Hydro One in June 2023, followed by a package in September 2023 introducing their dedicated real estate representatives, outlining the company's land acquisition program principles, and providing property-specific mapping.

Concerns shared by property owners include impacts to the visual landscape, the natural environment as it relates to habitat and vegetation, and impact to property values. Hydro One continues to engage with affected landowners. This includes investigating local route refinements and talking to individual landowners about site-specific mitigation measures to limit effects to landowners, to the extent possible. Hydro One also committed to ensuring those landowners who have displacement concerns can remain in their homes, if they so choose. Hydro One will continue to work with landowners to ensure refinements are considered, where possible.

Some landowners shared comments to Hydro One during the review period for the Draft EA which can be found in the **RoC - Appendix G2**, and with responses from Hydro One in Appendix 4.0A of the Final EA Report.

4.4.3.2 *Neighbours on the Line*

Following the announcement of the selection of a preliminary preferred route in January 2023, a group of residents in the Kaministiquia area, who shared concerns about the Project, created a community group called Neighbours on the Line (NOTL). Hydro One met with NOTL on February 22, 2023 to listen and better understand their concerns, including a new proposed route which they put forth. Hydro One established a working group with members of NOTL with a focus on evaluating the alternative route proposed. Subsequent meetings with both the broader working group and NOTL's technical experts were held.

Hydro One committed to evaluating the NOTL route using the same criteria that it evaluated the other alternative routes as part of the broader EA. Specifically, when identifying a preferred route, Hydro One seeks to ensure the route is characterized by a balance of the following four



categories: natural environment, socio-economic environment, Indigenous community culture, values and land use, and technical and cost. Further details regarding route evaluation can be found in Appendix 2.0C.

After consideration, it was determined that the NOTL route scored better in the socio-economic category; while the preliminary preferred route scored better in the natural environment, Indigenous values, and technical and cost categories. The evaluation concluded the NOTL proposed route, on balance, has more disadvantages than the preliminary preferred route identified through the environmental assessment process.

On April 20, 2023, NOTL provided a second proposed alternative route to Hydro One. As described in Section 2.0, while the second route proposed by NOTL does avoid landowners in the Kaministiquia community, it involves new private properties outside of the current study area, has additional length when compared to the preferred route and does not parallel existing linear disturbances.

The open house in Kaministiquia on June 20, 2023 was attended by members of NOTL. Feedback shared at the open house included questions and comments related to the alternative route evaluation and NOTL's proposed routing. NOTL members also shared comments to Hydro One during the review period for the Draft EA, which can be found in the **RoC – Appendix G**.

As noted above, Hydro One is committed to working with the community and impacted landowners in a meaningful and collaborative way and have committed to adjusting the preferred route to ensure landowners who have displacement concerns can remain in their homes. To achieve this, Hydro One continues to investigate local route refinements and talk to individual landowners about site-specific mitigation measures to limit adverse effects to landowners, to the extent possible (Section 2.2.5).

A summary of issues raised by NOTL throughout the EA is included in Section 4.4.4 – Input from Stakeholders, below. Detailed records of EA engagement activities, copies of materials shared and formal correspondence, including letters from NOTL members to Hydro One, are appended to the Record of Consultation (**RoC – Appendix D** containing Open House materials; **RoC – Appendix G** containing engagement information with stakeholder groups other than agencies).

4.4.3.3 *Shebandowan Lake Campers' Association*

Following the selection announcement of the preliminary preferred route in January 2023, residents in the Shebandowan Lake area shared concerns about the Project, which were echoed by the Shebandowan Lake Campers' Association (SLCA).

Hydro One met with residents from the Shebandowan area on February 22, 2023 to hear feedback on the preliminary preferred route. Key concerns included impacts to the natural environment and lake, impacts to the visual landscape, and impact to property values. Hydro



One committed to working with these landowners to better understand the concerns and, where possible, propose mitigation solutions.

A subsequent meeting was held on March 30, 2023 to discuss refinements that could be made to the preliminary preferred route, based on feedback provided. Hydro One met with the Shebandowan Lake Campers' Association on April 18, 2023 to discuss the Project, including to present a route refinement, which aligned the preferred route to be adjacent to the existing transmission line.

A summary and status of issues raised by the Shebandowan Lake Campers' Association group is included in Section 4.4.4 – Input from Stakeholders below. Detailed records of EA engagement activities are appended to the Record of Consultation (**RoC - Appendix D** containing Open House materials; **RoC – Appendix G** containing engagement information with stakeholder groups other than agencies).

4.4.4 Input from Stakeholders

Table 4.4-5 summarizes comments, from stakeholders, grouped by common themes, that were received through the following engagement activities:

- Alternative routing survey;
- Community open house discussions and completed comment forms;
- GRT workshops;
- Comments received through the Project phone number and email; and
- Comments received during the review period for the Draft EA.

Comments received and responded to during development of the 2022 field work plans are provided as an attachment to field work plans and are not replicated within this summary. The separate Record of Consultation prepared to support this Final EA Report provides additional detailed records of EA engagement activities, copies of materials shared and copies of formal correspondences, where applicable. Discipline-specific input shared through engagement is also included in the respective EA sections, including how the input has been considered in the EA.

Themes within comments received through engagement with stakeholders include:

- Process and outcomes of the **alternative route evaluation**;
- Input from property owners impacted by or in the vicinity of the **preliminary preferred route**;
- Understanding the **Project design**, including how the Project will relate to existing transmission line easements and the role of the Project within the electricity system;



- How the Project may affect the **environment**, including to wildlife, recreation and tourism, built and cultural heritage, visual aesthetics, water quality, human health and community wellbeing;
- Feedback on **engagement** activities, tools and messaging to date;
- Concerns from stakeholders and members of the public related to the use of **herbicides** for building and maintaining the line;
- Input regarding **route alignment** and visual effects from line, including interest in the visual effects assessment;
- Comments regarding potential for **trespassing** or unauthorized access through the corridor adjacent to private properties;
- Request from government agencies to highlight how commitments made in the **Terms of Reference** were fulfilled;
- Interest from government agencies in the construction **Environmental Protection Plan**; and
- Input from government agencies to include **relevant regulations and approvals** to be reflected in the final EA Report.



Table 4.4-5: Issues Identified from Stakeholder Participants

Issue	Engagement Method	Stakeholder Groups with Feedback	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Input about the criteria and request for details about outcomes of the alternative route evaluation, including requests to consider and review of local route refinements.	Government Review Team (GRT) Workshop Alternative route analysis survey Open House input Letters Comments on Draft EA	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups) Government Review Team (GRT)	Section 2.0 Purpose and Alternatives
Question about how close the Project will be located next to existing transmission.	Open House input	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 3.0 Project Description
Request to include information on water sources and wastewater management in construction camps.	Comments on Draft EA	MNRF	Section 3.0 Project Description
Request to include additional information on fly yards.	Comments on Draft EA	Ontario Parks	Section 3.0 Project Description
Concerns regarding identification of property owners that may be affected, and related engagement.	Open House input Letters	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 4.4.3 Communication with Businesses, Interest Groups and Community Members
Need to engage with local service boards.	Open House input	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups) Local service board representatives	Section 4.4.1 Municipal Agencies
Concerns regarding effects to soil, and changes to slope and topography.	Open House input	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 6.1 Physiography, Geology, Surficial Geology and Soils
Concerns regarding loss of productive agricultural soils.	Open House input Comments on Draft EA	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups) Ontario Parks	Section 6.1 Physiography, Geology, Surficial Geology and Soils



Issue	Engagement Method	Stakeholder Groups with Feedback	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Concerns regarding potential erosion along Amp Lake from vegetation removal.	Open House input	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 6.1 Physiography, Geology, Surficial Geology and Soils
Concerns regarding soil contamination following construction.	Open House input	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 6.1 Physiography, Geology, Surficial Geology and Soils
Request for additional information on erosion and sediment control/mitigation measures.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR MECP	Section 6.1 Physiography, Geology, Surficial Geology and Soils
Request to consider Ontario Excess Soil Regulation in the Soil Management Plan.	Comments on Draft EA	MECP	Section 6.1 Physiography, Geology, Surficial Geology and Soils
Concerns regarding potential impacts of climate change in soil management, spill and emergency preparedness and response plan, and erosion and sediment control plans.	Comments on Draft EA	MECP	Section 6.1 Physiography, Geology, Surficial Geology and Soils
Concerns regarding potential impacts to surface water quality from erosion.	Comments on Draft EA	MECP MNR	Section 6.1 Physiography, Geology, Surficial Geology and Soils
Concerns regarding effects to water and watersheds.	Open House input	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 6.2 Surface Water
Concerns regarding potential impacts to surface water quality and quantity from construction.	Comments on Draft EA	MECP	Section 6.2 Surface Water
Concerns regarding potential impacts of helicopter pads on surface water quality.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR	Section 6.2 Surface Water
Request for additional information on permitting and approvals.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR	Section 6.2 Surface Water

Issue	Engagement Method	Stakeholder Groups with Feedback	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Request for additional information on water crossing construction.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR	Section 6.2 Surface Water
Concerns regarding potential impacts to fish and fish habitat from use of herbicides and pesticides near waterbodies.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR	Section 6.2 Surface Water Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Request to include additional information on water crossing types and enhanced mitigation measures.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR	Section 6.2 Surface Water Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Concerns regarding potential damage to groundwater wells and the water table.	Open House input Letters	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 6.3 Groundwater
Input that underground springs that feed wells in the area should be protected.	Open House input	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 6.3 Groundwater
Concerns regarding potential contamination of surface water and groundwater.	Open House input	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 6.3 Groundwater Section 6.2 Surface Water
Concern regarding the use of herbicides and pesticides along the transmission line.	Open House input	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands
Request to include additional information and/or engagement on vegetation and wetlands mitigation measures, management (plans / activities / monitoring), decommissioning, reclamation and rehabilitation.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands
Request to include additional information on clearing activities / road construction associated with vegetation and wetlands.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands



Issue	Engagement Method	Stakeholder Groups with Feedback	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Request to include additional information on Plant Species at Risk and Plant Species of Conservation Concern, and Provincially Significant Wetlands.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands
Questions related to calculations and methodology for plant species, local and regional study area and Project footprint.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands
Concerns regarding potential impacts of natural hazards (fire / flooding) on vegetation and wetlands.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands
Concerns regarding potential impacts of vegetation and wetland clearing, construction, and ecosystem alteration on wildlife, net effects, water quality and water systems.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands
Concerns regarding potential effects to wildlife and plants, including species at risk.	Open House input	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Consideration of effects of transmission line corridors to mammal predator-prey dynamics.	Open House input	Member of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Input on calculations and methodology related to linear density.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Request to review significance of white-tailed deer as host for tick species.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Request to include additional information on criteria study area selection/species criteria.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat

Issue	Engagement Method	Stakeholder Groups with Feedback	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Request to confirm and review type of species assessed.	Comments on Draft EA	MECP	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Request to include additional information on management and mitigation measures for identified species.	Comments on Draft EA	MECP MNR	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Request to update EA on applicable MNR permits, including related to possession of dead animals encountered.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Concerns regarding potential impacts of fly rock from blasting on Species at Risk and wildlife.	Comments on Draft EA	MECP	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Request to clarify information on significant wildlife habitat in relation to natural heritage.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Request for text/definitions to better align with relevant legislations, acts and regulations.	Comments on Draft EA	MECP MNR	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Concerns regarding effects to water and watersheds.	Input on Field Programs	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Concerns regarding potential impacts from construction activities on fish and fish habitat.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Input to include additional information on permitting and approvals.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Request to include additional information on water crossing construction.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Request to include additional information on erosion and sediment control measures.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR MECP	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat



Issue	Engagement Method	Stakeholder Groups with Feedback	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Concerns regarding potential impacts to fish and fish habitat from use off-road vehicles and helicopters.	Comments on Draft EA	MNRF	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Concerns regarding potential impacts to recreational and commercial fishing activities (remote fishing / access to fishing).	Comments on Draft EA	MNRF MTCS	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Request to include additional information on restoration of disturbed areas.	Comments on Draft EA	MNRF	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Request to notify MNRF if new waterbodies are encountered during construction.	Comments on Draft EA	MNRF	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Request to include additional information on fish and fish habitat monitoring.	Comments on Draft EA	MNRF	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Concerns regarding potential impacts to lake trout habitat.	Comments on Draft EA	MNRF	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat Section 7.1 Non-Indigenous Land and Resource Use
Comment that descriptions of receptors included in the study (i.e., distance from transmission line) are important.	Input on Work Plans	Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)	Section 6.7 Air Quality
Input that existing air quality should be established using representative information for the study area.	Input on Work Plans	MECP	Section 6.7 Air Quality
Concerns regarding cumulative effects and impacts of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions on air quality.	Comments on Draft EA	MECP	Section 6.7 Air Quality

Issue	Engagement Method	Stakeholder Groups with Feedback	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Clarification on air quality assessment criteria and calculations.	Comments on Draft EA	MECP	Section 6.7 Air Quality
Request to include Dust Control/Air Quality Plan as part of the Final EA.	Comments on Draft EA	MNRF	Section 6.7 Air Quality
Request to include additional information on air quality mitigation measures.	Comments on Draft EA	MECP	Section 6.7 Air Quality
Clarification on GHG calculation methodology and citations.	Comments on Draft EA	MECP	Section 6.8 Greenhouse Gas
Land use change should be included as a GHG emission source category.	Comments on Draft EA	MECP	Section 6.8 Greenhouse Gas
Concerns about increased noise levels during construction and operation, including potential noise (i.e., hum) from the transmission line or from any blasting.	Open House input	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 6.9 Acoustic and Vibration Environment
Input that the EA should describe noise and vibration impacts that could arise from this project during both construction and operation and potential mitigation measures.	Input on Work Plans	Environmental Assessment and Permission Division: Environmental Assessment Branch	Section 6.9 Acoustic and Vibration Environment
Request to conduct additional engagement for noise and vibration.	Comments on Draft EA	MECP	Section 6.9 Acoustic and Vibration Environment
Concerns regarding a change to public access.	Open House input	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 7.1 Non-Indigenous Land and Resource Use
Concerns regarding compensation for property owners.	Open House input Letters	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 7.1 Non-Indigenous Land and Resource Use



Issue	Engagement Method	Stakeholder Groups with Feedback	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Concerns regarding effects to tourism and guiding operators.	Open House input	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 7.1 Non-Indigenous Land and Resource Use
Clarification about specific datasets to consider relative to remote tourism features.	Email	Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport	Section 7.1 Non-Indigenous Land and Resource Use
Concerns about potential increase of recreational vehicle traffic along the transmission right-of-way.	Open House input	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 7.1 Non-Indigenous Land and Resource Use
Concerns about proximity to protected areas.	Open House input Emails	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 7.1 Non-Indigenous Land and Resource Use
Request to include additional information on agreements and licences (Sustainable Forest Licence / MOUs).	Comments on Draft EA	MNRF	Section 7.1 Non-Indigenous Land and Resource Use
Request to include additional information on road use management practices.	Comments on Draft EA	MNRF	Section 7.1 Non-Indigenous Land and Resource Use Section 7.4 Visual Aesthetics
Concerns regarding the cultural, environmental and socio-economic impacts for those living along the preferred route both directly on the line or adjacent.	Comments on Draft EA	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 7.1 Non-Indigenous Land and Resource Use Section 7.2 Community Well-Being and Infrastructure Section 7.3 Economy
Concerns regarding proximity of the line to residences relative to human health, including Electric and Magnetic Fields (EMFs).	Open House input Letters	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 7.2 Community Well-Being and Infrastructure
Concerns regarding potential impacts to public safety.	Open House input Letters	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 7.2 Community Well-Being and Infrastructure



Issue	Engagement Method	Stakeholder Groups with Feedback	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Concerns related to the well-being of families and overall community values.	Open House input Letters	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 7.2 Community Well-Being and Infrastructure Section 7.3 Economy
The Rainy River District be included in the Community Well-being, Infrastructure, and Economy assessments.	Comments on Draft EA	MNRF	Section 7.2 Community Well-Being and Infrastructure Section 7.3 Economy
Forestry should be included in the net effects assessment criteria and indicators.	Comments on Draft EA	MNRF	Section 7.2 Community Well-Being and Infrastructure Section 7.3 Economy
Request to include additional information related to work camps.	Comments on Draft EA	MNRF	Section 7.2 Community Well-Being and Infrastructure Section 7.3 Economy
Request for information from Hydro One on expectations for Project workforce during and post-construction (job creation).	Comments on Draft EA	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 7.3 Economy
Concerns regarding the visual impact of the Project, including where it crosses Amp Lake.	Alternative route analysis survey Open House input	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 7.4 Visual Aesthetics
Request to review viewsapes / visual impacts.	Comments on Draft EA	Ontario Parks	Section 7.4 Visual Aesthetics
Request to include additional information of impacts on tourism and culture.	Comments on Draft EA	MNRF MTCS	Section 7.4 Visual Aesthetics
Concerns regarding effects to historical portage routes.	Open House input	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 7.5 Archaeology Resources
Concerns regarding unmarked burial sites on homesteads.	Open House input	Members of the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 7.5 Archaeology Resources
Archaeological assessment aggregate application	Comments on Draft EA	MNRF	Section 7.5 Archaeology Resources



Issue	Engagement Method	Stakeholder Groups with Feedback	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
requirements should be included in the EA.			
Request that the revisions to text better align with Ontario legislations, acts and regulations.	Comments on Draft EA	MCM	Section 7.5 Archaeology Resources
Clarification on requirements for cultural heritage reporting.	Email	Ministry of Citizenship and Multiculturalism	Section 7.6 Built Heritage Resources and Cultural Heritage Landscapes
Concerns regarding the removal of built cultural heritage resources.	Open House input Letters	Members the public (including property owners and interest groups)	Section 7.6 Built Heritage Resources and Cultural Heritage Landscapes
Request for the Built Heritage Assessment for aggregate sites to comply with Ontario standards and regulations.	Comments on Draft EA	MNR MCM	Section 7.6 Built Heritage Resources and Cultural Heritage Landscapes
Clarification on built / heritage evaluation methodology.	Comments on Draft EA	MCM	Section 7.6 Built Heritage Resources and Cultural Heritage Landscapes
Request to review and provide input on Soil Management Plan.	Comments on Draft EA	MECP	Section 7.7 First Nations Rights Section 7.8 Métis Rights

4.5 Indigenous Engagement

This section describes the engagement activities undertaken by Hydro One for the reporting period (March 9, 2022 to September 1, 2023) with the Indigenous communities identified in Section 4.2.1.

The Indigenous Engagement Plan provided in Section 10.4 of the Amended ToR focuses on engagement and consultation activities related to potentially interested and/or affected Indigenous communities, with the objectives to:

- Provide opportunities for information sharing between Hydro One and potentially affected Indigenous communities, as identified by the Crown, or others that have asserted their rights, including information about the Project and associated review and regulatory processes;
- Identify the potential adverse effects of the Project on *Constitution Act* Section 35 Aboriginal and treaty rights;
- Identify the potential adverse effects of the Project on other interests, including social, environmental, economic, health and culture; and,
- Work with potentially affected Indigenous communities, as identified by the Crown, or others that have asserted their Aboriginal and/or treaty rights and interests, to identify measures to mitigate or avoid those potential adverse effects.

The following are Hydro One's guiding principles for engaging the identified Indigenous communities:

- *Working with and Understanding the Indigenous Communities* – Hydro One will collaborate with Indigenous communities to better understand their rights and asserted rights as well as their concerns for the people affected by work in the areas where Hydro One may operate. Hydro One will show respect for traditional ways and land, cultural heritage resources, the environment, and traditional knowledge.
- *Commitment to Hydro One's Indigenous Relations Policy* – Hydro One will follow internal policies with respect to working with Indigenous communities. Hydro One's Indigenous Relations Policy is available for review online at:
<https://www.hydroone.com/abouthydroone/indigenousrelations/Documents/Hydro%20One%20Indigenous%20Relations%20Policy.pdf>
- *Open, Transparent and Respectful Communication* – Hydro One will act and encourage open dialogue and communication on Project events and details, and be attentive and responsive to Indigenous community concerns.



A project of this type may operate for a long period of time and it is Hydro One's intention to engage Indigenous communities based on foundations of respect, cooperation and open communication on a long-term basis with the intent of building mutually beneficial relationships.

Hydro One's engagement efforts with communities seek to provide all communities with information, and to be engaged in a direct dialogue, in order to allow both Hydro One and each Indigenous community to understand the potential for effects to rights, interests and use of lands and resources. It is recognized that some Indigenous communities will take greater interest in the Project than others, and seek more engagement, discussion of mitigation, or potentially accommodation, considering factors such as proximity to the Project, rights claims of Indigenous communities, expressed interest of the community or through work completed as part of the EA, including Indigenous Knowledge (IK) studies.

Hydro One understands that there may be additional factors affecting engagement and will engage in good faith with Indigenous communities to better understand Indigenous views on the Project as well as the appropriate mitigation and/or accommodation. It will be the Crown's responsibility to assess the adequacy of engagement on rights-based impacts, as well as any necessary accommodation, and the MECP will determine the adequacy of engagement in accordance with the *Environmental Assessment Act*.

Sections 4.5.1 to 4.5.4 summarize regular communications applicable to all Indigenous communities. Section 4.5.5 – First Nation Communities and 4.5.6 – Métis Communities highlight key engagement with each community. The Record of Consultation supporting this EA Report includes details of engagements per community (**RoC – Appendix I** containing engagement records with Indigenous communities), documenting key issues raised and how they have been or will be addressed. A summary of key issues raised is provided in Section 4.5.7.

The Project contact list for Chiefs and Council, Métis leadership, advisor, and staff contacts for the current reporting period can be found in the Record of Consultation supporting this EA Report (**RoC-Appendix H**). Contact information for individuals within communities who requested inclusion in the contact list are not disclosed.

4.5.1 Memorandum of Understanding and Consultation Plan

On October 6, 2021, the Ministry of Energy requested that Hydro One contact all communities on the Waasigan Transmission Line Project consultation list to provide them with an opportunity to review and discuss the Waasigan Transmission Line Consultation Plan made pursuant to the 2016 Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Hydro One and Ministry of Energy, separate and distinct from the Indigenous Community Engagement Plan included in the Amended ToR document. Engagement between October 2021 and February 2022 included written correspondence, meetings and workshops with: Couchiching First Nation, GLP (on behalf of Migisi Sahgaigan, Fort William First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Lac Seul First Nation, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Ojibway Nation of Saugeen, Seine River First Nation and Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation), Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation, MNO NWOMC, MNO Region 2, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation and Red Sky Métis Independent Nation. The



process resulted in an updated Waasigan Transmission Line Consultation Plan pursuant to the MOU in October 2021, establishing objectives and structures for engagement, including those carried out in support of the EA reported herein. The resulting update to the consultation plan and documentation of the engagement process to support it are attached to the Record of Consultation supporting this Final EA (**RoC – Appendix I** containing engagement records with Indigenous communities).

4.5.2 Indigenous Knowledge Studies and Capacity Funding

Hydro One offered and continues to communicate the opportunity for Indigenous communities to undertake IK studies to inform the EA process. To support this, Hydro One offered financial assistance through community-specific Capacity Funding Agreements (CFAs) to assist with Indigenous participation in the EA process including, but not limited to, document review, supporting engagement logistics, coordinating community input and participation, and community-led gathering and recording of IK. CFAs were offered to, and discussed with, all participating Indigenous communities and organizations throughout the EA phase of the Project to advance participation. CFAs were signed with most communities during the EA phase. At their discretion, some communities retained consultants to support portions of the scope within the CFA, such as support to complete IK studies.

Primary tasks initiated under CFAs included seeking a community contact for the Project (see Section 4.5.2), understanding the communities preferred consultation and communication approaches, coordinating regular updates and community engagement sessions, inviting participation in review of Project documents and in field studies, and supporting community-led assessment of IK (e.g., considering traditional land use areas, traditional ecological knowledge, values and rights).

Through the EA process, Hydro One has provided opportunities for Indigenous communities to share IK and other information through the following steps:

- Establish IK framework and identify IK recorded by Indigenous communities, where communities were asked to review their available IK information and the location of the Project's alternative routes to undertake a 'gap analysis' on the extent or currency of available data relevant to the Project;
- Receive community-led scoping for additional studies to fill any identified information gaps and prepare reporting, including community protocols for sharing and using IK;
- Provide resources or capacity required to collect, record and share IK;
- Receive and engage with communities to discuss and understand IK studies shared, including study area, IK categories used, and protocols for use in the EA; and
- Provide opportunity for validation of how information shared by communities is reflected in reporting through review of the Draft EA Report.



Section 4.5.4 – First Nation Communities and Section 4.5.5 – Métis Communities provide a current assessment as to where in the process each community is at regarding the need for and status of IK studies. Further details on IK studies completed, their results and next steps for IK studies still in progress, are provided in Section 7.7 for First Nations and Section 7.8 for Métis communities.

Provincial agencies were kept apprised of Hydro One's fulfillment of the procedural aspects of consultation with each community through monthly meetings and regular reporting, as noted in Section 4.4.2.

4.5.3 Community Contacts

Roles and organizations supporting communication and engagement between the Project team and Indigenous communities and organizations are described in this section.

Capacity within communities to engage in discussions with Hydro One about the Project is valuable for establishing trust, enhancing awareness of the Project, receiving and incorporating input and information from Indigenous communities, and providing flexible opportunities for joint decision making, issues resolution and feedback.

4.5.3.1 *Community Engagement Coordinators and Consultation Advisors*

Through the CFAs signed with each participating Indigenous community, funding was made available for communities to hire a Project dedicated Community Engagement Coordinator (CEC) or Consultation Advisor. Individuals in this role act as a point of contact for the community or Region and the Project team to share information and coordinate activities, such as meetings with community leadership, community open houses, and to distribute Project updates within the community. A CEC/Consultation Advisor was appointed by most communities. For some communities, the scope of the role was addressed by current community staff, often staff currently supporting the community (e.g., Lands and Resources staff).

The degree of interaction between the Project Team and the CECs, Consultation Advisors or community representatives has varied based on the needs of each community, as reflected in Section 4.5.5 – First Nation Communities and Section 4.5.6 – Métis Communities.

4.5.3.2 *First Nation Partner Communities*

Gwayakocchigewin Limited Partnership (GLP)

As described in Section 1.0, eight First Nations have formed the Gwayakocchigewin Limited Partnership (GLP) to partner with Hydro One on the Project for the opportunity to invest in the ownership of the Waasigan Transmission Line Project once constructed. The First Nations that formed the GLP are: Fort William First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Lac Seul First Nation, Migisi Sahgaigan (Eagle Lake First Nation), Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Ojibway Nation of Saugeen, Seine River First Nation and Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation. The GLP aims to maximize long-term, sustainable socio-economic benefits for its partner First Nations. The GLP



structure includes a Board Director and an Environmental Protection Committee member from each of the member communities.

Hydro One has maintained regular engagement with all levels of the GLP. Hydro One, the GLP and the member communities engage through:

- Waasigan Project partner committee meetings (quarterly);
- Providing presentations at GLP board meetings (upon invitation);
- GLP Environmental Protection Committee meetings (monthly upon invitation);
- Community Engagement Coordinator Network meetings (weekly);
- Ongoing communication with GLP staff and consultants (daily/weekly):
 - Weekly Project Management meetings with GLP staff and Hydro One Project Managers,
 - Biweekly Environmental/IK team meetings between Pinchin/Encompass Environmental, Maawandoon and Hydro One, and
 - Weekly meetings to review comments of the Draft EA Report between NorthVista Advisors, Encompass Environmental, Maawandoon and Hydro One;
- GLP and Hydro One joint newsletter (quarterly); and
- Direct outreach to member communities for community-specific follow up and standard notifications (see Section 4.5.5).

Feedback on the Draft EA Report was received from GLP, on behalf of member communities, on June 5, 2023. Comments on the Draft EA, along with responses by Hydro One, are shared in Appendix 4.0-A.

The Record of Consultation supporting this EA Report (**RoC – Appendix I** containing engagement records with Indigenous communities) provides details of engagements with GLP leadership, staff and consultants directly, and in some cases reflects engagement led by the GLP with member communities about the Project (e.g., Project update newsletters). As well, a number of notifications from Hydro One related to the Project were shared to GLP communities through the GLP management team. These included notifications to member First Nations such as announcing the selection of the contractor for the Project and sharing updates regarding selection of the preferred route were provided to member communities through GLP. As well, GLP facilitated the approach to Indigenous knowledge data collection and sharing for member communities, as well as coordinating input to Project assessment documents, such as the Stage 1 archaeological assessment. Accordingly, the high degree of input and engagement with GLP supplements the engagement notes directly with member communities reported in Section 4.5.5.



Support for the GLP is provided by their consultants, as follows:

- Project management/implementation: NorthVista Advisors;
- IK coordination and engagement: Maawandoon Inc.; and
- Environmental support: Encompass Environmental (as of 2023), formerly supported by Pinchin Ltd.

Member communities of the GLP shared input with Hydro One on elements of the EA process both through consolidated feedback from the GLP entity and/or from the community representatives directly, summarized in Section 4.5.7.

Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation

Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation is a progressive and proactive partner community whose members are self-driven and committed to re-establishing their physical and spiritual connection to their lands. Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation and Hydro One have entered into a partnership agreement that provides the First Nation the opportunity to invest in the ownership of the Waasigan Transmission Line Project once constructed.

Hydro One and Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation, as a partner community, engage through:

- Waasigan Project partner committee meetings (as needed to support Project decision-making);
- Regular project team meetings (monthly or as required); and
- Ongoing communication with community staff and leadership.

Section 4.5.4 includes a summary of engagement with Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation. Input and concerns shared are summarized in Section 4.5.7. The Record of Consultation supporting this EA Report (**RoC – Appendix I** containing engagement records with Indigenous communities) includes details of the engagement with Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation, and in some cases reflects engagement led by Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation with their community regarding the Project (e.g., Project update newsletters).

Feedback on the Draft EA Report was received from Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation on August 15, 2023. Comments on the Draft EA, along with responses by Hydro One, are shared in Appendix 4.0-A.

4.5.4 EA Process Notification and Participation

EA engagement milestone activities described in Section 4.3.1 were shared with Indigenous community contacts and are referenced in the summaries of engagement per community in Sections 4.5.4 and 4.5.5. In addition to the ongoing engagement activities described in Section 4.3.2, additional activities specific to participation of Indigenous communities in the EA process are described below.



4.5.4.1 Document Review

Along with provincial agencies, draft versions of aquatic and terrestrial field plans were shared with Indigenous communities for review and comment, referenced in the summaries of engagement per community in Sections 4.5.4 and 4.5.5. Comments and responses were received from the GLP on behalf of their member communities, Grand Council Treaty #3, Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation, MNO NWOMC and Region 2 Consultation Committees, and Red Sky Métis Independent Nation were compiled as an attachment to the field workplans available on the Project website. Input on the work plans shared in the Spring of 2022 influenced the process for field program notification and participation, as described in the following sections.

Input on work plans for air and noise assessments, cultural heritage field survey plans and the draft Stage 1 archaeological assessment report, was also requested. Feedback on the air and noise workplans was received from Migisi Sahgaigan, and the GLP on behalf of their member communities. Input was received from Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation on the cultural heritage and Stage 1 archeological assessments. MNO NWOMC and Region 2 also provided input on the Stage 1 archaeological assessment.

Hydro One understands the confidential nature of IK provided by communities and wants to ensure that it is accurately and respectfully represented in the EA document prior to releasing it publicly. Aligned with the release of the Draft EA Report for public review, as described in Section 4.3.1.6., the EA sections on First Nations and Métis rights, interests and use of lands and resources were released to Indigenous communities to have the opportunity to review and validate the information contained within it, prior to public release.

Comments from Indigenous communities on the Draft EA Report were requested by Hydro One via email for notification of the release of the Draft EA on May 17, 2023. Feedback on the Draft EA was received from June to August 2023 from MNO NWOMC and Region 2, Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation, Grand Council Treaty #3 and the GLP. Comments on the Draft EA, along with responses by Hydro One, are shared in Appendix 4.0-A.

The Record of Consultation supporting this EA Report (**RoC – Appendix I** containing engagement records with Indigenous communities) includes copies of comments received.

4.5.4.2 Field Program Notification

Between May 2022 and July 2023, field work notices were shared to Indigenous community contacts and posted to the Waasigan Project website including the purpose, specific timing and detailed mapping of locations of field surveys for: amphibian, turtle basking, bat hibernacula, bat maternity roost, breeding birds, eastern whip-poor-will, barn and bank swallow, aquatics, botanical, gray fox, significant wildlife habitat, visual assessment, Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment and cultural heritage assessment and evaluation. Attachments to the Record of Consultation (**RoC - Appendix C** containing field program notification) supporting this EA Report include copies of the field work notices, as well as questions, comments or issues received in response to field work notices. For example, field study schedules were modified



periodically based on availability of field monitors from Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation, which required field monitors to be present for the field work completed within its traditional territory.

Through the field season, bi-weekly updates were shared by email with Indigenous community contacts summarizing work completed, field crew members, notable findings and other observations, as reflected in the Record of Consultation for each community engaged.

4.5.4.3 Field Program Participation

There were 17 participants from Indigenous communities on field teams during field surveys in 2022 and over 10 participants assisting on the Stage 2 Archeological Assessment in 2023. Participation varied based on the preferences from the Indigenous community and included joining the field crew as monitors to represent the interests and concerns of their community, joining as Indigenous field crew members to gain technical training and build capacity for their communities, or participating in Hydro One-facilitated site visits to meet with field crews to get an overview of the planned field work.

Community representatives included members of Fort William First Nation, Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation, Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation, Couchiching First Nation, Red Sky Métis Independent Nation, Lac Seul First Nation, and one member from Whitesands First Nation. Additionally, there have been several site visits from Fort William First Nation, Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation, and MNO members for the Stage 2 Archeological Assessment in 2023.

Incorporation of Indigenous participation and other considerations in the field work included the following:

- An archaeology field technician training program for Indigenous community members to earn a certificate from the Ontario Archaeological Society and be eligible for employment opportunities for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment.
- Indigenous field crew members were provided with field protocol training and technology to assist with data and field collections.
- All field crew members completing work within the traditional territory of Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation completed the community's own cultural awareness training.
- Indigenous businesses were retained during field work to provide gasoline, food, and accommodation.

4.5.4.4 Community Open Houses

In addition to the public community open houses described in Section 4.3.1, which included participation by Indigenous community members, open house meetings were held within Indigenous communities who wished to have one, to provide updates on the Project and the EA process. Indigenous community open houses during the reporting period included:



Table 4.5-1: Indigenous Community Open Houses

Date	Community	Attendees	Purpose
May 25, 2022	Migisi Sahgaigan (Eagle Lake First Nation)	20	Project overview, field study plans, IK, alternative route analysis, Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) process, EA process and engagement
June 2, 2022	Lac Seul First Nation	14	Project overview, field study plans, IK, alternative route analysis, ECI process, EA process and engagement
September 1, 2022	Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation	18	Project overview, field study plans, IK, alternative route analysis, ECI process, EA process and engagement
September 14, 2022	MNO NWOMC; held in Dryden and virtual	52	Project overview, field study results, IK, alternative route analysis, ECI process, EA process and engagement
September 28, 2022	MNO Region 2; held in Thunder Bay	16	Project overview, field study results, IK, alternative route analysis, ECI process, EA process and engagement
October 27, 2022	Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation	28	Project overview, field study results, IK, preliminary preferred route, ECI process, EA process and engagement
November 21, 2022	Seine River First Nation	13	Project overview, field study results, IK, preliminary preferred route, ECI process, EA process and engagement
December 8, 2022	Mitaanjigamiing First Nation	15	Project overview, field study results, IK, preliminary preferred route, ECI process, EA process and engagement
January 25, 2023	MNO NWOMC; held in Dryden and virtual	21	Identification of a preliminary preferred route, status of the EA assessment, EA method, selection of a contractor, IK and engagement
January 27, 2023	MNO Region 2; held in Thunder Bay	17	Identification of a preliminary preferred route, status of the EA assessment, EA method, selection of a contractor, IK and engagement.



Date	Community	Attendees	Purpose
June 15, 2023	Lac Seul First Nation	12	Provide an overview and update of the Project, including discussing the Draft EA findings for review and comment.
June 28, 2023	Mitaanjigamiing First Nation	8	Provide an overview and update of the Project, including discussing the Draft EA findings for review and comment.
June 29, 2023	Migisi Sahgaigan (Eagle Lake First Nation)	10	Provide an overview and update of the Project, including discussing the Draft EA findings for review and comment.
July 17, 2023	Fort William First Nation	8	Provide an overview and update of the Project, including discussing the Draft EA findings for review and comment.
August 9, 2023	MNO Region 2; held in Thunder Bay	10	Provide an overview and update of the Project, including discussing the Draft EA findings for review and comment.
August 10, 2023	MNO NWOMC; held in Dryden and virtual	22	Provide an overview and update of the Project, including discussing the Draft EA findings for review and comment.

The Record of Consultation supporting this EA Report (**RoC – Appendix I** containing engagement records with Indigenous communities) includes reports for each event held including materials shared, and all comments and responses received. Key themes raised at community open house meetings are included in Section 4.5.7.

A two-day routing workshop, hosted by the GLP, was held in Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation in October 2022 for the eight GLP First Nations, their consultants and the Project team to come together to discuss the alternative route evaluation process and preliminary preferred route. The workshop included representatives from leadership, Elders and youth, with a separate Elder’s session taking place during the event.

4.5.5 First Nations Communities

4.5.5.1 Couchiching First Nation

Couchiching First Nation is located on the shores of Rainy Lake, near Fort Frances, approximately 200 km south of Dryden and 150 km from Atikokan, part of the Treaty #3 region. The on-reserve population reported through Statistics Canada of approximately 633 individuals (Statistics Canada 2023).



EA Engagement

Couchiching First Nation has been consulted throughout the EA process through meetings with staff, notices, document review opportunities, and Project updates, with selected engagement activities summarized in Table 4.5-2 below. Field survey notices and bi-weekly updates (as outlined in Section 4.5.4) and invitations to public open house sessions were also shared, but are not included in the summary table below.

For the reporting period, one formal meeting was held directly between the Project team and community representatives on May 1, 2023. However, the primary form of engagement included phone calls and emails. Couchiching First Nation did not provide specific feedback to the Project team on field work plans and field survey notices, or document review. A community member participated as part of the field survey team.

In April 2023, the community reached out to re-engage on the Project, following a change in the CEC contact due to medical leave. The community has identified that the Project is farther away from their community compared with other First Nations being engaged.

No specific concerns with the Project have been shared to date.

Indigenous Knowledge

Indigenous knowledge features of significance to Couchiching First Nation were shared with Hydro One in support of the effects assessment. Findings of this study are considered in Section 7.7 of this EA Report, respecting the confidentiality limitations.

Table 4.5-2: Summary of Selected Engagement Activities with Couchiching First Nation

Date	Method	Purpose
March 8, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide the Notice of Commencement of the EA and a brief overview on the EA process.
March 22, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed a Project Notice which included information on the field program to support the EA, links to download the field work plans, and job postings for Indigenous field team members.
March 28, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Couchiching First Nation to inquire how they can assist with IK collection and sharing.
April 14, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One had a Project update call with the CEC to discuss field studies, community engagement and next steps in the EA.
August 31, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to offer additional tools to support the request for IK information and studies so input could be considered as part of the alternative route evaluation.
September 19, 2022	Letter	Hydro One emailed to provide a letter regarding the selection of the contractor for the Project.
September 29, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide a download link to the draft Stage 1 Archaeology Assessment report.



Date	Method	Purpose
November 10, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed a link to draft archaeological assessment, atmospheric and noise reports prepared for the Project EA.
November 25, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed a notice regarding the preliminary preferred route.
December 13, 2022	Email	Hydro One provided an information sheet about the Cultural Heritage Assessment and how the community can be involved in the process.
January 3, 2023	Email	Hydro One shared files of the preliminary preferred route included in the Notice of Preliminary Preferred Route and Invitation to Community Open Houses.
March 30, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Couchiching First Nation to note they had retained Woodland Heritage Northwest to support with Indigenous engagement on the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment. Hydro One provided an overview of Woodland Heritage Northwest's role in the Project.
April 25, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Couchiching First Nation a Project Notice to provide an update about upcoming archaeology work and next steps.
May 1, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with Couchiching First Nation to provide an update on the Project, including the upcoming release of the Draft EA Report.
May 1, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Couchiching First Nation to note the draft EA would be released May 17, 2023 and the review period would end July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided a link to the Project website where the EA would be made available and noted digital copies of documents would be mailed out on USB flash drives.
May 17, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Couchiching First Nation to announce the release of the draft Environmental Assessment report for review and comment until July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided an overview of the Project and EA, a link to the Project website where the draft EA document could be accessed and noted USB drives were being mailed to them. Hydro One noted the First Nations Rights section would be released publicly after First Nations communities had an opportunity to review it. Hydro One provided Couchiching First Nation a direct download link to the First Nations Rights section.



Date	Method	Purpose
May 29, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Couchiching First Nation to notify them about the upcoming release of the draft EA Report and the review period. Hydro One also inquired how many USBs containing the report the community required
June 9, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Couchiching First Nation to request a community meeting and open house to review the draft EA Report. Hydro One also invited Couchiching First Nation to the Public Open House in Dryden on June 13.
June 25, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Couchiching First Nation to provide an attached notice for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for the Project.
July 26, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Couchiching First Nation to provide a summary of the record of consultation for their community from March 2022 to April 2023. Hydro One also included a copy of the Indigenous Community Record of Consultation and Supporting Documents included in the Draft EA Report.
July 27, 2023	Email	Couchiching First Nation emailed Hydro One to note they were having a positive experience working with the Hydro One team and they hoped Couchiching First Nation continued to remain a part of the Project and the opportunities it would bring.
August 14, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Couchiching First Nation to note they wanted to schedule a meeting to discuss next steps for a Community Open House.

4.5.5.2 Fort William First Nation

Anemki Wajiw

Fort William First Nation (Anemki Wajiw) is located on the western shores of Lake Superior adjacent to Thunder Bay, Ontario, with an approximate population of 964 individuals (Statistics Canada 2021). Fort William First Nation is a GLP member community.

EA Engagement

Fort William First Nation has been consulted throughout the EA process through meetings with staff, notices, document review opportunities, and Project updates, with selected key engagement activities summarized in Table 4.5-3 below. Field survey notices and bi-weekly updates (as outlined in Section 4.5.4) and invitations to public open house sessions were also shared but are not included in the summary below. The Project team has met with Fort William First Nation community staff, and leadership directly and through the GLP to provide updates on the Project and receive feedback from the community.



For the reporting period, approximately five formal meetings were held directly between the Project team and Fort William First Nation representatives, in addition to other communications, including phone calls, emails, and project notices. Fort William shared input to field work plans, field survey notices, cultural heritage and the Stage 1 archaeological assessment through GLP input. Community representatives were highly engaged in field planning and implementation of surveys, as well as cultural heritage and archaeological assessments. The community identified multiple candidates who participated in field studies.

Community open houses were considered in June 2022 and in March 2023; however, at the request of the community, each needed to be postponed. A community open house was held on July 17, 2023 to provide an overview and update on the Project, including the Draft EA findings for review and comment.

GLP provided feedback on the Draft EA Report on behalf of all member communities, including Fort William First Nation, in June 2023.

Indigenous Knowledge

An IK study has been completed for the Project by the community, working with Maawandoon Inc. that is under review for approval by community leadership to be released. The process for how this information will be considered when shared is described in Section 7.7 of this EA Report. A summary of plants of significance to Indigenous people of boreal Canada edited by Fort William First Nation to include plants that may be present within the Project areas was shared with Hydro One on May 17, 2023 for consideration. Hydro One is committed to ongoing engagement regarding integration of this knowledge into the Project.

Table 4.5-3: Summary of Selected Engagement with Fort William First Nation

Date	Method	Purpose
March 10, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide the Notice of Commencement of the EA and a brief overview on the EA process.
March 22, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed a Project Notice which included information on the field program to support the EA, links to download the field work plans, and job postings for Indigenous field team members.
March 23, 2022	Email	Fort William First Nation emailed Hydro One to request a meeting to review draft Aquatics and Terrestrial Field Work Plans.



Date	Method	Purpose
March 28, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with Fort William First Nation to discuss concerns from previous projects. Hydro One committed to ensure the issues will not be repeated for the current Project and knowledge sharing opportunities for the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment. Fort William First Nation would like to participate in the field program.
May 4, 2022	Event	A ceremony and media event took place in Fort William First Nation on May 4, 2022 marking the partnership between Hydro One and GLP on the Project. The event was attended by Chiefs of the GLP First Nation communities, as well as Protection Committee and Board members, and members of Council in Fort William First Nation.
June 10, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with Fort William First Nation and Maawandoon to discuss opportunities for community-hired environmental monitors to participate in field work.
July 5, 2022	Email	Hydro One team member emailed to provide additional information for the GLP field monitor planning to join the Waasigan field crew in the Atikokan area.
July 7, 2022	Phone	Hydro One team member called Fort William First Nation regarding a monitor joining the field crew.
July 7, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One team member met with Fort William First Nation to discuss upcoming aquatics field work and to provide an overview of the program for a new Fort William First Nation crew member joining the crews.
November 2, 2022	Meeting	The Waasigan Preliminary Preferred Route Mapping Workshop took place over two days (November 2 and 3, 2022) in Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation. Representatives were present from Fort William First Nation.
December 13, 2022	Email	Hydro One provided an info sheet about the Cultural Heritage Assessment and how the community can be involved in the process.



Date	Method	Purpose
January 3, 2023	Email	Hydro One shared files of the preliminary preferred route included in the Notice of Preliminary Preferred Route and Invitation to Community Open Houses.
January 18, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One and WSP attended a GLP Protection Committee meeting to share Project updates including the preliminary preferred route, status of the Draft EA Report, proposed limits of work approach, Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and Cultural Heritage Assessment updates, contracting approach for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment, and community engagement.
February 13, 2023	Phone	Hydro One called Fort William First Nation to discuss the Community Open House and agreed it would take place on March 6, 2023.
March 30, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Fort William First Nation to note they had retained Woodland Heritage Northwest to support with Indigenous engagement on the stage 2 archaeological assessment. Hydro One provided an overview of Woodland Heritage Northwest and their role in the Project.
April 19, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One emailed Fort William First Nation to note Hydro One was holding a First Nation Partner's Reception and Dinner on June 1, 2023 and their annual general meeting on June 2, 2023.
April 25, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed GLP communities a Project Notice to provide an update about upcoming archaeology work and next steps.



Date	Method	Purpose
May 1, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed GLP communities to note the draft EA would be released May 17, 2023 and the review period would end July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided a link to the Project website where the EA would be made available and noted digital copies of documents would be mailed out on USB flash drives.
May 17, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Fort William First Nation to announce the release of the draft Environmental Assessment report for review and comment until July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided an overview of the Project and EA, a link to the Project website where the draft EA document could be accessed and noted USB drives were being mailed to them. Hydro One noted the First Nations Rights section would be released publicly after First Nations communities had an opportunity to review it. Hydro One provided Fort William First Nation a direct download link to the First Nations Rights section.
May 18, 2023	Email	Fort William First Nation emailed Hydro One to request a meeting regarding the Draft EA and inquired if Hydro One had availability on May 30 or 31, 2023. Fort William First Nation also noted they wanted to hold an open house for a community input session on the EA on June 14, 2023.
May 19, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Fort William First Nation to confirm their availability for a meeting on May 31, 2023 and noted they are awaiting confirmation on the Project teams availability for a community open house on June 14, 2023.
June 8, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the GLP communities to provide a presentation on the draft EA report.



Date	Method	Purpose
June 12, 2023	Event	Hydro One held a four-day archaeology technician training session at Lakehead University from May 15 to 18, 2023 for Indigenous community members interested in employment opportunities on the Project during the upcoming Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment. Upon completion of the course, participants received certificates from the Ontario Archaeological Society.
June 13, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP communities to note they had extended the Draft EA comment period for GLP partners to August 4, 2023.
June 27, 2023	Email	North Vista Advisors emailed the GLP communities to provide an attached notice for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for the Project.
June 27, 2023	Meeting	The GLP First Nations and their advisors met with Hydro One with discuss the archaeology program and construction monitoring. The session discussed potential models for community-based monitoring.
June 30, 2023	Email	WSP emailed Fort William First Nation to provide an index to sections in the Draft EA Report that reference Fort William First Nation to assist in their review and preparation of comments. WSP also provided a secure download link to the First Nations Rights section of the Draft EA Report.
July 17, 2023	Meeting	A Community Open House was held in Fort William First Nation to provide an overview and update on the Project, including the Draft EA findings.
July 17, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP communities to provide notice of a cultural heritage field survey commencing the week of July 17, 2023 in Atikokan and Thunder Bay.
July 26, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Fort William First Nation to provide a summary of the record of consultation for their community from March 2022 to April 2023. Hydro One also included a copy of the Indigenous Community Record of Consultation and Supporting Documents included in the Draft EA Report.



4.5.5.3 Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation

Nezaadikaang

Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation (Nezaadikaang) is an Anishinaabe community located approximately 135 kilometres west of Thunder Bay, Ontario, with an approximate population of 603 registered members. Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation is a community partner to Hydro One on the Waasigan Project with an opportunity to invest in the ownership of the Project once constructed. Meetings related to Project partnership (see Section 4.5.3.2) are not further summarized below.

EA Engagement

Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation has been consulted throughout the EA process with a high rate of engagement through meetings with staff, notices, document review opportunities, and Project updates, with selected key engagement activities, as summarized in Table 4.5-4 below. Field survey notices and bi-weekly updates (as outlined in Section 4.5.4), and invitations to public open house meetings were also shared, but are not included in the summary table below.

For the reporting period, EA engagement has included approximately nine formal meetings between the Project team and Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation representatives, with other frequent communications, including phone calls, emails, and sharing of Project notices. Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation provided input on field work plans and field survey notices as well as on the Stage 1 archeological assessment. Comments included a request to adjust or not survey a proposed field survey location in an area of sensitivity to the community, which was then avoided by Hydro One. Two members of Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation participated in field studies. Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation provided their comments on the Draft EA Report on August 15, 2023.

Indigenous Knowledge

Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation shared IK reporting, including confidential information, with Hydro One in March 2023 under a data sharing agreement. Findings of this study are considered in Section 7.7 of this EA Report, respecting the confidentiality limitations. Hydro One is committed to ongoing engagement regarding integration of this knowledge into the Project.

Table 4.5-4: Summary of Selected Engagement with Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation

Date	Method	Purpose
March 8, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide the Notice of Commencement of the EA and a brief overview on the EA process.
March 22, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed a Project Notice which included information on the field program to support the EA, links to download the field work plans, and job postings for Indigenous field team members.
April 5, 2022	Email	WSP, on behalf of Hydro One, emailed Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation to share spatial



Date	Method	Purpose
		data and offered to meet regarding the draft Aquatics and Terrestrial Field Work Plans.
April 14, 2022	Email	WSP, on behalf of Hydro One, emailed Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation to coordinate the delivery of the hard drive of Project spatial data. WSP also inquired about feedback on the field plan and availability to discuss a community open house.
May 4, 2022	Email	Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation emailed WSP and Hydro One to inquire if they could receive digital GIS files for the proposed survey locations for the Project.
May 6, 2022	Email	Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation emailed Hydro One to express that they would not require a community open house and would continue to update their Chief and Council as needed.
May 27, 2022	Meeting	Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation met with Hydro One and WSP to discuss field activities and the path forward on sharing from an existing platform for community traditional knowledge data while ensuring the protection of personal information.
June 7, 2022	Phone	Hydro One arranged site visits for field surveys with a plan to accompany a staff member of Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation.
June 13, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One held a Project update meeting with Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation representatives.
June 29, 2022	Email	WSP emailed Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation to thank them for providing feedback on a field survey location, confirmed it had been removed from further survey plans and shared a survey report of an earlier survey completed at that location (no features were observed).
July 19, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide a summary of the key Waasigan EA milestones with inputs from Indigenous communities and noted that the evaluation and selection of the preferred alternative route is scheduled for Fall 2022.
July 28, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One had a meeting with Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation to discuss next steps for information sharing. Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation shared an update on IK collection. The upcoming field survey schedule was



Date	Method	Purpose
		reviewed, and several dates were confirmed for Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation to participate in surveys.
August 10, 2022	Email	Hydro One accompanied a member of Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation to observe field work being completed by the WSP field crew for Significant Wildlife Habitat surveys in the Thunder Bay area.
September 14, 2022	Email	Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation emailed Hydro One an updated version of the Data Sharing Agreement.
September 29, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac des Mille Lac First Nation to provide a download link to the draft Stage 1 Archaeology Assessment report and noted that feedback would be appreciated before a deadline of October 21, 2022.
September 29, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation a signed copy of the data sharing agreement and provided background on information sharing.
October 5, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation to provide the record of consultation summary for the period of June 2021 to June 2022 for Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation's review.
October 11, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation a signed copy of the Indigenous Knowledge Protocol.
October 18, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation to discuss the CFA, invoicing, next Project steps, IK update, and inputs into preferred route selection.
November 10, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation a link to draft archaeological assessment, atmospheric and noise reports.
November 14, 2022	Meeting	Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation and Hydro One met for a formal signing ceremony of their agreements on Waasigan. A traditional ceremony, documentation signing, and dinner took place.
November 25, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation First Nation a notice regarding the preliminary preferred route.



Date	Method	Purpose
December 13, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation First Nation to provide an info sheet about the Cultural Heritage Assessment and how their community can be involved in the process.
January 3, 2022	Email	Hydro One shared files of the preliminary preferred route included in the Notice of Preliminary Preferred Route and Invitation to Community Open Houses.
January 26, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One and Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation held an EA update call, including discussion of IK sharing and the preliminary preferred route.
February 22, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One and Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation held an EA update call.
March 13, 2023	Email	Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation shared a copy of the current version of their map frame summaries (draft IK reporting).
March 29, 2023	Email	Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation emailed Hydro One to note they would need to complete a similar map frame summary as done for the preliminary preferred route for the NOTL route. However, Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation noted there were traplines held by their members and there are a number of species habitat areas crossed by the NOTL route.
March 30, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation to note they had retained Woodland Heritage Northwest to support with Indigenous engagement on the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment. Hydro One provided an overview of Woodland Heritage Northwest's role in the Project.
April 14, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One and WSP met with Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation to discuss Project updates and the status of their IK study.
April 25, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation a Project Notice to provide an update about upcoming archaeology work and next steps.
April 27, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation to discuss monitoring for the Project and the Record of Consultation.
May 1, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation to note the Draft EA would be



Date	Method	Purpose
		released May 17, 2023 and the review period would end July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided a link to the Project website where the EA would be made available and noted digital copies of documents would be mailed out on USB flash drives.
May 5, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation the draft final notice for the EA for their review.
May 16, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation to discuss Hydro One's vegetation management policies.
May 17, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation to announce the release of the Draft EA Report for review and comment until July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided an overview of the Project and EA, a link to the Project website where the draft EA document could be accessed and noted USB drives were being mailed to them. Hydro One provided Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation a direct download link to the First Nations Rights section.
May 19, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation the final Project public open house notice.
June 3, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One visited Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation for a tour of the Nation, a presentation from the Nation leadership, and a meet and greet with Council and senior leadership of the community.
June 6, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac des Milles Lacs First Nation to provide a news release that promoted the public open houses.
June 20, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with Lac des Milles Lacs First Nation to discuss the Draft EA Report. A copy of their Land Access Management Protocol was also provided to Hydro One.
June 23, 2023	Email	WSP emailed Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation to provide shapefiles of the area of archaeological potential identified in the Stage 1 Archeological Assessment Report.
June 26, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation to provide an attached notice for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for the Project.



Date	Method	Purpose
July 12, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation to provide a draft news release regarding filing of the leave to construct application for the Project.
July 26, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation to discuss the EA and archaeological activities for the Project.
July 26, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation to provide a summary of the record of consultation for their community from March 2022 to April 2023. Hydro One also included a copy of the Indigenous Community Record of Consultation and Supporting Documents included in the Draft EA Report.
August 15, 2023	Email	Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation provided comments on the Draft EA to Hydro One.

4.5.5.4 *Lac La Croix First Nation*

Gakijwanoong

Lac La Croix First Nation (Zhingwaako Zaaga'Igan or Gakijwanoong) is located along the Ontario-Minnesota border with an approximate population of 480 individuals (Lac La Croix First Nation 2023). Lac La Croix First Nation is a GLP member community.

EA Engagement

Lac La Croix First Nation has been engaged throughout the EA process through meetings with staff, notices, document review opportunities, and Project updates, with selected key engagement activities summarized in Table 4.5-5 below. Field survey notices and bi-weekly updates (as outlined in Section 4.5.4) and invitations to public open house sessions were also shared, but are not included in the summary below. The Project team has met with Lac la Croix First Nation staff, and leadership primarily through GLP meetings or by email and phone, to provide updates on the Project and receive feedback from the community.

For the reporting period, no formal meetings were held directly between the Project team and Lac la Croix First Nation representatives. Other communications included phone calls, emails, and Project notices. Lac la Croix First Nation shared input into field work plans, cultural heritage and Stage 1 Archaeological assessments through GLP input.

Community open houses were considered in October 2022 and January 2023 but, at the request of the community, each needed to be postponed.

GLP provided feedback on the Draft EA Report on behalf of all member communities, including Lac La Croix First Nation, in June 2023.



Indigenous Knowledge

An IK study for the Project is in progress by the community, working with Maawandoon Inc. The process for how this information will be considered when shared is described in Section 7.7 of this EA Report. Hydro One is committed to ongoing engagement regarding integration of this knowledge into the Project.

Table 4.5-5: Summary of Selected Engagement with Lac La Croix First Nation

Date	Method	Purpose
March 10, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide the Notice of Commencement of the EA and a brief overview on the EA process.
March 22, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed a Project Notice which included information on the field program to support the EA, links to download the field work plans, and job postings for Indigenous field team members.
September 7, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac La Croix First Nation, Seine River First Nation, and Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to reach out regarding further coordination on setting up open house sessions to provide additional update on the Project.
October 5, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac La Croix First Nation to provide the record of consultation summary for the period of June 2021 to June 2022 for Lac La Croix First Nation's review.
October 8, 2022	Email	Lac La Croix First Nation emailed Hydro One to note they had availability the week of October 24, 2022 for a community open house.
October 11, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac La Croix First Nation to thank them for providing their availability for a community open house the week of October 24, 2022 and noted they had proposed dates that week to the Project team to determine their availability.
November 24, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac La Croix First Nation to inquire about invoicing. Hydro One also requested Lac La Croix First Nation provide dates they would be available for a community open house.
November 30, 2022	Email	Lac La Croix First Nation emailed regarding invoicing and noted they were planning a community open house during the third or fourth week of January 2023.
November 30, 2022	Email	Hydro One replied to Lac La Croix First Nation noting that if specific date options were shared in January 2023, an Open House could be planned.



Date	Method	Purpose
December 13, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP First Nations to provide an info sheet about the Cultural Heritage Assessment and how their community can be involved in the process. Hydro One also provided a link to the draft Cultural Heritage Existing Conditions and Preliminary Heritage Impact Assessment Report for review.
January 3, 2022	Email	Hydro One shared files of the preliminary preferred route included in the Notice of Preliminary Preferred Route and Invitation to Community Open Houses.
March 30, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac La Croix First Nation to note they had retained Woodland Heritage Northwest to support with Indigenous engagement on the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment. Hydro One provided an overview of Woodland Heritage Northwest's role in the Project.
April 25, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac La Croix First Nation a Project Notice to provide an update about upcoming archaeology work and next steps.
May 1, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed GLP communities to note the draft EA would be released May 17, 2023 and the review period would end July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided a link to the Project website where the EA would be made available and noted digital copies of documents would be mailed out on USB flash drives.
May 17, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac La Croix First Nation to announce the release of the Draft EA Report for review and comment until July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided an overview of the Project and EA, a link to the Project website where the draft EA document could be accessed and noted USB drives were being mailed to them. Hydro One noted the First Nations Rights section would be released publicly after First Nations communities had an opportunity to review it. Hydro One provided Lac La Croix First Nation a direct download link to the First Nations Rights section.
May 19, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac La Croix First Nation to coordinate a Community Open House prior to the end of the Draft EA comment period on July 7, 2023.



Date	Method	Purpose
May 31, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac La Croix First Nation providing the draft EA Report Highlights document.
June 8, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the GLP communities to provide a presentation on the Draft EA Report.
June 12, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac La Croix First Nation to coordinate a Community Open House prior to the end of the Draft EA comment period on July 7, 2023.
June 13, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP communities to note they had extended the Draft EA comment period for GLP partners to August 4, 2023.
June 27, 2023	Meeting	The GLP First Nations and their advisors met with Hydro One with discuss the archaeology program and construction monitoring. The session discussed potential models for community based monitoring.
June 27, 2023	Email	North Vista Advisors emailed the GLP communities to provide an attached notice for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for the Project.
June 30, 2023	Email	WSP emailed Lac La Croix First Nation to provide an index to sections in the Draft EA Report that reference Lac La Croix First Nation to assist in their review and preparation of comments. WSP also provided a secure download link to the First Nations Rights section of the Draft EA Report.
July 5, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac La Croix First Nation to provide an attached notice of Cultural Heritage survey work between Thunder Bay and Atikokan.
July 17, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP communities to provide notice of a cultural heritage field survey commencing the week of July 17, 2023 in Atikokan and Thunder Bay.
July 26, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac La Croix First Nation to provide a summary of the record of consultation for their community from March 2022 to April 2023. Hydro One also included a copy of the Indigenous Community Record of Consultation and Supporting Documents included in the Draft EA Report.
August 31, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac La Croix First Nation to provide a download link for the updated Project Footprint shapefile. Hydro One noted the shapefile contained updates to fly yards,



Date	Method	Purpose
		helicopter pads, private land, the access plan and construction camps.

4.5.5.5 *Lac Seul First Nation*

Obishikokaang

Lac Seul First Nation (Obishikokaang) is located on the southeastern shores of Lac Seul, approximately 80 km northeast of Dryden, and includes the communities of Whitefish Bay, Keesic Bay, and Frenchman’s Head, with a total approximate population of 2,700 individuals (Lac Seul First Nation 2023). Lac Seul First Nation is a GLP member community.

EA Engagement

Lac Seul First Nation has been consulted throughout the EA process through meetings with staff, notices, document review opportunities, and Project updates, with selected key engagement activities summarized in Table 4.5-6 below. Field survey notices and bi-weekly updates (as outlined in Section 4.5.4) and invitations to public open house sessions were also shared, but are not included in the summary table below. The Project team has met with Lac Seul First Nation community staff, and leadership directly and through the GLP to provide updates on the Project and receive feedback from the community.

For the reporting period, this includes approximately three formal meetings directly between the Project team and Lac Seul First Nation representatives, and other communications, including phone calls, emails, and Project notices. Lac Seul First Nation shared input to field work plans and field survey notices through GLP input. The community identified a candidate to participate in field studies.

Two community open houses were held in Lac Seul First Nation on June 2, 2022 with 14 attendees and June 15, 2023 with 12 attendees. The Record of Consultation supporting this EA Report (**RoC – Appendix I** containing engagement records with Indigenous communities) includes the reports prepared summarizing the events held including materials shared, and all comments and responses received. Key questions included economic benefits for the community, employment and sub-contracting opportunities, the community’s role within GLP, and Lac Seul First Nation’s involvement with Project planning to-date.

GLP provided feedback on the Draft EA Report on behalf of all member communities, including Lac Seul First Nation, in June 2023.

Indigenous Knowledge

Lac Seul First Nation completed an IK study for the Project; approval for release of the reporting is in progress by the community. The process for how this information will be considered when shared is described in Section 7.7 of this EA Report. Hydro One is committed to ongoing engagement regarding integration of this knowledge into the Project.



Table 4.5-6: Summary of Selected Engagement with Lac Seul First Nation

Date	Method	Purpose
March 10, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide the Notice of Commencement of the EA and a brief overview on the EA.
March 22, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed a Project Notice which included information on the field program to support the EA, links to download the field work plans, and job postings for Indigenous field team members.
May 16, 2022	Email	Lac Seul First Nation emailed Hydro One and North Vista to ask that documentation on the Project be provided to their new CEC.
May 16, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac Seul First Nation's new CEC a package of information and suggested an orientation presentation for the new CEC.
June 2, 2022	Community Open House	A community open house took place in Lac Seul First Nation on June 2, 2022 to update community members on the Waasigan Transmission Line Project, EA process and the role of the GLP.
June 29, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One had a meeting with Lac Seul First Nation to provide an overview of the CEC role, the Project schedule, and key milestones for 2022.
October 5, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac Seul First Nation to provide the record of consultation summary for the period of June 2021 to June 2022 for Lac Seul First Nation's review.
November 2, 2022	Meeting	The Waasigan Preliminary Preferred Route Mapping Workshop took place over two days (November 2 and 3, 2022) in Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation. Representatives were present from Lac Seul First Nation.
December 13, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP First Nations to provide an info sheet about the Cultural Heritage Assessment and how their community can be involved in the process. Hydro One also provided a link to the draft Cultural Heritage Existing Conditions and Preliminary Heritage Impact Assessment Report for review.
January 3, 2023	Email	Hydro One shared files of the preliminary preferred route included in the Notice of Preliminary Preferred Route and Invitation to Community Open Houses.
January 18, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One and WSP attended a GLP Protection Committee meeting to share project updates including the preliminary preferred route, status of the draft EA report, proposed limits of work approach, Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and



Date	Method	Purpose
		Cultural Heritage Assessment updates, contracting approach for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment, and community engagement.
January 25, 2023	Email	Lac Seul First Nation emailed the GLP to note they had hired CE Strategies to conduct their Traditional Knowledge/ Indigenous Knowledge study.
January 26, 2023	Email	Lac Seul First Nation emailed CMO, Hydro One and the GLP to extend an invite to their annual career fair.
March 30, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac Seul First Nation to note they had retained Woodland Heritage Northwest to support with Indigenous engagement on the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment. Hydro One provided an overview of Woodland Heritage Northwest's role in the Project.
April 13, 2023	Email	GLP shared, on behalf of Lac Seul First Nation, the Lac Seul Waasigan Summary Report that contains a draft of the IK/TK summary including confidentiality note.
April 19, 2023	Meeting	The GLP communities, and their advisors, met for a Community Engagement Coordinator (CEC) meeting to discuss current activities and priorities regarding the Environmental Assessment and community engagement activities.
April 25, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac Seul First Nation a Project Notice to provide an update about upcoming archaeology work and next steps.
May 1, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed GLP communities to note the draft EA would be released May 17, 2023 and the review period would end July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided a link to the Project website where the EA would be made available and noted digital copies of documents would be mailed out on USB flash drives.
May 9, 2023	Event	Hydro One attended an Elder's Session in Lac Seul First Nation to provide an update on the Project.
May 10, 2023	Event	Hydro One attended a career fair in Lac Seul First Nation. Hydro One answered questions the community had about the Project.



Date	Method	Purpose
May 17, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac Seul First Nation to announce the release of the Draft EA Report for review and comment until July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided an overview of the Project and EA, a link to the Project website where the draft EA document could be accessed and noted USB drives were being mailed to them. Hydro One noted the First Nations Rights section would be released publicly after First Nations communities had an opportunity to review it. Hydro One provided Lac Seul First Nation a direct download link to the First Nations Rights section.
May 19, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac Seul First Nation to schedule a community open house prior to the end of the comment period on July 7, 2023.
June 8, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the GLP communities to provide a presentation on the draft EA report.
June 6, 2023	Email	Lac Seul First Nation emailed Hydro One to provide a draft poster for a Community Open House in Lac Seul First Nation.
June 12, 2023	Event	Hydro One held a four-day archaeology technician training session at Lakehead University from May 15 to 18, 2023 for Indigenous community members interested in employment opportunities on the Project during the upcoming Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment. Upon completion of the course, participants received certificates from the Ontario Archaeological Society.
June 13, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP communities to note they had extended the Draft EA comment period for GLP partners to August 4, 2023.
June 15, 2023	Community Open House	A Community Open House was held in Lac Seul First Nation to provide an overview and update of the Project, including the Draft EA findings.
June 27, 2023	Email	North Vista Advisors emailed the GLP communities to provide an attached notice for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for the Project.
June 27, 2023	Meeting	The GLP First Nations and their advisors met with Hydro One with discuss the archaeology program and construction monitoring. The session discussed potential models for community-based monitoring.
June 30, 2023	Email	WSP emailed Lac Seul First Nation to provide an index to sections in the Draft EA report that reference Lac Seul First Nation to assist in their review and preparation of comments. WSP also



Date	Method	Purpose
		provided a secure download link to the First Nations Rights section of the Draft EA Report.
July 17, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP communities to provide notice of a cultural heritage field survey commencing the week of July 17, 2023 in Atikokan and Thunder Bay.
July 26, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac Seul First Nation to provide a summary of the record of consultation for their community from March 2022 to April 2023. Hydro One also included a copy of the Indigenous Community Record of Consultation and Supporting Documents included in the Draft EA Report.
August 31, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Lac Seul First Nation to provide a download link for the updated Project Footprint shapefile. Hydro One noted the shapefile contained updates to fly yards, helicopter pads, private land, the access plan and construction camps.

4.5.5.6 Migisi Sahgaigan (Eagle Lake First Nation)

Migisi Sahgaigan is located on the shores of Eagle Lake, approximately 25 kilometres southwest of Dryden, Ontario, as is part of the Treaty #3 region. Migisi Sahgaigan's total registered population as of April 2016 is reported as 630 residents (Eagle Lake First Nation, 2022), with an on-reserve population of approximately 257 individuals reported through the 2021 Census of Population (Statistics Canada, 2023). Migisi Sahgaigan is a GLP member community.

EA Engagement

Migisi Sahgaigan has been consulted throughout the EA process through meetings with staff, notices, document review opportunities, and Project updates, with selected key engagement activities summarized in Table 4.5-7 below. Field survey notices and bi-weekly updates (as outlined in Section 4.5.4) and invitations to public open house sessions were also shared, but are not included in the summary table below. The Project team has met with Migisi Sahgaigan community staff, and leadership directly and through the GLP, to provide updates on the Project and receive feedback from the community.

For the reporting period, this includes approximately six formal meetings directly between the Project team and Migisi Sahgaigan representatives and other communications, including phone calls, emails, and project notices. Migisi Sahgaigan shared questions about the work plans for air and noise assessments, as well as input into field work plans and field survey notices through GLP input, as well as on the Stage 1 archaeological assessment. The community identified a candidate to participate in field studies; however, the individual was not able to participate.



Two community open houses were held on May 25, 2022 with 20 attendees and June 29, 2023 with eight attendees. Key questions pertained to employment opportunities, Project design, and socio-economic effects of the Project. The Record of Consultation supporting this EA Report (**RoC – Appendix I** containing engagement records with Indigenous communities) includes the community open house summary reports for the events with materials shared, and all comments received.

GLP provided feedback on the Draft EA Report on behalf of all member communities, including Migisi Sahgaigan First Nation, in June 2023.

Indigenous Knowledge

Migisi Sahgaigan completed their IK study for the Project through a study titled “Traditional Knowledge, Land and Resource Use Study for the Waasigan Transmission Line Project” (Migisi Sahgaigan 2022) which was shared with Hydro One in December 2022, under a data sharing agreement. Additional discussions around specific IK study findings continued between Hydro One, GLP and Migisi Sahgaigan through the Draft EA review process. Findings are considered in Section 7.7 of this EA Report, respecting applicable confidentiality limitations. Hydro One is committed to ongoing engagement regarding integration of this knowledge into the Project.

Table 4.5-7: Summary of Selected Engagement with Migisi Sahgaigan (Eagle Lake First Nation)

Date	Method	Purpose
March 10, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide the Notice of Commencement of the EA and a brief overview on the EA process.
March 22, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed a Project Notice which included information on the field program to support the EA, links to download the field work plans, and job postings for Indigenous field team members.
April 8, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to offer a meeting with the Hydro One team to discuss the draft Aquatics and Terrestrial Field Work Plans.
April 8, 2022	Email	Migisi Sahgaigan emailed to confirm that they will be submitting their comments on the draft Aquatics and Terrestrial Field Work Plans through GLP.



Date	Method	Purpose
May 17, 2022	Phone	Migisi Sahgaigan called WSP confirming that they will not be able to participate in the field program (May 18-21, 2022) but would like to receive an update on the findings of the program to share with the community.
May 25, 2022	Community Open House	A community open house took place in Migisi Sahgaigan to update community members on the Waasigan Transmission Line Project, EA process and the role of the GLP. Hydro One shared a presentation on the Project, the EA, the ECI process and ongoing engagement opportunities.
August 25, 2022	Meeting	The CEC Network Training Session took place in Thunder Bay. The Session consisted of a presentation about the Project, a presentation about GLP and CMO and a presentation about the roles and responsibilities of CEC.
August 31, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to offer additional tools to support the request for IK information and studies so input could be considered as part of the alternative route evaluation.
September 7, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One and WSP had a meeting with Migisi Sahgaigan to discuss the role of their new field monitor and opportunities to participate in field surveys in September 2022.
September 7, 2022	Email	WSP emailed to follow up on the meeting regarding upcoming September field work and provided information related to field health and safety planning, obtaining contact information and emergency information for environmental monitors, PPE and field equipment.
September 9, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with Migisi Sahgaigan to discuss the hiring process for Environmental Monitors.
September 15, 2022	Email	Migisi Sahgaigan emailed WSP to confirm an Environmental Monitor's availability for a Project Overview meeting. Migisi Sahgaigan indicated they had agreed to support Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation in monitoring upcoming field work.
September 16, 2022	Meeting	Phone call to discuss the monitoring plan for the following week.



Date	Method	Purpose
September 16, 2022	Email	WSP emailed Migisi Sahgaigan to provide a copy of the Waasigan Transmission Line Aquatics Field Training presentation and a list of required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for the upcoming field surveys. WSP shared the upcoming field schedule and a summary of the planned field program for the following week.
October 4, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Migisi Sahgaigan to provide the record of consultation summary for the period of June 2021 to June 2022 for Migisi Sahgaigan's review.
November 2, 2022	Meeting	The Waasigan Preliminary Preferred Route Mapping Workshop took place over two days (November 2 and 3, 2022) in Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation. Representatives were present from Migisi Sahgaigan were present.
November 25, 2022	Letter	Migisi Sahgaigan emailed Hydro One to provide a memo containing an overview and recommendations from their completed Traditional Knowledge, Land and Resource Use Study (TKLRUS) on the Project.
December 12, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with Migisi Sahgaigan to discuss their Traditional Knowledge and TKLRUS memo and its incorporation into the EA.
December 13, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP First Nations to provide an info sheet about the Cultural Heritage Assessment and how their community can be involved in the process.
January 3, 2022	Email	Hydro One shared files of the preliminary preferred route included in the Notice of Preliminary Preferred Route and Invitation to Community Open Houses.
January 18, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One and WSP attended a GLP Protection Committee meeting to share Project updates including the preliminary preferred route, status of the Draft EA Report, proposed limits of work approach, Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and Cultural Heritage Assessment updates, contracting approach for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment, and community engagement.
March 15, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Migisi Sahgaigan their responses to comments provided on the draft Acoustic and Vibration Work Plan and the draft Atmospheric Work Plan.
March 30, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Migisi Sahgaigan to note they had retained Woodland Heritage Northwest to support with Indigenous engagement on the Stage



Date	Method	Purpose
		2 Archaeological Assessment. Hydro One provided an overview of Woodland Heritage Northwest's role in the Project.
April 19, 2023	Meeting	The GLP communities, and their advisors, met for a Community Engagement Coordinator (CEC) meeting to discuss current activities and priorities regarding the Environmental Assessment and community engagement activities.
April 25, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Migisi Sahgaigan a Project Notice to provide an update about upcoming archaeology work and next steps.
May 1, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed GLP communities to note the draft EA would be released May 17, 2023 and the review period would end July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided a link to the Project website where the EA would be made available and noted digital copies of documents would be mailed out on USB flash drives.
May 17, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Migisi Sahgaigan to announce the release of the Draft EA Report for review and comment until July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided an overview of the Project and EA, a link to the Project website where the draft EA document could be accessed and noted USB drives were being mailed to them. Hydro One noted the First Nations Rights section would be released publicly after First Nations communities had an opportunity to review it. Hydro One provided Eagle Lake First Nation a direct download link to the First Nations Rights section.
June 8, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the GLP communities to provide a presentation on the Draft EA Report.
June 12, 2023	Event	Hydro One held a four-day training session at Lakehead University from May 15 to 18, 2023 for Indigenous community members interested in employment opportunities on the project during the upcoming Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment. Upon completion of the course, participants received certificates from the Ontario Archaeological Society.
June 13, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP communities to note they had extended the draft EA comment period for GLP partners to August 4, 2023.
June 20, 2023	Email	North Vista Advisors emailed the GLP communities to provide updates on archaeology work for the Project and the communities budget for archaeology monitoring. North Vista Advisors noted they would send an invite for a meeting on June 27, 2023 to



Date	Method	Purpose
		provide communities an opportunity to discuss any questions they had about archaeology monitoring.
June 27, 2023	Meeting	The GLP First Nations and their advisors met with Hydro One with discuss the archaeology program and construction monitoring. The session discussed potential models for community-based monitoring.
June 27, 2023	Email	North Vista Advisors emailed the GLP communities to provide an attached notice for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for the Project.
June 29, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with Migisi Sahgaigan for a Chief and Council meeting to discuss the Draft EA Report ahead of the Community Open House that day.
June 29, 2023	Community Open House	Community Open House was held in Migisi Sahgaigan to provide an overview and update of the Waasigan Transmission Line Project, including the Draft EA findings.
June 30, 2023	Email	WSP emailed Migisi Sahgaigan to provide an index to sections in the Draft EA Report that reference Migisi Sahgaigan to assist in their review and preparation of comments. WSP also provided a secure download link to the First Nations Rights section of the Draft EA Report.
July 12, 2023	Email	Migisi Sahgaigan emailed Hydro One to note they wanted to receive and review the archaeology work plans for Phase 2 of the Project so they could compare them with their Traditional Knowledge maps and identify areas of concern.
July 17, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP communities to provide notice of a cultural heritage field survey commencing the week of July 17, 2023 in Atikokan and Thunder Bay.
July 26, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Migisi Sahgaigan to provide a summary of the record of consultation for their community from March 2022 to April 2023. Hydro One also included a copy of the Indigenous Community Record of Consultation and Supporting Documents included in the Draft EA Report.
August 5, 2023	Event	Hydro One attended the Migisi Sahgaigan powwow. A Hydro One booth was set up and Hydro One provided attendees the July 2023 Edition Waasigan Newsletters and answered questions regarding the project.
August 22, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with Migisi Sahgaigan to discuss their Traditional Knowledge memo.



Date	Method	Purpose
August 31, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Migisi Sahgaigan to provide a download link for the updated Project Footprint shapefile. Hydro One noted the shapefile contained updates to fly yards, helicopter pads, private land, the access plan and construction camps.

4.5.5.7 Mitaanjigamiing First Nation

Mitaanjigamiing First Nation is located on the shores of Rainy Lake near Fort Frances, Ontario, approximately 200 km southeast of Dryden.

EA Engagement

Mitaanjigamiing First Nation has been consulted throughout the EA process through meetings with staff, and community open houses, notices, document review opportunities, and Project updates, with selected key engagement activities as summarized in Table 4.5-8 below. Field survey notices and bi-weekly updates (as outlined in Section 4.5.4), and invitations to public open house meetings were also shared, but are not included in the summary table below.

For the reporting period, this includes approximately nine formal meetings directly between the Project team and Mitaanjigamiing First Nation representatives, plus other communications, including phone calls, emails, and project notices. Mitaanjigamiing First Nation did not provide feedback into the Project documents including field work plans or the Stage 1 archaeological assessment.

Two community open houses were held on December 8, 2022 with 15 attendees and June 28, 2023 with eight attendees. Key questions pertained to engagement with Grand Council Treaty #3, construction readiness process, traditional land use mapping, sharing of IK values and meeting with Elders, studies on spring-fed lakes and groundwater, and the ecological footprint of the Project. The Record of Consultation supporting this EA Report (**RoC – Appendix I** containing engagement records with Indigenous communities) includes the community open house summary reports for these events with materials shared, and all comments received.

Indigenous Knowledge

Mitaanjigamiing First Nation completed an IK study for the Project with reporting prepared by a third-party consultant, CE Strategies. A draft study titled “Waasigan Transmission Line Summary Report 2022” (MFN 2022) was shared with Hydro One in December 2022 under a data sharing agreement considering all Project routing alternatives. A follow-up on this report was shared in July 2023 focused to the preferred route. Findings are reflected in Section 7.7 of this EA Report, respecting applicable confidentiality limitations. Hydro One is committed to ongoing engagement regarding integration of this knowledge into the Project.



Table 4.5-8: Summary of Selected Engagement with Mitaanjigamiing First Nation

Date	Method	Purpose
March 8, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide the Notice of Commencement of the EA and a brief overview on the EA process.
March 8, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to provide an update on the Project including ToR approval and Notice of Commencement of the EA.
March 22, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed a Project Notice which included information on the field program to support the EA, links to download the field work plans, and job postings for Indigenous field team members.
March 28, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to inquire how they can assist with IK collection and sharing.
April 7, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One and Mitaanjigamiing First Nation had a meeting to discuss the Aquatics and Terrestrial Field Work Plans, Indigenous Knowledge, status of the CFA, and opportunities for a community open house.
April 14, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One had a Project update call with the CEC to discuss field studies, community engagement and next steps in the EA.
May 10, 2022	Email	Mitaanjigamiing First Nation emailed Hydro One to provide the CFA agreement and inform them on the hire of a new CEC.
May 12, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with Mitaanjigamiing to meet their new CEC and discuss next steps for IK.
May 20, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to go through details of a proposed June 2022 community open house.
May 25, 2022	Email	CE Strategies emailed WSP and Hydro One, requesting information to support CE Strategies' gap analysis on IK for Mitaanjigamiing First Nation.
May 25, 2022	Email	WSP emailed CE Strategies to provide alternative route shapefiles.
July 15, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One hosted a virtual meeting with representatives from Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to discuss EA activities including field work, the progress of IK studies, and the potential for a community open house before September 2022.
July 19, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide a summary of the key EA milestones and noted that the evaluation and selection of the preferred alternative route was scheduled for Fall 2022.



Date	Method	Purpose
August 31, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to offer additional tools to support the request for IK information and studies so input could be considered as part of the alternative route evaluation.
September 19, 2022	Letter	Hydro One emailed to provide a letter regarding the selection of the Contactor for the Project.
September 29, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide a download link to the draft Stage 1 Archaeology Assessment report.
October 5, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to provide the record of consultation summary for the period of June 2021 to June 2022 for Mitaanjigamiing First Nation's review.
October 21, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One and WSP met with Mitaanjigamiing First Nation and CE Strategies to discuss the IK mapping that had been prepared and discussed next steps for sharing the information and how it will be applied to the Project.
November 10, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Mitaanjigamiing First Nation a link to draft archaeological assessment, atmospheric and noise reports.
November 25, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Mitaanjigamiing First Nation a notice regarding the preliminary preferred route.
December 8, 2022	Community Open House	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to provide information, engage with the community about the Project and collect feedback on the alternative routes and evaluation process for the EA.
December 13, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to provide an information sheet about the Cultural Heritage Assessment and how their community can be involved in the process.
January 3, 2022	Email	Hydro One shared files of the preliminary preferred route included in the Notice of Preliminary Preferred Route and Invitation to Community Open Houses.
January 11, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to share a draft report from the Mitaanjigamiing First Nation community open house in December 2022 and requested they provide their comments.
January 16, 2023	Email	CE Strategies emailed Hydro One to provide a draft Traditional Knowledge report for Mitaanjigamiing First Nation.
January 17, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with CE Strategies, Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to discuss IK report updates.



Date	Method	Purpose
January 17, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed CE Strategies and Mitaanjigamiing First Nation shapefiles of the preliminary Project footprint.
February 1, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed CE Strategies and Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to request spatial representation of any sensitive values in the proximity of the preliminary Project footprint.
February 1, 2023	Email	CE Strategies replied to Hydro One to confirm a validation session with Knowledge Keepers and Elders from Mitaanjigamiing First Nation may be planned to confirm data sharing.
March 29, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to note they had retained Woodland Heritage Northwest to support with Indigenous engagement on the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment. Hydro One provided an overview of Woodland Heritage Northwest's role in the Project.
March 31, 2023	Email	Woodland Heritage Northwest emailed Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to provide details about their role in the Project and an upcoming archaeological technician training program in May 2023 in which they hoped to enlist interested members of their community.
April 25, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Mitaanjigamiing First Nation a Project Notice to provide an update about upcoming archaeology work and next steps.
May 1, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to note the draft EA would be released May 17, 2023 and the review period would end July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided a link to the Project website where the EA would be made available and noted digital copies of documents would be mailed out on USB flash drives.
May 1, 2023	Email	CE Strategies emailed WSP to note that they had conducted a validation session in Mitaanjigamiing First Nation in April 2023 and amended their report according to participant feedback.
May 16, 2023	Phone	Hydro One called Mitaanjigamiing First Nation several times to discuss upcoming community events and a potential Open House in the community.
May 17, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to announce the release of the Draft EA Report for review and comment until July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided an overview of the Project and EA, a link to the Project website where the draft EA document could be accessed and noted USB drives were being



Date	Method	Purpose
		mailed to them. Hydro One noted the First Nations Rights section would be released publicly after First Nations communities had an opportunity to review it. Hydro One provided Mitaanjigamiing First Nation a direct download link to the First Nations Rights section.
May 25, 2023	Email	Mitaanjigamiing First Nation emailed Hydro One to inform them that they had confirmed a Project update meeting with Valard on June 8, 2023 and expressed that they wished to invite representatives from TreeTech, Firedog Communications, Gobe Corporation, and Mitaanjigamiing First Nation's Manager and Waasigan Community Coordinator to participate in the meeting.
May 25, 2023	Phone	Hydro One called Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to have a phone meeting to discuss the Project.
June 12, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to inquire about their availability for a bi-weekly meeting to discuss the Project.
June 25, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to provide a notice for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for the Project.
June 28, 2023	Community Open House	A Community Open House was held in Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to provide an overview and update on the Project, including the Draft EA findings.
June 30, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to provide a reminder about the Draft EA review period ending on July 7, 2023 and inquire about a response to the archaeological notice. Hydro One also requested an update on Mitaanjigamiing First Nation's Traditional Knowledge studies and their preferred availability for weekly meetings.
June 30, 2023	Email	WSP emailed Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to provide an index to sections in the Draft EA Report that reference Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to assist in their review and preparation of comments. WSP also provided a secure download link to the First Nations Rights section of the Draft EA Report.
July 18, 2023	Email	CE Strategies emailed the Hydro One team to share a final Traditional Knowledge summary report on behalf of Mitaanjigamiing First Nation on the preferred route. It was noted that this information should not be distributed to any external partners or included in reports without further community consent.



Date	Method	Purpose
July 26, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to provide a summary of the record of consultation for their community from March 2022 to April 2023. Hydro One also included a copy of the Indigenous Community Record of Consultation and Supporting Documents included in the Draft EA Report.
August 31, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Mitaanjigamiing First Nation to provide a download link for the updated Project Footprint shapefile. Hydro One noted the shapefile contained updates to fly yards, helicopter pads, private land, the access plan and construction camps.

4.5.5.8 *Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation*

Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation is located on the banks of Rainy Lake near Fort Frances, Ontario, and is approximately 200 km southeast of Dryden. The community population was approximately 200 individuals, as reported through the 2016 Census of Population (Statistics Canada, 2019). Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation is a GLP member community.

EA Engagement

Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation has been consulted throughout the EA process through meetings with staff, notices, document review opportunities, and Project updates, with selected engagement summarized in Table 4.5-9 below. Field survey notices and bi-weekly updates (as outlined in Section 4.5.4) and invitations to public open house sessions were also shared, but are not included in the summary table below. The Project team has met with Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation community staff, and leadership directly and through the GLP to provide updates on the Project and receive feedback from the community.

For the reporting period, this includes approximately four formal meetings directly between the Project team and Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation representatives, in addition to other communications, including phone calls, emails, and Project notices. Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation shared input to field work plans, and field survey notices through GLP input.

A community open house meeting was planned for May 2022, but was cancelled while the community responded to other priorities including regional flooding. The community open house was rescheduled and held on September 1, 2022. The Record of Consultation supporting this EA Report (**RoC – Appendix I** containing engagement records with Indigenous communities) includes a report prepared summarizing this event held including materials shared, and all comments and responses received. Key discussions included the meaning of the phrase “cultural awareness”, cultural protocols that show respect and reciprocity for the land, the partnership between Hydro One and GLP, employment opportunities, community Project equity, land protection, mitigation methods, and identification of culturally important values during the EA process.



GLP provided feedback on the Draft EA Report on behalf of all member communities, including Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, in June 2023.

Indigenous Knowledge

An IK study is in progress for the Project by the community, working with Maawandoon Inc. Preliminary information with potential areas of concern collected during interviews conducted in December 2022 were shared with Hydro One in January 2023. The process of how this information and the information to come in the IK study will be considered when shared, is described in Section 7.7 of this EA Report. Hydro One is committed to ongoing engagement regarding integration of this knowledge into the Project.

Table 4.5-9: Summary of Selected Engagement with Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation

Date	Method	Purpose
March 10, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide the Notice of Commencement of the EA and a brief overview on the EA process.
March 22, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed a Project Notice which included information on the field program to support the EA, links to download the field work plans, and job postings for Indigenous field team members.
April 8, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to offer a meeting with the Hydro One team to discuss the draft Aquatics and Terrestrial Field Work Plans.
May 3, 2022	Email	Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation emailed Maawandoon to propose a community open house date.
May 4, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation to confirm the community open house on May 24, 2022.
May 4, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One had an in-person discussion with Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation and Maawandoon about planning a community open house and CEC recruitment.
May 17, 2022	Email	Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation emailed Maawandoon, copying Hydro One, to confirm they would like Grand Council Treaty #3 invited to the community open house on May 24.
May 17, 2022	Email	Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation emailed Maawandoon to indicate their community open house on May 24 should be postponed for a couple of weeks since preparation for potential flooding takes priority. Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation asked that alternative dates be provided in June.
June 9, 2022	Phone	Hydro One phoned Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation to discuss field monitoring participation, a new CEC hire and a potential open house in June.
July 29, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One representatives met with the new CEC and Protection Committee member from Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation to provide a Project update.
August 17, 2022	Phone	Hydro One called Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation to discuss scheduling of invoicing and the open house on September 1, 2022. Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation



Date	Method	Purpose
		requested a meeting between the Project team and their new Chief and Council take place in advance of the open house.
August 23, 2022	Email	Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation emailed Hydro One Traditional Knowledge documents outlining traditional protocols.
August 26, 2022	Email	WSP emailed Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation details regarding a planned site visit on September 2, 2022 to observe an aquatics survey in the Atikokan area.
August 28, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation on August 26, 2022 to discuss invoicing and a review of the Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation community open house event plan and details.
September 1, 2022	Community Open House	A community open house was held in Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation. Hydro One provide updates about the Project's EA process and the GLP.
October 5, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation to provide the record of consultation summary for the period of June 2021 to June 2022 for Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation's review.
November 2, 2022	Meeting	The Waasigan Preliminary Preferred Route Mapping Workshop took place over two days (November 2 and 3, 2022) in Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation. Representatives of Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation were present.
December 13, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP First Nations to provide an info sheet about the Cultural Heritage Assessment and how the community can be involved in the process.
January 3, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation to announce the selection of the preliminary preferred route and included an invitation to join the upcoming community houses between January 16, 2023 and January 18, 2023. Hydro One included an attached notice and interactive map.
January 18, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One and WSP attended a GLP Protection Committee meeting to share Project updates including the preliminary preferred route, status of the Draft EA Report, proposed limits of work approach, Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and Cultural Heritage Assessment updates, contracting approach for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment, and community engagement.
March 30, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation to note they had retained Woodland Heritage Northwest to support with Indigenous engagement on the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment. Hydro One provided an overview of Woodland Heritage Northwest's role in the Project.



Date	Method	Purpose
April 19, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One representatives met with Chief and Council of Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation in Thunder Bay. Hydro One provided an update about the Project and answered questions from the Chief and Council. Key areas for discussion included the timing of the release of the Draft EA, the current Project schedule, opportunities for upcoming community visits, capacity funding and other administrative items.
April 19, 2023	Meeting	The GLP communities, and their advisors, met for a Community Engagement Coordinator (CEC) meeting to discuss current activities and priorities regarding the Environmental Assessment and community engagement activities.
April 25, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation a Project Notice to provide an update about upcoming archaeology work and next steps.
May 1, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed GLP communities to note the draft EA would be released May 17, 2023 and the review period would end July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided a link to the Project website where the EA would be made available and noted digital copies of documents would be mailed out on USB flash drives.
May 17, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation to announce the release of the Draft EA Report for review and comment until July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided an overview of the Project and EA, a link to the Project website where the Draft EA Report could be accessed and noted USB drives were being mailed to them. Hydro One noted the First Nations Rights section would be released publicly after First Nations communities had an opportunity to review it. Hydro One provided Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation a direct download link to the First Nations Rights section.
May 19, 2023	Phone	Hydro One called Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation to discuss a potential Community Open House at the end of June 2023.
June 1, 2023	Email	Hydro One sent an email notifying of upcoming community open houses to be held in Dryden, Atikokan, Kaministiquia, and Thunder Bay. It also included a reminder that the Draft EA Report was available until July 7, 2023 for review and comment and attached a notice with further details.
June 8, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the GLP communities to provide a presentation on the Draft EA Report.
June 12, 2023	Event	Hydro One held a four-day training session at Lakehead University from May 15 to 18, 2023 for Indigenous community members interested in employment opportunities on the project during the upcoming Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment.



Date	Method	Purpose
		Upon completion of the course, participants received certificates from the Ontario Archaeological Society.
June 13, 2023	Email	Hydro One sent an email to share an update that due to scheduling, there had been a date change for the open house planned in Thunder Bay from June 21 to June 22.
June 13, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP communities to note they had extended the Draft EA comment period for GLP partners to August 4, 2023.
June 20, 2023	Email	North Vista Advisors emailed the GLP communities to provide updates on archaeology work for the Project and monitoring.
June 27, 2023	Meeting	The GLP First Nations and their advisors met with Hydro One with discuss the archaeology program and construction monitoring. The session discussed potential models for community-based monitoring.
June 27, 2023	Email	North Vista Advisors emailed the GLP communities to provide an attached notice for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for the Project.
June 30, 2023	Email	WSP emailed Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation to provide an index to sections in the Draft EA Report that reference Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation to assist in their review and preparation of comments. WSP also provided a secure download link to the First Nations Rights section of the Draft EA Report.
July 17, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP communities to provide notice of a cultural heritage field survey commencing the week of July 17, 2023 in Atikokan and Thunder Bay.
July 19, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation in Fort Frances to provide updates about the Project. Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation note they had no major issues or concerns with the Project.
July 26, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation to provide a summary of the record of consultation for their community from March 2022 to April 2023. Hydro One also included a copy of the Indigenous Community Record of Consultation and Supporting Documents included in the Draft EA Report.
August 8, 2023	Phone	Hydro One called Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation to discuss Project updates and any community concerns.
August 31, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation to provide a download link for the updated Project Footprint shapefile. Hydro One noted the shapefile contained updates to fly yards, helicopter pads, private land, the access plan and construction camps.
August 31, 2023	Phone	Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation called Hydro One to inform them about their upcoming pow wow. Nigigoonsiminikaaning



Date	Method	Purpose
		First Nation invited Hydro One and inquired if they wanted to setup a booth.

4.5.5.9 Ojibway Nation of Saugeen

Ojibway Nation of Saugeen is located near Savant Lake, Ontario, approximately 200 km northwest of Dryden, with an approximate on-reserve population of 88 individuals, as reported by the 2021 Census of Population (Statistics Canada, 2023). Ojibway Nation of Saugeen joined GLP in May 2021.

EA Engagement

The Ojibway Nation of Saugeen was consulted throughout the EA process through calls and meetings with staff, notices, document review opportunities, and Project updates, with key engagement summarized in Table 4.5-10 below. Field survey notices and bi-weekly updates (as outlined in Section 4.5.4) and invitations to public open house sessions were also shared, but are not included in the summary below. The Project team has engaged with Ojibway Nation of Saugeen staff and leadership through in-person meetings in Thunder Bay, through GLP meetings and by emails and phone calls, to provide updates on the Project and receive feedback from the community.

For the reporting period, no formal meetings directly between the Project team and Ojibway Nation of Saugeen representatives were held, but informal meetings and other communications, including phone calls, emails, and Project notices occurred. Ojibway Nation of Saugeen shared input into field work plans, and the Stage 1 archaeological and cultural heritage assessments, through GLP input.

Community open houses were considered in October 2022 and December 2022, but at the request of the community, no meetings were held.

GLP provided feedback on the Draft EA Report on behalf of all member communities, including Ojibway Nation of Saugeen, in June 2023.

Indigenous Knowledge

An IK study is in progress for the Project by the community, working with Maawandoon Inc. The process for how this information will be considered when shared is described in Section 7.7 of this EA Report. Hydro One is committed to ongoing engagement regarding integration of this knowledge into the Project.

Table 4.5-10: Summary of Selected Engagement with Ojibway Nation of Saugeen

Date	Method	Purpose
March 10, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide the Notice of Commencement of the EA and a brief overview on the EA process.



Date	Method	Purpose
March 22, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed a Project Notice which included information on the field program to support the EA, links to download the field work plans, and job postings for Indigenous field team members.
April 8, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Ojibway Nation of Saugeen to offer a meeting to discuss the draft Aquatics and Terrestrial Field Work Plans. Hydro One asked about the opportunity to host a community open house.
September 26, 2022	Email	Ojibway Nation of Saugeen emailed Hydro One about choosing a date in October for a community open house and advancing their CFA.
September 30, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Ojibway Nation of Saugeen to provide a signed copy of the CFA for the Project.
October 5, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Ojibway Nation of Saugeen to provide the record of consultation summary for the period of June 2021 to June 2022 for Ojibway Nation of Saugeen's review.
November 2, 2022	Meeting	The Waasigan Preliminary Preferred Route Mapping Workshop took place over two days (November 2 and 3, 2022) in Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation. Representatives from Ojibway Nation of Saugeen were present.
November 24, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Ojibway Nation of Saugeen to follow up on the execution of the CFA and to request potential dates for a community open house in December 2022.
December 13, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP First Nations to provide an info sheet about the Cultural Heritage Assessment and how their community can be involved in the process.
January 3, 2022	Email	Hydro One shared files of the preliminary preferred route included in the Notice of Preliminary Preferred Route and Invitation to Community Open Houses.



Date	Method	Purpose
January 18, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One and WSP attended a GLP Protection Committee meeting to share Project updates including the preliminary preferred route, status of the Draft EA Report, proposed limits of work approach, Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and Cultural Heritage Assessment updates, contracting approach for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment, and community engagement.
March 30, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Ojibway Nation of Saugeen to note they had retained Woodland Heritage Northwest to support with Indigenous engagement on the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment. Hydro One provided an overview of Woodland Heritage Northwest's role in the Project.
April 19, 2023	Email	The GLP communities, and their advisors, met for a Community Engagement Coordinator (CEC) meeting to discuss current activities and priorities regarding the Environmental Assessment and community engagement activities.
April 25, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Ojibway Nation of Saugeen a Project Notice to provide an update about upcoming archaeology work and next steps.
May 1, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed GLP communities to note the draft EA would be released May 17, 2023 and the review period would end July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided a link to the Project website where the EA would be made available and noted digital copies of documents would be mailed out on USB flash drives.



Date	Method	Purpose
May 17, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Ojibway Nation of Saugeen to announce the release of the Draft EA Report for review and comment until July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided an overview of the Project and EA, a link to the Project website where the draft EA document could be accessed and noted USB drives were being mailed to them. Hydro One noted the First Nations Rights section would be released publicly after First Nations communities had an opportunity to review it. Hydro One provided Ojibway Nation of Saugeen a direct download link to the First Nations Rights section.
June 8, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the GLP communities to provide a presentation on the Draft EA Report.
June 13, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP communities to note they had extended the Draft EA comment period for GLP partners to August 4, 2023.
June 20, 2023	Email	North Vista Advisors emailed the GLP communities to provide updates on archaeology work for the Project and monitoring.
June 27, 2023	Meeting	The GLP First Nations and their advisors met with Hydro One with discuss the archaeology program and construction monitoring. The session discussed potential models for community-based monitoring.
June 27, 2023	Email	North Vista Advisors emailed the GLP communities to provide a notice for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for the Project.
July 6, 2023	Email	WSP emailed Ojibway Nation of Saugeen to provide an index to sections in the Draft EA Report that reference Ojibway Nation of Saugeen to assist in their review and preparation of comments. WSP also provided a secure download link to the First Nations Rights section of the Draft EA Report.



Date	Method	Purpose
July 17, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP communities to provide notice of a cultural heritage field survey commencing the week of July 17, 2023 in Atikokan and Thunder Bay.
July 26, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Ojibway Nation of Saugeen to provide a summary of the record of consultation for their community from March 2022 to April 2023. Hydro One also included a copy of the Indigenous Community Record of Consultation and Supporting Documents included in the Draft EA Report.
July 27, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with Ojibway Nation of Saugeen to discuss the potential for a community meeting, capacity funding, and how the Nation would like to engage on the Draft EA.
August 31, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Ojibway Nation of Saugeen to provide a download link for the updated Project Footprint shapefile. Hydro One noted the shapefile contained updates to fly yards, helicopter pads, private land, the access plan and construction camps.

4.5.5.10 Seine River First Nation

Chima'aganing

Seine River First Nation (Chima'aganing) is an Anishinaabe community located on Wild Potato Lake, approximately 70 km west of Atikokan, Ontario. Seine River First Nation has an approximate population of 804 individuals (Seine River First Nation, 2021). Seine River First Nation is a GLP member community.

EA Engagement

Seine River First Nation has been consulted throughout the EA process through meetings with staff, notices, document review opportunities, and Project updates, with selected engagement summarized in Table 4.5-11 below. Field survey notices and bi-weekly updates (as outlined in Section 4.5.4) and invitations to public open house sessions were also shared, but are not included in the summary table below. The Project team has met with Seine River First Nation community staff, and leadership directly and through the GLP to provide updates on the Project and receive feedback from the community.



For the reporting period, this includes approximately two formal meetings directly between the Project team and Seine River First Nation representatives in addition to other communications, including phone calls, emails, and Project notices. Seine River First Nation shared input into field work plans, and field survey notices, through GLP input.

A community open house meeting was held on November 21, 2022. The Record of Consultation supporting this EA Report (**RoC – Appendix I** containing engagement records with Indigenous communities) includes a report prepared summarizing this event held including materials shared, and all comments and responses received. Key questions from the community open house pertained to employment and training opportunities, identification of culturally significant areas in relation to Project timelines, contractor selection, and the two-phase approach to IESO approval for the Project.

GLP provided feedback on the Draft EA Report on behalf of all member communities, including Seine River First Nation, in June 2023.

Indigenous Knowledge

An IK study is in progress for the Project by the community, working with Maawandoon Inc. The process for how this information will be considered when shared is described in Section 7.7 of this EA Report. Hydro One is committed to ongoing engagement regarding integration of this knowledge into the Project.

Table 4.5-11: Summary of Selected Engagement with Seine River First Nation

Date	Method	Purpose
March 10, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide the Notice of Commencement of the EA and a brief overview on the EA process.
March 22, 2022	Phone	Hydro One received a phone call from Seine River First Nation to discuss the CFA and invoicing.
March 22, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed a Project Notice which included information on the field program to support the EA, links to download the field work plans, and job postings for Indigenous field team members.
April 21, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide information about the public open houses May 3-5, 2022.
October 5, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Seine River First Nation to provide the record of consultation summary for the period of June 2021 to June 2022 for Seine River First Nation's review.



Date	Method	Purpose
November 21, 2022	Community Open House	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Seine River First Nation to provide information, engage with the community about the Project and collect feedback on the alternative routes and evaluation process for the EA.
December 13, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP First Nations to provide an information sheet about the Cultural Heritage Assessment and how their community can be involved in the process.
January 3, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Seine River First Nation to announce the selection of the preliminary preferred route and included an invitation to join the upcoming community houses between January 16, 2023 and January 18, 2023.
January 5, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One attended the CEC Network meeting to discuss 2023 activities, communications, and to listen to community needs moving forward.
January 18, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One and WSP attended a GLP Protection Committee meeting to share Project updates including the preliminary preferred route, status of the Draft EA Report, proposed limits of work approach, Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and Cultural Heritage Assessment updates, contracting approach for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment, and community engagement.
March 30, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Seine River First Nation to note they had retained Woodland Heritage Northwest to support with Indigenous engagement on the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment. Hydro One provided an overview of Woodland Heritage Northwest's role in the Project.
April 19, 2023	Meeting	The GLP communities, and their advisors, met for a Community Engagement Coordinator (CEC) meeting to discuss current activities and priorities regarding the Environmental Assessment and community engagement activities.



Date	Method	Purpose
April 25, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Seine River First Nation a Project Notice to provide an update about upcoming archaeology work and next steps.
May 1, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed GLP communities to note the draft EA would be released May 17, 2023 and the review period would end July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided a link to the Project website where the EA would be made available and noted digital copies of documents would be mailed out on USB flash drives.
May 17, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Seine River First Nation to announce the release of the Draft EA Report for review and comment until July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided an overview of the Project and EA, a link to the Project website where the draft EA document could be accessed and noted USB drives were being mailed to them. Hydro One noted the First Nations Rights section would be released publicly after First Nations communities had an opportunity to review it. Hydro One provided Seine River First Nation a direct download link to the First Nations Rights section.
June 1, 2023	Email	Hydro One sent an email notifying of upcoming community open houses to be held in Dryden, Atikokan, Kaministiquia, and Thunder Bay. It also included a reminder that the draft EA report was available until July 7, 2023 for review and comment and attached a notice with further details.
June 8, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the GLP communities to provide a presentation on the draft EA report.
June 12, 2023	Event	Hydro One held a four-day training session at Lakehead University from May 15 to 18, 2023 for Indigenous community members interested in employment opportunities on the project during the upcoming Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment. Upon completion of the course, participants received certificates from the Ontario Archaeological Society.



Date	Method	Purpose
June 13, 2023	Email	Hydro One sent an email to share an update that due to scheduling, there has been a date change for the open house planned in Thunder Bay from June 21 to June 22.
June 13, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP communities to note they had extended the draft EA comment period for GLP partners to August 4, 2023 but noted comments should be shared as they become available.
June 27, 2023	Meeting	The GLP First Nations and their advisors met with Hydro One with discuss the archology program and construction monitoring. The session discussed potential models for community based monitoring
June 27, 2023	Email	North Vista Advisors emailed the GLP communities to provide an attached notice for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for the Project.
June 30, 2023	Email	WSP emailed Seine River First Nation to provide an index to sections in the Draft EA Report that reference Seine River First Nation to assist in their review and preparation of comments. WSP also provided a secure download link to the First Nations Rights section of the Draft EA Report.
July 5, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Seine River First Nation to provide an attached notice of Cultural Heritage survey work between Thunder Bay and Atikokan.
July 17, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP communities to provide notice of WSP's cultural heritage field survey commencing the week of July 17, 2023 in Atikokan and Thunder Bay. Hydro One noted WSP's lead archaeologist had reached out via phone to discuss the upcoming archaeology and cultural heritage field surveys. Hydro One noted Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation had expressed interested in participating in the field program and WSP was following-up to inquire if any other community members wanted to participate.



Date	Method	Purpose
July 26, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Seine River First Nation to provide a summary of the record of consultation for their community from March 2022 to April 2023. Hydro One also included a copy of the Indigenous Community Record of Consultation and Supporting Documents included in the Draft EA Report.
August 31, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Seine River First Nation to provide a download link for the updated Project Footprint shapefile. Hydro One noted the shapefile contained updates to fly yards, helicopter pads, private land, the access plan and construction camps.

4.5.5.11 Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation

Waabigonii Zaaga'igan

Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation (Waabigonii Zaaga'igan) is located on the shores of Dinorwic Lake, approximately 40 kilometres east of Dryden, Ontario, and has an approximate population of 740 individuals (Statistics Canada, 2021). Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation is a GLP member community.

EA Engagement

Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation has been consulted throughout the EA process through meetings with staff, notices, document review opportunities, and Project updates, with selected engagement summarized in Table 4.5-12 below. Field survey notices and bi-weekly updates (as outlined in Section 4.5.4) and invitations to public open house sessions were also shared, but are not included in the summary table below. The Project team has met with Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation community staff and leadership directly, and through the GLP, to provide updates on the Project and receive feedback from the community.

For the reporting period, this includes approximately five formal meetings directly between the Project team and Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation representatives in addition to other communications, including phone calls, emails, and Project notices. Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation took an active role in the EA by appointing Indigenous field monitors for terrestrial, aquatic, and cultural heritage field surveys. Mapping of proposed survey locations was provided prior to and during field work, and field study schedules were shared with Indigenous communities and field monitors.

All field crew members completing work within the traditional territory of Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation completed the community's own cultural awareness training. Field study schedules were modified based on the availability of field monitors from Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation, which required field monitors to be present for the field work completed within its traditional territory.



Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation businesses were retained during field work to provide gasoline, food, and accommodation.

A virtual meeting regarding Project updates was held with Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation’s leadership on June 20, 2022, and a Community Open House was held on October 27, 2022 with 28 attendees. The Record of Consultation supporting this EA Report (**RoC – Appendix I** containing engagement records with Indigenous communities) includes a report prepared summarizing this event held including materials shared, and all comments and responses received. Key questions from the Community Open House pertained to the role of the GLP, training and employment, what approvals/licenses are required to construct the Project, and non-disclosure information for the community’s IK study for the EA.

Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation also hosted a GLP workshop on the preliminary preferred route evaluation process in October 2022.

GLP provided feedback on the Draft EA Report on behalf of all member communities, including Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation, in June 2023.

Indigenous Knowledge

An IK study for the Project is in progress by the community. The process for how this information will be considered when shared is described in Section 7.7 of this EA Report. Hydro One is committed to ongoing engagement regarding integration of this knowledge into the Project.

Table 4.5-12: Summary of Selected Engagement with Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation

Date	Method	Purpose
March 10, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide the Notice of Commencement of the EA and a brief overview on the EA process.
March 22, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed a Project Notice which included information on the field program to support the EA, links to download the field work plans, and job postings for Indigenous field team members.
May 13, 2022	Phone	WSP called Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to discuss work planned within the Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation Traditional Territory and to inquire about the Indigenous monitor(s) that would be joining the field crews.
May 17, 2022	Email	Maawandoon emailed Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation, copying Hydro One, to notify them that May 25 is unavailable for a community open house and asked them to provide alternative dates.



Date	Method	Purpose
May 19, 2022	Email	Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation called WSP to indicate that all surveys within the Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation Traditional Territory should be halted until insurance requirements are met with Hydro One.
May 26, 2022	Email	Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation emailed WSP stating that they had received verification of liability insurance and their monitor will be ready to join the study team when field work restarts.
June 2, 2022	Phone	Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation called WSP to discuss the field schedule, upcoming surveys, the Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation Traditional Territory for the purpose of the Project and the requirement for all staff to have Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation cultural awareness training before starting field surveys within the traditional territory.
June 3, 2022	Email	WSP emailed Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to provide an update that a detailed survey schedule was being developed and they intended to review it with Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation the week of June 6.
June 3, 2022	Email	WSP emailed Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to provide a summary of a phone call from the previous day. WSP committed to providing a detailed schedule and Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation would confirm their communities' requirements for having a monitor with each field crew within their traditional territory.
June 6, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One, WSP and Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation met to discuss next steps for environmental monitoring. Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation indicated no further field survey would be permitted without every crew member participating in cultural awareness training.
June 8, 2022	Meeting	Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation provided cultural awareness training to two members of the WSP field crew prior to conducting field work in their traditional territory.
June 8, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to continue discussion on environmental monitoring and scheduling for the Waasigan field work program.



Date	Method	Purpose
June 8, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation regarding challenges pertaining to scheduling and securing field survey monitors for surveys conducted within Wabigoon Lake traditional territory. Hydro One also inquired about meeting with Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation in person to have senior Project team members visit the First Nation and attend cultural awareness training and discuss any additional areas the community required assistance with.
June 10, 2022	Meeting	Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation provided cultural awareness training to nine members of the WSP and NorthWinds field crew prior to conducting field work in their traditional territory.
June 13, 2022	Phone	WSP phoned Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to discuss community-hired environmental monitors joining the field crews working within their traditional territory. Additional points of discussion include the community's protocol of tobacco offerings, updated territory boundary, and request for a field survey schedule and number of hours for the rest of the field season. WSP committed to providing the requested schedule information.
June 20, 2022	Meeting	Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation provided cultural awareness training to one Hydro One staff member and three members of the WSP field crew prior to conducting field work in their traditional territory.
June 20, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to discuss Project timelines, and the communities in-house environmental contracting services.
June 22, 2022	Phone	WSP called Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to discuss the availability of environmental monitors for the breeding bird surveys. The surveys were initially planned for June 21, 2022 but were delayed to June 22, 2022 so that Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation monitors could be available.
June 23, 2022	Meeting	Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation provided cultural awareness training to one member of the WSP field crew prior to conducting field work in their traditional territory.



Date	Method	Purpose
June 29, 2022	Phone	WSP spoke with Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to discuss upcoming breeding bird work and to coordinate monitors. Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation noted they are concerned with changes to the field schedule and sufficient notification so that monitors can be identified.
June 29, 2022	Email	Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation emailed Hydro One to provide notification that all 2022 field studies in the traditional territory of Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation would cease as of June 29, 2022 until their request for field scheduling and time estimates were met. Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation requested that Hydro One notify WSP and their subcontractors of this development.
June 29, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to thank them for sharing their concerns about fields studies. Hydro One indicated they would be following up with Project managers and teams to review Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation's concerns. Hydro One confirmed that the scheduled breeding bird field work had been cancelled and asked for a follow-up meeting.
June 29, 2022	Email	WSP emailed Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation a full tentative field schedule that included the approximate number of hours per day for each survey type.
July 7, 2022	Email	Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation emailed Hydro One to provide an update on continuing field activities in Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation traditional territory. Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation noted it was their position that studies in an area of cultural sensitivity does not resume until the appropriate ceremonies were carried out. Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation indicated they established buffer zone to allow the continuation of studies outside of the described area.
July 8, 2022	Meeting	Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation provided cultural awareness training to one member of the WSP field crew prior to conducting field work in their traditional territory.
July 12, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to discuss the Waasigan field schedule, availability of community monitors and scheduling for cultural awareness training.



Date	Method	Purpose
July 29, 2022	Meeting	Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation provided cultural sensitivity training to three members of the WSP field crew prior to conducting field work in their traditional territory.
August 8, 2022	Meeting	Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation provided cultural sensitivity training to two members of the WSP field crew prior to field work commencing in their traditional territory.
August 18, 2022	Email	WSP emailed Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to discuss observations related to IK by Indigenous monitors during field surveys. WSP looked to confirm if the information could be recorded and thanked them for providing an opportunity to learn.
August 31, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to offer additional tools to support the request for IK information and studies so input could be considered as part of the alternative route evaluation.
September 2, 2022	Email	Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation emailed WSP to highlight that an identified culturally important buffer zone would be recognized during the upcoming Cultural Heritage Assessment.
September 6, 2022	Email	WSP emailed Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to confirm that they would adhere to the buffer area provided during the upcoming Cultural Heritage Assessment.
September 26, 2022	Phone	WSP called Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation regarding a field survey delay, and to followed up on a bat detector which was deployed in a Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation culturally sensitive area deployed earlier in the season before the area was closed from further surveys. WSP and Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation discussed logistics for retrieving the detector including having an Indigenous monitor retrieve the device.
October 27, 2022	Meeting	Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation provided cultural sensitivity training to three staff members of Hydro One and WSP prior to a community open house being held later that day.
October 27, 2022	Community Open House	A Community Open House was held in Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation. Hydro One presented updates on the EA process and shared the preliminary preferred route.



Date	Method	Purpose
November 2, 2022	Meeting	The Waasigan Preliminary Preferred Route Mapping Workshop took place over two days (November 2 and 3, 2022) in Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation.
November 10, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed a link to draft archeological assessment, atmospheric and noise reports prepared for the Project.
December 13, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP First Nations to provide an information sheet about the Cultural Heritage Assessment and how their community can be involved in the process.
January 3, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to share the draft report from the open house session from fall 2022 for review and comment.
January 5, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One attended the CEC Network meeting to discuss 2023 activities, communications, and to listen to community needs moving forward.
January 6, 2023	Phone	Hydro One called Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to discuss the Capacity Funding Agreement, their proposal for Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation's Traditional Knowledge study and budget issues. Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation indicated their intent to conduct Indigenous Knowledge studies on all alternative route options.
January 18, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One and WSP attended a GLP Protection Committee meeting to share Project updates including the preliminary preferred route, status of the Draft EA Report, proposed limits of work approach, Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment and Cultural Heritage Assessment updates, contracting approach for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment, and community engagement.
March 30, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to note they had retained Woodland Heritage Northwest to support with Indigenous engagement on the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment. Hydro One provided an overview of Woodland Heritage Northwest and their role in the Project.
April 19, 2023	Meeting	The GLP communities, and their advisors, met for a Community Engagement Coordinator (CEC) meeting to discuss current activities and priorities regarding the Environmental Assessment and community engagement activities.



Date	Method	Purpose
April 25, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation a Project Notice to provide an update about upcoming archaeology work and next steps.
May 1, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed GLP communities to note the draft EA would be released May 17, 2023 and the review period would end July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided a link to the Project website where the EA would be made available and noted digital copies of documents would be mailed out on USB flash drives.
May 17, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to announce the release of the Draft EA Report for review and comment until July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided an overview of the Project and EA, a link to the Project website where the draft EA document could be accessed and noted USB drives were being mailed to them. Hydro One noted the First Nations Rights section would be released publicly after First Nations communities had an opportunity to review it. Hydro One provided Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation a direct download link to the First Nations Rights section.
June 8, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the GLP communities to provide a presentation on the Draft EA Report.
June 13, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP communities to note they had extended the Draft EA comment period for GLP partners to August 4, 2023.
June 20, 2023	Email	North Vista Advisors emailed the GLP communities to provide updates on archaeology work for the Project and monitoring.
June 27, 2023	Meeting	The GLP First Nations and their advisors met with Hydro One with discuss the archaeology program and construction monitoring. The session discussed potential models for community-based monitoring.
June 27, 2023	Email	North Vista Advisors emailed the GLP communities to provide a notice for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for the Project.
June 30, 2023	Email	WSP emailed Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to provide an index to sections in the Draft EA Report that reference Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to assist in their review and preparation of comments. WSP also provided a secure download link to the First Nations Rights section of the Draft EA Report.



Date	Method	Purpose
July 17, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP communities to provide notice of a cultural heritage field survey commencing the week of July 17, 2023 in Atikokan and Thunder Bay.
July 26, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to provide a summary of the record of consultation for their community from March 2022 to April 2023. Hydro One also included a copy of the Indigenous Community Record of Consultation and Supporting Documents included in the Draft EA Report.
August 31, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation to provide a download link for the updated Project Footprint shapefile. Hydro One noted the shapefile contained updates to fly yards, helicopter pads, private land, the access plan and construction camps.

4.5.5.12 Grand Council Treaty #3

Grand Council Treaty #3 includes twenty-eight communities of the Anishinaabe Nation of Treaty #3. Couchiching First Nation, Migisi Sahgaigan, Nigigoonsiminikaaning First Nation, Ojibway Nation of Saugeen, Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation, Lac La Croix First Nation, Lac Seul First Nation, Seine River First Nation, Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation, and Mitaanjigamiing First Nation are signatories of Treaty #3 (GCT #3 2023). The Project team has met with Grand Council Treaty #3 staff directly, in partnership with the GLP, and directly with the communities signatory to Treaty #3 being engaged as part of the Project. This summary is related to engagement directly with Grand Council Treaty #3 staff.

EA Engagement

Grand Council Treaty #3 has been consulted throughout the EA process through meetings with staff, notices, document review opportunities, and Project updates, with selected engagement summarized in Table 4.5-13 below. Field survey notices and bi-weekly updates (as outlined in Section 4.5.4) and invitations to public open house sessions were also shared, but are not included in the summary table below. Representatives for Grand Council Treaty #3 attended community open houses held with communities signatory to Treaty #3.

For the reporting period, this includes approximately five formal meetings directly between the Project team and Grand Council Treaty #3 representatives in addition to other communications, including phone calls, emails, and Project notices. Grand Council Treaty #3 provided comment on the terrestrial and aquatic field workplans, as well as the Draft EA Report.



Grand Council Treaty #3 representatives hosted an in-person learning day on Manito Aki Inakonigaawin (MAI) – the Great Law – on August 31, 2022 in Dryden, and included participants from the Hydro One Project team.

Table 4.5-13: Summary of Selected Engagement with Grand Council Treaty #3

Date	Method	Purpose
March 8, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide the Notice of Commencement of the EA and a brief overview on the EA process.
March 22, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed a Project Notice which included information on the field program to support the EA, links to download the field work plans, and job postings for Indigenous field team members.
March 25, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One and Grand Council Treaty #3 met to discuss their CFA.
April 19, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One met with Grand Council Treaty #3 to discuss EA activities, Project schedule, key milestones and field work plans.
April 21, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide information about the public open houses May 3-5, 2022.
April 29, 2022	Email	Grand Council Treaty #3 Territorial Planning Unit emailed Hydro One feedback on the field work plans.
May 27, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Grand Council Treaty #3 with their responses to comments received on the Terrestrial and Aquatics Field Work Plans.
June 30, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One had a meeting with the Grand Council Treaty #3 Territorial Planning Unit to discuss the EA workplan and budget.
August 31, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One participated in the MAI learning day session hosted by Grand Council Treaty #3.
September 29, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Grand Council Treaty #3 to provide a download link to the draft Stage 1 Archaeology Assessment report.
October 5, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Grand Council Treaty #3 to provide the record of consultation summary for the period of June 2021 to June 2022 for Grand Council Treaty #3's review.



Date	Method	Purpose
November 10, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Grand Council Treaty #3 a link to draft archeological assessment, atmospheric and noise reports.
November 25, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Grand Council Treaty #3 a notice regarding the preliminary preferred route.
December 13, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed the GLP First Nations to provide an info sheet about the Cultural Heritage Assessment and how their community can be involved in the process.
January 3, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed to announce the selection of the preliminary preferred route and included an invitation to join the upcoming community houses between January 16, 2023 and January 18, 2023.
April 24, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Grand Council Treaty #3 a Project Notice to provide an update about upcoming archaeology work and next steps.
March 31, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Grand Council Treaty #3 to note they had retained Woodland Heritage Northwest to support with Indigenous engagement on the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment. Hydro One provided an overview of Woodland Heritage Northwest and their role in the Project.
May 5, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with Grand Council Treaty #3 to provide an update on the Project, including the upcoming release of the Draft EA Report.
May 1, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Grand Council Treaty #3 to note the draft EA would be released May 17, 2023 and the review period would end July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided a link to the Project website where the EA would be made available and noted digital copies of documents would be mailed out on USB flash drives.
June 12, 2023	Email	WSP emailed Grand Council Treaty #3 to acknowledge they had sent the USB copies of the Draft EA report and provided additional details about the download link to access the First Nation Right, Interests, Land and Resource Use section.



Date	Method	Purpose
June 12, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Grand Council Treaty #3 to announce the release of the Draft EA Report for review and comment until July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided an overview of the Project and EA, a link to the Project website where the draft EA document could be accessed and noted USB drives were being mailed to them. Hydro One noted the First Nations Rights section would be released publicly after First Nations communities had an opportunity to review it. Hydro One provided Grand Council Treaty #3 a direct download link to the First Nations Rights section.
June 25, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Grand Council Treaty #3 to provide a notice for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for the Project.
July 6, 2023	Email	Grand Council Treaty #3 emailed Hydro One to submit their comments on the Draft EA Report.
July 18, 2023	Email	WSP emailed Grand Council Treaty #3 to provide a notice that they would be undertaking Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for the Project between the Municipality of Shuniah and the Town of Atikokan. WSP noted the field program would run from July 24, 2023 and November 2023 and they were looking to hire additional archaeological field technicians and community monitors. WSP inquired if there were any First Nation laws, protocols, or requirements that they should be aware of when completing the work.
July 20, 2023	Event	Hydro One attended Grand Council Treaty #3's 150th powwow in Fort Frances. Hydro One had a booth set up where they spoke with attendees about the Project.



Date	Method	Purpose
July 26, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Grand Council Treaty #3 to provide a summary of the record of consultation for their community from March 2022 to April 2023. Hydro One also included a copy of the Indigenous Community Record of Consultation and Supporting Documents included in the Draft EA Report.
August 10, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with Grand Council Treaty #3 in Dryden to discuss the Project.
August 31, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Grand Council Treaty #3 to provide a download link for the updated Project Footprint shapefile. Hydro One noted the shapefile contained updates to fly yards, helicopter pads, private land, the access plan and construction camps.

4.5.6 Métis Communities

4.5.6.1 Métis Nation of Ontario – NWOMC and Region 2

Engagement activities with Métis citizens from each Council were held together based on the location of each Council within the MNO Regions. Northwestern Ontario Métis Community (MNO Region 1) engagement included leadership and participating citizens from MNO Sunset Country Métis Council, MNO Kenora Métis Council, MNO Atikokan Métis Council, and MNO Northwest Métis Council.

MNO Region 2 engagement included leadership and participating citizens from MNO Thunder Bay Métis Council, MNO Greenstone Métis Council, and MNO Superior North Shore Métis Council.

EA Engagement

The Northwestern Ontario Métis Community and MNO Region 2 have been consulted throughout the EA process through community engagement events, meetings with staff, notices, document review opportunities, and Project updates, with selected engagement summarized in Table 4.5-14 below. Field survey notices and bi-weekly updates (as outlined in Section 4.5.4) and invitations to public open house sessions were also shared, but are not included in the summary table below. The Project team has met with MNO Lands, Resources and Consultation staff, leadership and citizens to provide updates on the Project and receive feedback from the community.

For the reporting period, this includes approximately 15 formal meetings related to the EA directly between the Project team and MNO representatives in addition to other



communications, including phone calls, emails, and Project notices. MNO shared comments in response to documents provided for review, including field work plans and the Stage 1 archaeological assessment. MNO shared their comments on the Draft EA Report on August 3, 2023.

Hydro One and MNO Lands, Resources and Consultation staff facilitated community open houses for MNO citizens in September 2022, January 2023, and August 2023 in Dryden and Thunder Bay for both events (see Section 4.5.4.4). Comments shared during the open house meetings pertained to: potential camp locations, transformer station upgrades, process to holding the contractor accountable on commitments, factors considered in determining the preliminary preferred route, concerns about protected areas (specifically crossing the Turtle River-White Otter Provincial Park), concerns about use of herbicides for vegetation management, construction schedule, Indigenous consultation, mining claimholder consultation, caribou, plant harvesting, Project design, and equity participation. Common themes of comments received are summarized in Section 4.5.7, and the Record of Consultation supporting this EA Report includes open house reports for each event with materials shared, and comments received. MNO also shared formal letters with Hydro One on April 22, 2022 regarding Project equity participation, on February 27, 2023 with concerns regarding the preliminary preferred route, on April 24, 2023 regarding the IK Report, and on June 29, 2023 regarding the Project route selection and EA process. Hydro One continues to work closely with MNO to understand and advance discussion around Project concerns.

Indigenous Knowledge

MNO completed IK studies for the Project with reporting prepared by a third-party consultant, MNP. A baseline data collection survey to inform the IK study was completed by MNP for MNO and a summary provided to Hydro One in 2021 (MNP 2021). The results of this survey, as well as available generalized mapped areas of sensitive land uses shared by MNO in 2019 (including features between Kashabowie and Dryden), were incorporated into the Project assessment process.

An IK study prepared by MNP for MNO titled “Northwestern Ontario Métis Community and Northern Lake Superior Métis Community (Region 2) Traditional Knowledge and Land Use Study for the Waasigan Transmission Line Project” (April 2023) was shared with Hydro One on April 24, 2023. Its findings are introduced in Section 7.8 of this EA Report, respecting the confidentiality limitations. Hydro One is committed to ongoing engagement with MNO regarding integration of this knowledge into the Project.

Table 4.5-14: Summary of Selected Engagement with Métis Nation of Ontario – NWOMC and Region 2

Date	Method	Purpose
March 8, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide the Notice of Commencement of the EA and a brief overview on the EA process.



Date	Method	Purpose
March 22, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed a Project Notice which included information on the field program to support the EA, links to download the field work plans, and job postings for Indigenous field team members.
April 1, 2022	Phone	Hydro One called NWOMC and Region 2 regarding a new contact at the MNO Land, Resources and Consultation branch. Hydro One noted they were eager to engage with NWOMC and Region 2 on both EA and engagement planning aspects of the Project.
April 8, 2022	Email	NWOMC and Region 2 emailed Hydro One a letter directed to Hydro One's President and CEO requesting a meeting to discuss the contents of the NWOMC and Region 2's letter to the Minister of Energy.
April 22, 2022	Email	NWOMC and Region 2 emailed Hydro One, copying the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks a letter from the Regional Councillor for the Northwestern Ontario Métis Community and the Chair of the Treaty #3/Lake of the Woods/Lac Seul/Rainy Lake and Rainy River Consultation Committee.
April 27, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed the NWOMC and Region 2 to follow-up on a previous email regarding their availability for a meeting.
May 3, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed NWOMC and Region 2 to provide notification that Hydro One would be signing a term sheet for the Project with eight communities who form the GLP. Hydro One indicated that they look forward to continuing discussions with NWOMC and Region 2 on economic participation opportunities.
June 22, 2022	Email	NWOMC and Region 2 emailed Hydro One, providing the MNO Regional Councillors' comments on the Aquatic and Terrestrial Field Work Plans.



Date	Method	Purpose
July 6, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One and NWOMC and Region 2 met to discuss project engagement and invoicing. NWOMC and Region 2 noted that they would follow-up with Hydro One about coordination for an open house event.
July 19, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide a summary of the key Waasigan EA milestones and noted that the evaluation and selection of the preferred alternative route was scheduled for Fall 2022.
July 21, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed NWOMC and Region 2 responses to their comments on the EA field work plans for the Project.
August 3, 2022	Email	NWOMC and Region 2 contacted Hydro One regarding capacity support and requested baseline data layers to support their analysis of route alternatives.
August 5, 2022	Email	Hydro One followed up on NWOMC and Region 2's data request and inquired if NWOMC and Region 2 would be available to meet so that they could provide an update on the EA and field studies.
August 8, 2022	Phone	Hydro One called NWOMC and Region 2 to discuss the proposed updated EA budget. NWOMC and Region 2 noted they would be able to meet to provide field work updates.
August 10, 2022	Email	MNP LLP consultants emailed Hydro One on behalf of NWOMC and Region 2 to introduce themselves and requested Project data.
August 12, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed MNP LLP and NWOMC and Region 2 to note that they were still in the process of developing their datasets to support the selection of a preferred route. Hydro One suggested various meeting times to discuss incorporating NWOMC and Region 2 perspective into the route evaluation process.



Date	Method	Purpose
August 24, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One and WSP met with NWOMC and Region 2 to discuss the alternative route evaluation process for the Project and how to incorporate the NWOMC and Region 2 perspective into the modelling process.
August 26, 2022	Email	MNP LLP emailed WSP to note that NWOMC and Region 2 had confirmed that the amount of Crown land available should be added as an indicator for Indigenous interests. MNP LLP noted that they would also be working to provide “No-Go Zone” shapefiles collected in preliminary routing discussions.
August 26, 2022	Email	WSP emailed MNP LLP to thank them for the update and noted that they would include the amount of Crown land available as an indicator for Indigenous interests in the alternative route evaluation for the selection of a preferred route.
September 1, 2022	Email	WSP emailed MNP LLP to provide the draft criteria and indicator workbook and confirmed the area of Crown land crossed had been included as another indicator. WSP also provided an update on sharing datasets for the Project.
September 9, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One had a meeting with MNO’s Regional Consultation Committee to provide a Project update presentation and answer questions.
September 13, 2022	Email	NWOMC and Region 2 emailed Hydro One to provide the September 14, 2022 Community Open House Agenda. NWOMC and Region 2 asked Hydro One to confirm the presentation used for the September 9, 2022 Region Consultation Committee Meeting would be presented at the Community Open House.



Date	Method	Purpose
September 14, 2022	Community Open House	An in-person Community Open House was held in Dryden with citizens of the NWOMC, with an option for citizens to join virtually. A Project update presentation, including an overview of the alternative routes and evaluation process was provided by Hydro One, was provided by Hydro One followed by an opportunity to ask questions to members of the Project team. Information panels were on display, as well as table maps and handouts.
September 19, 2022	Letter	Hydro One emailed to provide a letter regarding the selection of the contractor for the Project.
September 20, 2022	Email	Atikokan Métis Council emailed Hydro One regarding the contractor selection and concerns related to employment and economic opportunities.
September 20, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Atikokan Métis Council and thanked them for sharing their concerns and suggested a meeting to discuss their comments and next steps.
September 23, 2022	Email	NWOMC and Region 2 emailed Hydro One and provided the signed CFA Amendment.
September 28, 2022	Community Open House	An in-person Community Open House was held in Dryden with MNO citizens of Region 2. A Project update presentation, including an overview of the alternative routes and evaluation process, was provided by Hydro One followed by an opportunity to ask questions to members of the Project team. Information panels were on display, as well as table maps and handouts.
September 28, 2022	Email	NWOMC and Region 2 emailed Hydro One to provide comments from an MNO Region 2 citizen who was unable to attend the community open house. Comments provided by the citizen included concerns about fire safety, property values and blasting associated with Project works.
September 29, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed NWOMC and Region 2 to provide a download link to the draft Stage 1 Archaeology Assessment report.



Date	Method	Purpose
October 5, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed NWOMC and Region 2 to provide the record of consultation summary for the period of June 2021 to June 2022 for NWOMC and Region 2's review.
November 10, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed NWOMC and Region 2 a link to draft archeological assessment, atmospheric and noise reports.
November 25, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed a notice regarding the preliminary preferred route.
November 28, 2022	Email	NWOMC and Region 2 emailed Hydro One to thank them for sharing information about the preliminary preferred route and to request GIS shapefiles for the route.
December 7, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed NWOMC and Region 2 a zip file containing the preliminary preferred route right-of-way shapefiles.
December 13, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed NWOMC and Region 2 to provide an information sheet about the Cultural Heritage Assessment and how their community can be involved in the process.
December 22, 2022	Email	NWOMC and Region 2 emailed Hydro One their comments on the draft stage 1 archeological assessment report.
January 3, 2022	Email	Hydro One shared files of the preliminary preferred route included in the Notice of Preliminary Preferred Route and Invitation to Community Open Houses.
January 6, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed NWOMC and Region 2 to provide a copy of the open house summary reports from September 2022.
January 11, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with NWOMC and Region 2 to provide a Project update, address MNO comments and discuss EA engagement next steps.
January 25, 2023	Community Open House	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Dryden for NWOMC citizens to provide a Project update, results of the alternative route evaluation and identification of the preliminary preferred route, and to engage with the community about the Project and collect feedback.



Date	Method	Purpose
January 27, 2023	Community Open House	Hydro One hosted an in-person community open house in Thunder Bay for MNO citizens of Region 2 to provide a Project update, results of the alternative route evaluation and identification of the preliminary preferred route, and to engage with the community about the Project and collect feedback.
February 27, 2023	Letter	NWOMC and Region 2 sent a letter to Hydro One regarding the preliminary preferred route.
March 17, 2023	Email	NWOMC and Region 2 emailed Hydro One to provide a letter outlining their concerns with an online news article published on January 17, 2023 in the NWO News Watch regarding the Project.
March 29, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed NWOMC and Region 2 to note they had retained Woodland Heritage Northwest to support with Indigenous engagement on the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment. Hydro One provided an overview of Woodland Heritage Northwest's role in the Project.
April 1, 2023	Email	NWOMC and Region 2 emailed Woodland Heritage Northwest to thank them for confirming the name of their Métis owners. NWOMC and Region 2 noted they were hoping to develop a Métis business directly in the future.
April 3, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed NWOMC and Region 2 to provide attachments responding to NWOMC and Region 2's comments about the preliminary preferred route and the Stage 1 Archaeological Assessment report.



Date	Method	Purpose
April 5, 2023	Email	Hydro One and NWOMC and Region 2 met to discuss engagement next steps, invoicing, and scheduling of meetings for EA engagement and IEP. The parties also discussed that the NWOMC and Region 2 Traditional Knowledge/Land Use Study (TKLUS) was supposed to be sent to Hydro One by early April but would take longer and the Hydro One Draft EA release date is being delayed. The parties agreed to keep each other informed of both items.
April 5, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed NWOMC and Region 2 to provide a letter responding to NWOMC and Region 2's March 15, 2023 letter outlining their concerns about an online news article published on January 17, 2023 in the NWO News Watch regarding the Project.
April 17, 2023	Meeting	Meeting between Hydro One and NWOMC and Region 2, with their consultants and legal council to discuss how input on the preliminary preferred route and forthcoming NWOMC and Region 2 IK study report may be considered in EA.
April 21, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed NWOMC and Region 2 to provide an update on the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for the Project and a training program that was available to them, as well as opportunities for participation in the archaeological work.
April 25, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed NWOMC and Region 2 a Project Notice to provide an update about upcoming archaeology work and next steps.
May 1, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed NWOMC and Region 2 to note the draft EA would be released May 17, 2023 and the review period would end July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided a link to the Project website where the EA would be made available and noted digital copies of documents would be mailed out on USB flash drives.



Date	Method	Purpose
May 8, 2023	Meeting	NWOMC and Region 2 and Hydro One met to discuss Hydro One's plan to incorporate the TKLUS in the Draft EA. It was discussed that Hydro One will not include TKLUS information the public release of the Draft EA and will send the relevant EA section regarding IK to Indigenous communities for review and collaboration before releasing it in the final EA.
May 19, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed NWOMC and Region 2 to announce the release of the Draft EA Report for review and comment until July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided an overview of the Project and EA, a link to the Project website where the draft EA document could be accessed and noted USB drives were being mailed to them. Hydro One noted the Métis Rights section would be released publicly after Métis communities had an opportunity to review it. Hydro One provided NWOMC and Region 2 a direct download link to the Métis Rights section.
June 1, 2023	Email	Hydro One sent an email notifying of upcoming community open houses to be held in Dryden, Atikokan, Kaministiquia, and Thunder Bay. It also included a reminder that the draft EA report was available until July 7, 2023 for review and comment and attached a notice with further details.
June 7, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with the NWOMC and Region 2 to review the results of the Draft EA Report, request feedback from the MNO and to discuss next steps with engagement.
June 12, 2023	Event	Hydro One held a four-day archaeology technician training session at Lakehead University from May 15 to 18, 2023 for Indigenous community members interested in employment opportunities on the Project during the upcoming Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment. Upon completion of the course, participants received certificates from the Ontario Archaeological Society.



Date	Method	Purpose
June 13, 2023	Email	Hydro One sent an email to share an update that due to scheduling, there had been a date change for the open house planned in Thunder Bay from June 21 to June 22.
June 25, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed NWOMC and Region 2 to provide a notice for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for the Project.
June 26, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with NWOMC and Region 2 to discuss their IK study.
June 28, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One participated in Métis archaeology training.
June 29, 2023	Email	NWOMC and Region 2 emailed Hydro One to provide a letter from their Regional Leadership regarding the Project route selection and EA process.
July 6, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed NWOMC and Region 2 to note that the Draft EA comment period had been extended until August 4, 2023.
July 18, 2023	Email	WSP emailed NWOMC and Region 2 to note they would be undertaking Stage 2 Archeological Assessment between Shuniah and the Town of Atikokan. WSP noted the field program would run from July 24, 2023 to November 2023 and provide a notice for Archeological Field Technician and community-hired monitor positions that they were hiring for. WSP inquired if there were any protocols or requirements that NWOMC and Region 2 believed WSP should be aware of to complete the field work.
July 26, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed NWOMC and Region 2 to provide a summary of the record of consultation for their community from March 2022 to April 2023. Hydro One also included a copy of the Indigenous Community Record of Consultation and Supporting Documents included in the Draft EA Report.



Date	Method	Purpose
August 2, 2023	Email	NWOMC and Region 2 emailed Woodland Heritage to note they were interested in site visits and requested dates and locations of Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment field work in Thunder Bay and Atikokan.
August 2, 2023	Email	WSP emailed NWOMC and Region 2 to provide a response to a letter NWOMC and Region 2 provided on June 29, 2023.
August 3, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One, WSP and Woodland Heritage met with NWOMC and Region 2 to discuss Stage 2 Archaeology site visits.
August 3, 2023	Email	NWOMC and Region 2 emailed Hydro One to provide a letter summarizing their key issues with the Draft EA Report and a detailed comments review table.
August 9, 2023	Community Open House	A Community Open House was held with Region 2 in Thunder Bay to provide an overview and update of the Project, including the Draft EA findings.
August 10, 2023	Community Open House	A Community Open House was held with the NWOMC in Dryden to provide an overview and update of the Project, including the Draft EA findings.
August 23, 2023	Site Visit	Citizens and representatives of the NWOMC and Region 2 and Hydro One participated in a site visit to review the ongoing Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment work happening in the Thunder Bay area.
August 29, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One conducted a meeting with NWOMC and Region 2 to discuss updates and questions on responses to comments on the Draft EA provided by the NWOMC and Region 2.
August 31, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed NWOMC and Region 2 to provide a download link for the updated Project Footprint shapefile. Hydro One noted the shapefile contained updates to fly yards, helicopter pads, private land, the access plan and construction camps.



4.5.6.2 Red Sky Métis Independent Nation

Red Sky Métis Independent Nation is a governing body for the Métis of the Robinson-Superior Treaty of 1850 region and consists of approximately 8,000 members residing in communities located throughout the Robinson-Superior Treaty lands and elsewhere in the world.

EA Engagement

Red Sky Métis Independent Nation was consulted throughout the EA process through meetings with staff, notices, document review opportunities, and Project updates, with selected key engagement activities summarized in Table 4.5-15 below. Field survey notices and bi-weekly updates (as outlined in Section 4.5.4) and invitations to public open house sessions were also shared, but are not included in the summary table below. Red Sky Métis Independent Nation representatives noted through engagement a preference by community members to attend the public community open houses and/or virtual open house sessions; therefore, community-specific engagement events were not held with Red Sky Métis Independent Nation.

For the reporting period, engagement included three formal meetings directly between the Project team and Red Sky Métis Independent Nation representatives and other communications, including phone calls, emails, and Project notices. Red Sky Métis Independent Nation provided feedback on the Project field work plans and had staff member participate in field studies.

Indigenous Knowledge

Red Sky Métis Independent Nation shared available generalized mapped areas of land use with Hydro One in 2021, including features between Thunder Bay and Kashabowie (Red Sky Métis Independent Nation, 2021). As well, a letter was shared with Hydro One from Red Sky Métis Independent Nation in February 2023 which included comments on the preliminary preferred route relative to the community's traditional use areas (Red Sky Métis Independent Nation 2023). These findings are considered in Section 7.8 of this EA Report, respecting applicable confidentiality limitations.

Table 4.5-15: Summary of Selected Engagement with Red Sky Métis Independent Nation

Date	Method	Purpose
March 8, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide the Notice of Commencement of the EA and a brief overview on the EA process.
March 22, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed a Project Notice which included information on the field program to support the EA, links to download the field work plans, and job postings for Indigenous field team members.
April 1, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Red Sky Métis Independent Nation to inquire how they can assist with IK collection and sharing.



Date	Method	Purpose
April 4, 2022	Email	Red Sky Métis Independent Nation emailed WSP to confirm a meeting time and date to discuss the draft Aquatics and Terrestrial Field Work Plans.
May 20, 2022	Phone	WSP provided an overview of the planned field programs for a Red Sky Métis Independent Nation staff member interested in joining field crews for surveys within the Thunder Bay area.
June 6, 2022	Phone	Hydro One called Red Sky Métis Independent Nation to discuss requirements for a staff member to participate in field surveys.
July 19, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide a summary of the key EA milestones and noted that the evaluation and selection of the preferred alternative route was scheduled for Fall 2022.
August 31, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to offer additional tools to support the request for IK information and studies so input could be considered as part of the alternative route evaluation.
September 19, 2022	Letter	Hydro One emailed to provide a letter regarding the selection of the contractor for the Project.
September 19, 2022	Meeting	Hydro One accompanied a staff member of Red Sky Métis Independent Nation to observe field work being completed by the WSP field crew for Ecological Land Classification surveys in the Thunder Bay area.
September 29, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed to provide a download link to the draft Stage 1 Archaeology Assessment report.
October 5, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Red Sky Métis Independent Nation to provide the record of consultation summary for the period of June 2021 to June 2022 for Red Sky Métis Independent Nation's review.
November 10, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Red Sky Métis Independent Nation a link to draft archeological assessment, atmospheric and noise reports.
November 25, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Red Sky Métis Independent Nation a notice regarding the preliminary preferred route.



Date	Method	Purpose
December 13, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Red Sky Métis Independent Nation to provide an information sheet about the Cultural Heritage Assessment and how their community can be involved in the process.
December 15, 2022	Email	Hydro One emailed Red Sky Métis Independent Nation the link to the draft Stage 1 Archeological Assessment Report, the Atmospheric Work Plan and the Noise Work Plan.
January 3, 2022	Email	Hydro One shared files of the preliminary preferred route included in the Notice of Preliminary Preferred Route and Invitation to Community Open Houses.
January 20, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with Red Sky Métis Independent Nation to discuss the preliminary preferred route and additional EA questions that Red Sky Métis Independent Nation had.
January 27, 2023	Meeting	Hydro One met with Red Sky Métis Independent Nation to discuss the preliminary preferred route and additional EA concerns.
January 31, 2023	Email	WSP emailed Red Sky Métis Independent Nation to provide the preliminary preferred route presentation and shapefiles of the route.
February 7, 2023	Email	WSP emailed Red Sky Métis Independent Nation shapefiles of the preliminary preferred route and associated infrastructure.
February 15, 2023	Letter	Red Sky Métis Independent Nation sent a letter to Hydro One regarding the preliminary preferred route.
April 25, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Red Sky Métis Independent Nation a Project Notice to provide an update about upcoming archaeology work and next steps.
May 1, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Red Sky Métis Independent Nation to note the draft EA would be released May 17, 2023 and the review period would end July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided a link to the Project website where the EA would be made available and noted digital copies of documents would be mailed out on USB flash drives.



Date	Method	Purpose
May 19, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Red Sky Métis Independent Nation to announce the release of the Draft EA Report for review and comment until July 7, 2023. Hydro One provided an overview of the Project and EA, a link to the Project website where the draft EA document could be accessed and noted USB drives were being mailed to them. Hydro One noted the Métis Rights section would be released publicly after Métis communities had an opportunity to review it. Hydro One provided Red Sky Métis Independent Nation a direct download link to the Métis Rights section.
June 12, 2023	Event	Hydro One held a four-day training session at Lakehead University from May 15 to 18, 2023 for Indigenous community members interested in employment opportunities on the project during the upcoming Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment. Upon completion of the course, participants received certificates from the Ontario Archaeological Society.
June 25, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Red Sky Métis Independent Nation to provide a notice for the Stage 2 Archaeological Assessment for the Project.
July 26, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Red Sky Métis Independent Nation to provide a summary of the record of consultation for their community from March 2022 to April 2023. Hydro One also included a copy of the Indigenous Community Record of Consultation and Supporting Documents included in the Draft EA Report.
August 31, 2023	Email	Hydro One emailed Red Sky Métis Independent Nation to provide a download link for the updated Project Footprint shapefile. Hydro One noted the shapefile contained updates to fly yards, helicopter pads, private land, the access plan and construction camps.



4.5.7 Input from Indigenous Community Participants

Table 4.5-16 summarizes comments from Indigenous community participants, grouped by common themes, that were received through the following engagement activities:

- Community Open House discussions and completed comment forms;
- Routing survey submissions;
- Meetings;
- Formal correspondence received via phone and email, including input on field planning and work plans or IK studies; and
- Comments received during the review period for the Draft EA.

Where comments are attributed to the Gwayakocchigewin Limited Partnership (GLP), this represents feedback shared through the GLP, their Protection Committee, and their consultants in meetings or through written documentation. This input is understood to represent concerns raised by member communities within the GLP. Where input is identified from GLP and also from a member community, additional feedback shared directly by a member community to Hydro One through meetings, open houses or written documentation was shared in addition to contributions through GLP.

The separate Record of Consultation prepared supporting this Final EA Report (**RoC – Appendix I** containing engagement records with Indigenous communities) provides detailed records of EA engagement activities, copies of materials shared and copies of formal correspondences, where applicable. Discipline-specific input shared through engagement is also included in the respective EA sections, including how the input has been considered in the EA.

Themes within comments on the Draft EA received through engagement with Indigenous communities, and through comments received from Indigenous communities, include:

- Concerns related to **herbicide use** when building and maintaining the line;
- Commitments related to **monitoring, restoration and communication** during construction;
- Interest in reviewing the construction **Environmental Protection Plan** and associated monitoring plans; and
- Importance for the integration of **Indigenous Knowledge** in the Final EA.



Table 4.5-16: Key Issues or Concerns from Indigenous Community Participants

Issue	Communication Source	Community/Organization	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Need for integration of IK throughout the assessment.	Input on Field Programs Open House input IK studies	GLP Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation NWOMC and Region 2 Mitaanjigaming First Nation	Section 5.0 EA Method, Section 7.7 First Nations Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources and Section 7.8 Métis Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources
Input about the criteria and request for details about outcomes for alternative route evaluation.	Alternative route analysis survey Open House input Workshops	GLP NWOMC and Region 2	Section 2.0 Purpose and Alternatives
Concerns related to reliability of the line where twinned with the existing line.	Open House input	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 3.0 Project Description
Input that rocks are the foundation of life and a valued component of the environment.	Open House input	Migisi Sahgaigan	Section 6.1 Physiography, Geology, Surficial Geology and Soils
Request for additional information on erosion and sediment control/mitigation measures.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.1 Physiography, Geology, Surficial Geology and Soils
Concerns regarding potential impacts to soil quality from construction, including dust.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.1 Physiography, Geology, Surficial Geology and Soils
Request for additional information on “natural recovery” reclamation measures and monitoring.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2 GLP	Section 6.1 Physiography, Geology, Surficial Geology and Soils Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands

Issue	Communication Source	Community/Organization	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Request for additional information on soil contamination from blasting to be included in Communication Blasting Plan.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.1 Physiography, Geology, Surficial Geology and Soils
Concerns regarding potential impacts to erosion sedimentation processes from weather events.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.1 Physiography, Geology, Surficial Geology and Soils
Request to minimize sediment mobilization.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.1 Physiography, Geology, Surficial Geology and Soils
Concerns regarding potential impacts to surface water quality from erosion.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.1 Physiography, Geology, Surficial Geology and Soils
Input that water is very important and must be protected.	Open House input Input on Field Programs Meetings	GLP Migisi Sahgaigan Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation NWOMC and Region 2 Mitaanjigaming First Nation Grand Council Treaty #3	Section 6.2 Surface Water Section 6.3 Groundwater
Concerns regarding potential impact of dust on surface water quality.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 6.2 Surface Water
Concerns regarding potential impacts of dust suppressants on surface water quality.	Comments on Draft EA	Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation	Section 6.2 Surface Water
Request to summarize the water quality data for each watershed.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.2 Surface Water
Request to use sediment bags when releasing water to limit turbidity and excess sediments in surface water.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.2 Surface Water



Issue	Communication Source	Community/Organization	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Request to limit any activities during weather events and sensitive timing windows for fish that may increase turbidity in watercourses.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.2 Surface Water Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Concerns regarding cumulative effects on surface water quality.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.2 Surface Water
Request to use fish screens when taking water to prevent unintentional fish mortalities.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.2 Surface Water Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Requests for notification and potential involvement in the development and execution of water taking and discharge plans.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 6.2 Surface Water Section 6.3 Groundwater
Concerns regarding potential impacts of mechanical and chemical vegetation maintenance activities on surface water quality.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 6.2 Surface Water
Concerns regarding potential effects of concrete wash water on water quality.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 6.2 Surface Water
Concerns regarding potential impacts from contaminated soil on groundwater and surface water.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.2 Surface Water Section 6.3 Groundwater
Concerns regarding potential impacts to water quality from removal of riparian vegetation.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.2 Surface Water Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat



Issue	Communication Source	Community/Organization	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Concerns regarding potential impacts to downstream water quality including salt runoff from dust suppression applications, placement or replacement of culverts / gravel pits.	Comments on Draft EA	Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation	Section 6.2 Surface Water Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Concerns regarding potential impacts of water pH levels.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP NWOMC and Region 2	Section 6.2 Surface Water Section 6.3 Groundwater Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Questions regarding clarification on calculations and methodology related to surface water quality, water crossing, riparian area, and unmapped stream.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 6.2 Surface Water Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Request to include additional information on mitigation measures for working in water.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.2 Surface Water Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Question if whether spring fed lakes and groundwater were included in the assessment.	Open House input	Mitaanjigamiing First Nation	Section 6.3 Groundwater
Question on quality assurance (QA) procedures for data collection.	Input on Field Programs	Red Sky Métis Independent Nation	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands
Importance of protecting culturally significant vegetation, including wild rice, medicines, berries, and mosses.	Input on Field Programs Comments on Draft EA	GLP Migisi Sahgaigan Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation NWOMC and Region 2 Mitaanjigaming First Nation Grand Council Treaty #3	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands



Issue	Communication Source	Community/Organization	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Input about the importance of including traditional use plants or species at risk, and the plans for conservation/mitigation.	Input on Field Programs Comments on Draft EA	Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation NWOMC and Region 2 GLP	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands
Recognition of potential impacts of vehicle use during operations for generation of dust and potential for spread of invasive plant species.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands
Request to include additional information and/or engagement on vegetation and wetlands mitigation measures.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2 GLP Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands Section 10.0 Monitoring and Commitments
Request to include additional information on vegetation and wetland management (plans / activities / monitoring).	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2 GLP Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands
Request to include additional information on mitigations to protect vegetation and wetland during decommissioning, reclamation and rehabilitation of temporary infrastructure.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2 GLP Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands
Request to include additional information on clearing activities and road construction associated with vegetation and wetlands.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2 GLP Grand Council Treaty #3	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands
Clarification of geographic scale for assumptions made calculation of areas of potential for traditional use plants.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands



Issue	Communication Source	Community/Organization	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Request to include additional information on non-native and invasive plant species management.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2 GLP	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands
Request to include information on Ontario wetland legislative requirements, permitting, and Provincially Significant Wetlands.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands
Concerns regarding potential impacts of erosion on plants.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands
Input about the importance of protecting Species at Risk (SAR) beyond the requirements set out in Ontario's <i>Endangered Species Act, 2007</i> (ESA) and the federal <i>Species at Risk Act</i> (SARA).	Input on Field Programs	Grand Council Treaty #3	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Input about the importance of wetlands as critical habitat for many of the species of concern, especially SAR.	Input on Field Programs	Grand Council Treaty #3	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Concern regarding the use of herbicides and pesticides along the transmission line.	Open House input Input on Field Programs Meetings Comments on Draft EA IK studies	GLP Grand Council Treaty #3 Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation Mitaanjigamiing First Nation NWOMC and Region 2	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Section 6.6 Fisheries and Fish Habitat
Question about sharing field data for that could be of particular interest to Indigenous communities.	Input on Field Programs	Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Section 6.6 Fisheries and Fish Habitat



Issue	Communication Source	Community/Organization	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Input about the importance of, traditional knowledge and local knowledge, including the observations of local hunters, fishers, and the Indigenous population, in the northwest where available information on species at risk may be limiting.	Input on Field Programs Comments on Draft EA	Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation NWOMC and Region 2 GLP	Section 6.4 Vegetation and Wetlands Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Section 6.6 Fisheries and Fish Habitat
Concern around the date of the desktop data for moose and other species of concern to Indigenous communities and plans for post-Project monitoring.	Open House input Input on Field Programs	GLP Grand Council Treaty #3 Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Question about the guidance being used to define the significant wildlife habitats considered.	Input on Field Programs	Mitaanjigamiing First Nation	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Input that mammals are important to Indigenous communities.	Input on Field Programs	GLP Grand Council Treaty #3 Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation Mitaanjigamiing First Nation NWOMC and Region 2	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Question around whether the EA will consider effects to SAR (i.e., birds, bats, pollinators) and caribou.	Input on Field Programs	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Concerns about the disruption of critical habitats and the disruption/creation of habitat corridors for wildlife.	Input on Field Programs	Grand Council Treaty #3	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat



Issue	Communication Source	Community/Organization	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Input on the field plan regarding the role for traditional ecological knowledge and noting caribou sightings in the region.	Input on Field Programs	Mitaanjigamiing First Nation	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Input that turtles include SAR and are of cultural significance for Indigenous communities. Concern regarding not including turtles as a valued component (i.e., a criteria) and the amount of field data planned to be collected for turtles and other reptiles.	Input on Field Programs	GLP Grand Council Treaty #3 Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Concerns regarding the potential impacts of air quality on wildlife and wildlife habitat.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Concerns regarding the potential impacts of fly rock from blasting on Species at Risk and wildlife.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Request to include additional information on calculations and methodology (linear density, etc.).	Comments on Draft EA	GLP NWOMC and Region 2	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Request to clarify assessment relative to insects.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Request to revise or provide information on Moose/Gray Wolf RSA in relation to Wildlife Management Units.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Concern around protecting moose and moose habitat including specific mitigation and monitoring.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Concerns regarding potential impacts to wetlands used for overwintering by turtles.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP Lac de Milles Lacs First Nation	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat



Issue	Communication Source	Community/Organization	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Request for text/definitions to better align with relevant legislations, acts and regulations.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Clarification regarding consideration of American white pelican	Input on Field Programs	Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Request for workers to be trained on reducing harm and protecting turtles during construction.	Comments on Draft EA	Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation	Section 6.5 Wildlife and Wildlife Habitat
Concern that only water bodies impacted through direct crossings will be considered. Waterbodies in proximity to the project footprint, particularly during construction, should also be considered as these areas may be susceptible to increased avoidance behaviors of Métis harvesters accessing these waterbodies in the exercise of their rights.	Input on Field Programs	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Input that different species of fish should be prioritized, especially those most relevant to the communities (i.e., whitefish, walleye, muskie, sturgeon, sauger, small-mouthed bass, yellow perch, rainbow trout, as well as baitfish species).	Input on Field Programs	GLP Grand Council Treaty #3	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Question around whether benthic studies were included in the EA.	Input on Field Programs	Grand Council Treaty #3	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat



Issue	Communication Source	Community/Organization	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Input that the importance of fish species as a criterion for monitoring pollutants.	Input on Field Programs	Grand Council Treaty #3	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Input that the importance of including species of importance to MNO Region 1 and Region 2 in the EA.	Input on Field Programs	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Input about the importance of measuring turbidity or Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) to assess water quality.	Input on Field Programs	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Input that the importance of providing a visual representation of the mapped features resulting from the field studies.	Input on Field Programs	Grand Council Treaty #3	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Request to include turbidity mitigation measures in Table 6.2-10 and in the forthcoming Environmental Protection Plan.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Request to include additional information on fish and fish habitat legislative requirements/permitting and approvals.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Request to include additional information on erosion and sediment control measures related to fish and fish habitat.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Request to include additional information on fish and fish habitat monitoring.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2 GLP	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Request to include additional fish species in the Fish Criteria and Indicator Species.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2 GLP	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat



Issue	Communication Source	Community/Organization	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Concerns regarding potential impacts of blasting on fish and fish habitats.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Request for Anishinaabemowin translation for Fish and Fish Habitat.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Concerns regarding potential impacts to downstream fish habitat.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Concern regarding potential impacts from construction activities on fish and fish habitat (rig mats, fording, etc.).	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2 GLP	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Questions regarding calculations and methodology (water crossings, culvert selection, etc.) related to Fish and Fish Habitat.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat Section 6.2 Surface Water
Request for use of current air quality monitoring data.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.7 Air Quality
Request to use updated GHG emissions monitoring data.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.7 Air Quality
Concerns regarding potential effects of blasting and construction activities on air quality.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 6.7 Air Quality
Concerns regarding the potential impacts of dust on air quality.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 6.7 Air Quality
Request to include additional information on dust mitigation measures and use of dust suppressants.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation NWOMC and Region 2	Section 6.7 Air Quality
Request to include fugitive dust as a potential source of emission.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 6.7 Air Quality



Issue	Communication Source	Community/Organization	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Concerns regarding the effects and impacts from climate change, whether the EA is considering overall project GHG emissions from all Project stages, and whether alternatives have been considered to reduce the use of GHGs during construction and operation.	Input on Work Plans Comments on Draft EA	Migisi Sahgaigan GLP	Section 6.8 Greenhouse Gas Emissions
Request to include additional information on GHG emissions during operations.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.8 Greenhouse Gas Emissions
Request to establish initiatives that offset GHG emissions from land clearing.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 6.8 Greenhouse Gas Emissions
Helicopter traffic can be disruptive and unpredictable and can change the physical attributes of harvesting or sites.	Input on Work Plans	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 6.9 Acoustic and Vibration Environment
Compensation for trappers who have their livelihoods impacted by the disappearance of affected fur-bearing animals.	Open House input	Métis Nation of Ontario Region 2	Section 7.1 Non-Indigenous Land and Resource Use Section 7.7 First Nations Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources Section 7.8 Métis Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources



Issue	Communication Source	Community/Organization	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Impacts to traplines and impacts on fur-bearing animals.	Open House input	Métis Nation of Ontario Region 2	Section 7.1 Non-Indigenous Land and Resource Use Section 7.7 First Nations Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources Section 7.8 Métis Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources
Concerns regarding potential impacts to Indigenous women from work camps.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 7.2 Community Well-Being and Infrastructure
Request to use current population and economic data and data specific to NWOMC and Region 2.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 7.2 Community Well-Being and Infrastructure Section 7.3 Economy
Consideration of positive and negative socio-economic and cultural considerations during the EA including, access to social services, medical care, housing, reliable energy, clean water and nutritious foods, economic development and training opportunities, and increased drug trafficking.	Input to Field Plan Open House input	Grand Council Treaty #3 Migisi Sahgaigan	Section 7.2 Community Well-Being and Infrastructure Section 7.3 Economy
Question about how the Project will benefit Indigenous community members and if people will be trained and prepared by 2024, when construction is scheduled to start.	Open House input	Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation	Section 7.2 Community Well-Being and Infrastructure Section 7.3 Economy



Issue	Communication Source	Community/Organization	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Question about the differences between landscape and aesthetics, economy and land use, and population and settlement assessment components. Suggested to have a stand-alone component to evaluate social impacts.	Open House input	Métis Nation of Ontario Region 2	Section 7.2 Community Well-Being and Infrastructure Section 7.3 Economy
Question about what consideration has been given to potential social problems the workforce might bring with them (e.g., substance abuse).	Open House input	Migisi Sahgaigan	Section 7.2 Community Well-Being and Infrastructure Section 7.3 Economy
Concerns regarding potential electromagnetic exposure from the transmission lines posing concern to human health or to wildlife.	Input to Field Plan Open House input	GLP NWOMC and Region 2	Section 7.2 Community Well-Being and Infrastructure Section 7.3 Economy
Input about the importance of preventing the release of pollutants, such as oil and gas spills, and especially glyphosate and alternative chemicals that will compromise the ecosystem and human health.	Input to Field Plan	Grand Council Treaty #3	Section 7.2 Community Well-Being and Infrastructure Section 7.3 Economy
Request to include additional information on work camps.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 7.2 Community Well-Being and Infrastructure Section 7.3 Economy
Concern about increased energy bills as a result of the Project.	Open House input	Mitaanjigamiing First Nation	Section 7.3 Economy Section 7.2 Community Well-Being and Infrastructure



Issue	Communication Source	Community/Organization	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Question regarding the differences between landscape and aesthetics, economy and land use, and population and settlement assessment components. Suggestion to have a stand-alone component to evaluate social impacts.	Input to Field Plan	Métis Nation of Ontario Region 2	Section 7.4 Visual Aesthetics
Concern regarding reflection of Métis values and perspectives in the assessment of aesthetics and how this is reflected in potential changes to Métis Rights, interests and land use.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 7.4 Visual Aesthetics Section 7.8 Métis Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources
Question asking for information regarding the archaeology field program.	Open House input	Métis Nation of Ontario Region 2	Section 7.5 Archaeology Resources
Indigenous communities should participate and be actively engaged during the Stage 1 Archaeology Assessment.	Input to Work Plans Open Houses	GLP Fort William First Nation Migisi Sahgaigan Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation NWOMC and Region 2	Section 7.5 Archaeology Resources
Request for additional engagement with NWOMC and Region 2 for the Stage 2 Archaeology Assessment.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 7.5 Archaeology Resources
Concerns raised regarding cultural heritage field studies and documentation of existing conditions through photography and text within First Nation traditional territories, and potential culturally sensitive areas.	Input to Work Plans	Wabigoon Lake Ojibway Nation GLP	Section 7.6 Built Heritage Resources and Cultural Heritage Landscapes



Issue	Communication Source	Community/Organization	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Request to include additional Cultural Features identified by NWOMC and Region 2 in the Traditional Knowledge Land Use Study.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 7.6 Built Heritage Resources and Cultural Heritage Landscapes
Importance of timely notification of Indigenous communities for Project activities including potential project changes or resources such as cultural sites during all stages of the Project.	Input on Field Programs Open House input IK studies Comments on Draft EA	GLP Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation Mitaanjigamiing First Nation NWOMC and Region 2	Section 7.7 First Nations Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources Section 7.8 Métis Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources
Concern about change in experience of place for exercise of rights.	Open house input IK studies Comments on Draft EA	GLP Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation Mitaanjigamiing First Nation NWOMC and Region 2	Section 7.7 First Nations Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources Section 7.8 Métis Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources
Concern about change in areas available for harvest or change in access to current areas of harvest.	Open house input IK studies Comments on Draft EA	GLP Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation Mitaanjigamiing First Nation NWOMC and Region 2	Section 7.7 First Nations Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources Section 7.8 Métis Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources
Concern about potential for effects to cultural sites.	Open house input IK studies Comments on Draft EA	GLP Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation Mitaanjigamiing First Nation NWOMC and Region 2	Section 7.7 First Nations Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources Section 7.8 Métis Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources



Issue	Communication Source	Community/Organization	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Question about the accountability of contractor to implement mitigation.	Open house input Meetings	GLP Lac des Mille Lacs First Nation Mitaanjigamiing First Nation NWOMC and Region 2	Section 7.7 First Nations Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources Section 7.8 Métis Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources
Request for increased engagement regarding use of dust suppressants.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 7.7 First Nations Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources
Concerns regarding impact of emissions on Indigenous land use and Rights.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 7.7 First Nations Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources
Request to include additional information on "at-risk areas and equipment" in Spill and Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan.	Comments on Draft EA	GLP	Section 7.7 First Nations Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources
Concern about potential impacts of air quality on the practice of Section 35 rights and land use.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2 GLP	Section 7.7 First Nations Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources Section 7.8 Métis Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources
Request to review and provide input on mitigation plans including the Dust Control / Air Quality Plans, Blasting and Communications Management Plan, Soil Management Plan, and the Spill and Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2 GLP	Section 7.7 First Nations Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources Section 7.8 Métis Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources



Issue	Communication Source	Community/Organization	Status/Where Addressed in the EA Report
Importance of engagement with NWOMC and Region 2 on work camps.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 7.8 Métis Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources
Request for additional information on employment / business opportunities for NWOMC and Region 2 citizens.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 7.8 Métis Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources
Importance of additional engagement with NWOMC and Region 2 regarding Métis quality of life and well-being.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2	Section 7.8 Métis Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources
Concerns regarding potential impacts to fish and fish habitat, affecting First Nation Rights, interests and land uses and Métis Rights, interest and land use.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2 GLP Grand Council Treaty #3	Section 7.7 First Nations Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources Section 7.8 Métis Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources Section 6.6 Fish and Fish Habitat
Request to engage/review and provide more information on vehicles and helicopter use relative to hunting seasons or harvest periods.	Comments on Draft EA	NWOMC and Region 2 GLP	Section 7.7 First Nations Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources Section 7.8 Métis Rights, Interests and Use of Land and Resources



4.6 Ongoing Engagement

Hydro One will continue to work with stakeholders and Indigenous communities to resolve issues and address comments received in writing through the review period on the Final EA Report.

A project of this type may operate for a long period of time and it is Hydro One's intention to engage Indigenous communities and Project stakeholders based on foundations of respect, cooperation and open communication on a long-term basis with the intent of building mutually beneficial relationships.





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