



Impact Assessment
Agency of Canada

Agence d'évaluation
d'impact du Canada

Ontario Region
600-55 York Street
Toronto ON M5J 1R7

Région de l'Ontario
600-55 rue York
Toronto ON M5J 1R7

April 9, 2020

Sent by email

Chief Bruce Achneepineskum
Marten Falls First Nation
General Delivery
Ogoki Post ON P0T 2L1
<Email address removed>

Dear Chief Achneepineskum:

**Subject: Federal Impact Assessment Process for the Marten Falls
Community Access Road Project**

Thank you for your correspondence dated December 16, 2019, recommending that the federal impact assessment for the Marten Falls Community Access Road Project continue to be conducted by the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada.

The Agency commenced an impact assessment under the *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA) for the Project on February 24, 2020. Under IAA, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change has the discretionary authority to refer the impact assessment of a project to a review panel within 45 days after the commencement of the assessment. The Minister, the Honourable Jonathan Wilkinson, made a decision not to refer the Project to a review panel, and as such, the Project will continue as an Agency-led impact assessment.

Next Steps

Marten Falls First Nation has three years from the Notice of Commencement to provide the Agency with a satisfactory Impact Statement, as per subsection 19(1) of IAA. The Agency understands that the COVID-19 pandemic may cause delays with Marten Falls First Nation's anticipated engagement activities and baseline studies. The Agency would be pleased to provide advice on how to manage the timeframe and to provide further explanation on the expectations set out in the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines.

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If you have any further questions regarding this letter, please feel free to contact me at 416-476-8915 or at IAAC.MartenFalls.AEIC@canada.ca. I welcome the opportunity to work collaboratively with your community.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

Chiara Calabrese
Project Manager

c.c.: Bob Baxter, Marten Falls Community Access Road Project team
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