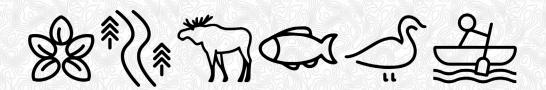




FINAL

Economic Study Plan

May 2021





Economic Study Plan

Distribution List

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Revision History

Rev#	Date	Revision Description	
Draft	May 2020	Submitted "Economic Study Plan" to the Agency.	
Final	May 2021	Revised to address federal and provincial agency comments.	



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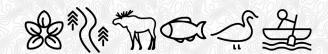
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Economic Study Plan

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Appendix C. Table Example: Employment by Age and Sex in the Marten Falls First Nation Community

Acronyms

Agency, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
CAR Community Access Road
EA Environmental Assessment
GBA+ Gender-based Analysis Plus
IA Impact Assessment
IAA Impact Assessment Act
IS Impact Statement
km kilometre
LSA Local Study Area
MECP Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks
MFFN Marten Falls First Nation
PDA Project Development Area
RSA Regional Study Area
SAR Species at Risk
TISG Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines
ToR Terms of Reference
VC Valued Component



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1. Introduction

The Proponent of the Community Access Road (CAR or the Project) is Marten Falls First Nation (MFFN), a remote First Nation community in northern Ontario located at the junction of the Albany and Ogoki rivers, approximately 430 kilometres (km) from Thunder Bay, Ontario. The MFFN community is proposing an all-season Community Access Road that will connect the MFFN community to Ontario's provincial highway network (Highway 643) to the south via the existing Painter Lake Road. MFFN, as the Proponent of the Project, has formed a MFFN CAR Project Team that includes MFFN CAR Community Member Advisors and MFFN CAR Project Consultants who act with input, guidance and direction from the MFFN Chief and Council.

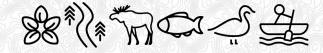
This document outlines the Study Plan for the Economic Environment to support a coordinated Impact Assessment (IA) required for Project review by the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) under the federal *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA) and Environmental Assessment (EA) required for Project review by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) under the Ontario *Environmental Assessment Act*.

1.1 Federal and Provincial Terminology

The study plans have been prepared using federal terminology, however, the respective provincial terminology has been provided in **Table 1-1** for reference. The terms can be used interchangeably.

Table 1-1: Equivalent Federal and Provincial Terms

Provincial Term	Federal Term	
Criteria	Valued Component	
Impact Management Measure	Mitigation Measure	
Net Effects	Residual Effects	
Record of Consultation	Record of Engagement	



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1.2 Project Study Plans

This Study Plan is one of a group of study plans created for the Project. **Table 1-2** includes the study plans for each environmental discipline currently planned for the Project and the valued components (VCs) covered by the study plans where applicable.

Table 1-2: Project Study Plans and Valued Components

Environmental Discipline	Study Plan Name	Valued Component(s)	
Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests	 Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests Study Plan 	 Indigenous Current Use of Lands and Resources for Traditional Purposes Cultural Continuity (ability to practice and transmit cultural traditions) 	
Atmospheric Environment	 Atmospheric Environment and Greenhouse Gases Study Plan 	Air QualityGreenhouse Gas Emissions	
Climate Change	■ Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Study Plan	■ Climate Change	
Acoustic and Vibration Environment	Acoustic and Vibration Environment Study Plan	NoiseVibration	
Physiography, Geology, Terrain and Soils	Physiography, Terrain and Soils Study Plan	■ Physiography, Terrain and Soils	
Surface Water	■ Surface Water Study Plan	■ Surface Water	
Groundwater and Geochemistry	Groundwater and Geochemistry Study Plan	■ Groundwater	
■ Upl ■ Des Inte Wo ■ Tra (inc		 Wetland and Riparian Ecosystems Upland Ecosystems Designated Areas (Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest, Environmentally Significant Areas, Significant Woodlands, Critical Landform / Vegetation Associations) Traditional Use Plants and SAR Plant Populations (including species with special conservation status or rarity in the province) 	
	■ Peatlands Study Plan	■ Peatland Ecosystems (bogs and fens)	
[Myotis lucifugus		 Bats (including SAR-bats such as: Little Brown Myotis [Myotis lucifugus], Northern Myotis [Myotis septentrionalis] and Tricolored Bat [Perimyotis subflavus]) 	

^{1.} The use of the term environment in this document is inclusive of the components of the environment that are included in the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act definition, which includes a general description of the social, cultural, built and natural environments.





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Environmental Discipline	Study Plan Name	Valued Component(s)
·		 Fur Bearers (proxy VC² American Marten [Martes americana], Beaver [Castor canadensis] and Wolverine [Gulo gulo]) Amphibians and Reptiles Pollinating Insects
	Ungulates (Moose and Caribou) Study Plan	Moose (Alces alces)Caribou, boreal population (Rangifer tarandus)
	■ Bird Study Plan	 Forest Birds (proxy VC of Red-eyed Vireo [Vireo olivaceus] for deciduous forest, Ovenbird [Seirus aurocapilla] for mixedwood forest, Dark-eyed Junco [Junco hyemalis] for coniferous forest and disturbed forest Raptors (proxy VC of Osprey [Pandion haliaetus] for diurnal raptors and Boreal Owl [Aegolius funereus] for nocturnal raptors Shorebirds (proxy VC of Wilson's Snipe [Gallingo delicata]) Waterfowl (proxy VC of Mallard [Anas platyrhynchos]) Bog / Fen Birds and Other Wetland Birds (proxy VC of Palm Warbler [Setophaga palmarum] for bogs, Common Yellowthroat [Geothlypis trichas] for fens; and Northern Waterthrush [Parkesia noveboracensis] for swamps. SAR birds: Canada Warbler (Cardellina canadensis), Chimney Swift (Chaetura pelagica), Common Nighthawk (Chordeiles minor), Eastern Whip-poor-will (Antrostomus vociferous), Eastern Wood-Pewee (Contopus virens), Evening Grosbeak (Coccothraustes vespertinus), Olivesided Flycatcher (Contopus cooperi), Bald Eagle (Haliaeetus leucocephalus), Peregrine Falcon (Falco peregrinus), Short-eared Owl (Asio flammeus), Bank Swallow (Riparia riparia), Barn Swallow (Hirundo rustica), Black Tern (Childonias niger), Rusty Blackbird
		(Euphagus carolinus), Yellow Rail (Coturnicops noveboracensis)
Fish and Fish Habitat	■ Fish and Fish Habitat Study Plan	 Lake Sturgeon (Acipenser fulvescens) Walleye (Sander vitreus) Brook Trout (Salvelinus fontinalis) Northern Pike (Esox Lucius) Lake Whitefish (Coregonus clupeaformis) Chain Pickerel (Esox niger) Yellow Perch (Perca flavescens)

 $^{^{2}}$ A proxy VC is used when looking at the effects of one species that represents many others.

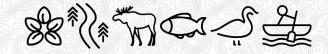




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Environmental Discipline	Study Plan Name	Valued Component(s)
		 Cisco (Coregonus artedii) Burbot (Lota lota) Longnose Sucker (Catostomus catostomus) White Sucker (Catostomus commersonii) Forage / Prey Species (including species such as Lake Chub [Couesius plumbeus]) Lower Trophic Organisms (e.g., benthic invertebrates)
Social	■ Social Study Plan	 Housing and Accommodation Community Service and Infrastructure Transportation Community Well-being Populations and Demographics
Economy	■ Economic Study Plan	Regional EconomyLabour Force and EmploymentGovernment Finances
Land and Resource Use	■ Land and Resource Use Study Plan	 Land Use Compatibility Parks and Protected Areas Extractive Industry Forestry Industry Energy and Linear Infrastructure Recreation and Tourism
Human Health and Community Safety	■ Human Health and Community Safety Study Plan	 Public Safety Public Health Diet Environmental Factors Influencing Health
Visual Aesthetics	■ Visual Aesthetics Study Plan	 Visual Contrast / Character Visibility Visual Sensitivity
Archaeological and Cultural Heritage	■ Cultural Heritage Study Plan	 Archaeological Sites and Resources Built Heritage Resources and Cultural Heritage Landscapes

It should be noted that while there is not a consultation study plan, the Project has developed the *Consultation and Engagement Plan to Support the Environmental Assessment / Impact Statement* (AECOM 2020) (referred to as the Impact Statement [IS] / EA Consultation Plan).





Economic Study Plan

2. Purpose and Objectives

The key objectives of conducting an IA / EA are to describe the existing environment, gather sufficient information to predict Project-related effects (positive and negative, direct and indirect) of the Project and alternatives on the environment, determine measures needed to avoid or minimize adverse Project effects, and enhance beneficial Project effects where feasible, and to undertake consultation and engagement throughout. The purpose of this Study Plan is to explain:

- A baseline³ study methodology that will result in a comprehensive description of the existing environment potentially impacted by the Project;
- How efficient and transparent data management and analysis will be undertaken;
- Effects assessment scoping inputs specific to the Economic Environment that will allow for potential effects of the Project on the existing environment to be appropriately assessed in the IS/EA Report; and
- How the Study Plan aligns with federal and provincial requirements and guidance, including the Agency's Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines (TISG), dated February 24, 2020 (the Agency 2020c), for this Project and applicable provincial agency comments on the Draft Terms of Reference (ToR)⁴.

As required by the IAA and referenced in TISG Section 7.3, work plans will also be developed for disciplines as required. It is anticipated the work plans will include further details on how to action the study plans; for example they would contain such information as location of sampling sites, scheduling and sequencing.

The Economic Study Plan considers the following issues, which align with items listed under Economic in Section 18 of the TISG:

- Labour market;
- Household and consumer prices (baseline information may be included in other sections, particularly socio-community);
- Business environment;
- Public finances; and,
- Overall economic impact (except energy production, transportation, utilities, land uses, and zoning).

^{4.} If necessary, the Study Plan will be updated to reflect the approved ToR if approval is obtained.



^{3.} Baseline refers to the current conditions of the environment potentially impacted by the Project. Baseline conditions serve as a reference against which changes due the Project are measured.



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Related items not included in this Study Plan, are covered under separate study plans including the Human Health and Community Safety Study Plan, the Social Study Plan, and the Land and Resource Use Study Plan. Items not included explicitly within this Study Plan may be referenced and considered in the assessment of effects to relevant components of the Economic Environment such as infrastructure and industrial land uses. For example, information on energy production, utilities and transportation are included in the Social Study Plan while information on land uses are described in the Land and Resource Use Study Plan

The Economic Assessment will consider how the Economic Environment and features may be affected by the Project. This includes changes to the regional economy, including prices and the business environment; the labour market including training; and public finances. In conducting the Economic Assessment, information from the following other disciplines⁵ will be considered:

- Social Changes to the Social Environment that will be considered in the Economic Assessment include changes to community services and infrastructure; housing; education opportunities; and population and demographics. Additionally, changes to the Economic Environment can be a determinant of community well-being.
- Human Health and Community Safety Changes to the economy and the material well-being of individuals will be considered as a social determinant of health. Additionally, changes to health services and community health may influence the regional economy, employment and government finances.
- Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests Potential changes to traditional land and resource use may influence traditional economies. These changes are considered within the Economic Assessment through the assessment of the regional economy.
- Land and Resource Use Changes to the potential for industrial land uses may influence the Economic Environment.

For the purposes of establishing appropriate context, the Study Plan begins with background and relevant information on:

- Study Plan related discussions with the Agency, the MECP and applicable agencies to date (Section 3);
- The approach to Project consultation and engagement (Section 4);



^{5.} It is expected each discipline will produce their own technical report supporting the assessment of key factors within that area.



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- How Indigenous Knowledge will be collected and used in the IA / EA (Section 5); and
- The spatial and temporal boundaries that will be used for the IA / EA (Section 6).

2.1 Approach to Handling Confidential Information

2.1.1 Indigenous Knowledge

Available and applicable Indigenous Knowledge will be considered in the assessment of economic impacts. Permission from the Indigenous community will be sought before including Indigenous Knowledge in the IS / EA Report, regardless of the source of the Indigenous Knowledge. Sensitive and / or confidential information will be specifically collected through the Indigenous Knowledge Program to inform the IS / EA Report, and its use and publication will be governed by Indigenous community-specific Indigenous Knowledge Sharing Agreements. Sensitive and / or confidential information collected through Indigenous Knowledge Sharing Agreements will be protected from public or third-party disclosure and will be established between the Proponent and Indigenous communities participating in the Indigenous Knowledge Program prior to the sharing and use of any sensitive information. Instances where Indigenous Knowledge sharing has taken place during consultation activities (e.g., meetings) will be recorded in the Record of Consultation and Engagement, including where Indigenous Knowledge was incorporated into Project decisions and into the IS / EA Report (i.e., specifics will not be included in the Record of Consultation and Engagement given the potential sensitivity and / or confidentiality of the information shared).

2.1.2 Socio-Economic Primary Data

Collected primary economic data that is considered to be confidential will not be documented in the IS / EA Report. This confidential information may include identity factors such as demographic data provided by individuals from whom the data are obtained. The content and findings obtained that are not considered as confidential will be included in baseline documentation irrespective of source (Indigenous or non-Indigenous knowledge holder). Information obtained through other primary data programs (such as Indigenous Knowledge) will adhere to the confidentiality provisions of the respective data sharing agreements that have been established.



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3. Study Plan Technical Discussions

To facilitate the development of satisfactory study plans and eventually a satisfactory IS / EA Report, MFFN previously submitted draft study plans in an effort to hold technical discussions with the Agency, the MECP and applicable agencies. A summary of technical discussions and correspondence held to date on this Study Plan has been provided in **Table 3-1**.

Table 3-1: Summary of Study Plan Technical Discussions

Attendees / Responsible Party	Correspondence	Discussion Point	Solution
■ The Agency	■ Preliminary comments received following submission and review of draft Study Plan	■ 05-August-2020: Comments and clarification questions received, including editorial comments, additional information requirements regarding study plan, and clarification requests related to study areas, data collection, assessment, criteria and indicators, and concordance with federal and provincial requirements.	 Additional details and clarification provided within this Study Plan, and responses to these comments are in Appendix B.
 The Agency MECP The Ministry of Energy, Northern Development and Mines MFFN CAR Project Team 	■ Technical discussion of comments received following agency review of draft Study Plan.	■ 07-October-2020: Discussion on the role of the general consultation and engagement program to confirm the interests of Indigenous communities and other persons in economic impacts and subsequent target information gathering sessions.	Additional details and clarification on the consultation and engagement program are provided in Section 4 of the Study Plan.
ojočt rodin		■ 07-October-2020: Discussion on data validation. The Agency indicated that it is not necessary to validate raw data with Chiefs and Councils, rather, community leadership can review / validate data that is to be documented in the IS / EA Report and supporting reports to ensure accurate representation.	■ This approach to data verification will be followed. See Section 8.



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4. IS / EA Report Consultation and Engagement Process

4.1 Interested Persons and Government Agencies

The Proponent will provide Project notices and advise of opportunities for consultation and engagement with interested persons⁶ which includes, at a minimum, members of the public outlined in the *Public Participation Plan for the Marten Falls Community Access Road Project Impact Assessment* (the Agency 2020) (referred to as the Public Participation Plan). This will include the opportunity to provide input on the existing environment, VCs, effects assessment methods, effects assessment results, and mitigation and follow-up program measures as applicable. A variety of activities will be offered so that members of the public are informed of the IS / EA Report as it progresses and are aware of the opportunities and means to provide their input. The study plans have recognized public and agency input received on the Project to date. Government agencies and interested persons will have the opportunity to comment on components of the study plans throughout the IS / EA Report consultation and engagement process. The Project's approach to handling confidential and sensitive information is outlined in **Section 2.1**.

4.2 Indigenous Communities

The Proponent will provide Project notices and opportunities for consultation and engagement with Indigenous communities identified in **Table 4-1**, which is inclusive of all Indigenous communities identified in the *Indigenous Partnership and Engagement Plan for the Marten Falls Community Access Road Project Impact Assessment* (the Agency 2020a) (referred to as the Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan).

Indigenous communities will be provided the opportunity to be involved at critical decision-making points throughout the IS / EA Report so that the Proponent can consider and incorporate, where appropriate Indigenous Knowledge and Indigenous land and resource use information into the Project as it pertains to the existing environment, VCs, effects assessment methods, effects assessment results, and mitigation and follow-up program measures. A variety of activities will be offered so that Indigenous communities are



^{6.} Interested persons, as defined in the IS / EA Consultation Plan, are individuals and groups (e.g., associations, non-governmental organizations, industry and academia) who could have an interest in the Project, including but not limited to communities in the region, those with commercial interests (e.g., forestry, trappers, outfitters, other mineral tenure holders in the area) and recreational users or those with recreational interest (e.g., campers, hunters and environmental groups).



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informed of the IS / EA Report as it progresses and are aware of the opportunities, means and timelines to provide their input. The study plans have recognized Indigenous community input received on the Project to date. Indigenous communities will have the opportunity to comment on components of the study plans throughout the IS / EA Report consultation and engagement process.

Table 4-1: Identified Neighbouring Indigenous Communities, including their Provincial Territorial Organizations and / or Tribal Council Affiliations

Tribal Council Affiliation	Indigenous Community or Organization
Matawa First Nations Management	■ Marten Falls First Nation (Proponent and potentially
(Nishnawbe Aski Nation)	affected Indigenous community)
	■ Aroland First Nation
	■ Constance Lake First Nation
	■ Eabametoong First Nation
	■ Ginoogaming First Nation
	■ Neskantaga First Nation
	■ Nibinamik First Nation
	■ Webequie First Nation
Matawa First Nations Management and the Union of Ontario Indians / Nishnawbe Aski Nation	■ Long Lake #58 First Nation**
Mushkegowuk Council	■ Attawapiskat First Nation
(Nishnawbe Aski Nation)	■ Fort Albany First Nation
	■ Kashechewan First Nation
Shibogama First Nations Council	■ Kasabonika Lake First Nation
(Nishnawbe Aski Nation)	■ Kingfisher Lake First Nation
	■ Wapekeka First Nation
	■ Wawakapewin First Nation
	■ Wunnumin Lake First Nation
Independent First Nations Alliance (Nishnawbe Aski Nation)	■ Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug First Nation
Independent First Nations	■ Mishkeegogamang First Nation
(Nishnawbe Aski Nation)	■ Weenusk First Nation
Nokiiwin Tribal Council	■ Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek First Nation *
Métis Nation of Ontario	■ Métis Nation of Ontario; Region 2*
Independent Métis Nation	■ Red Sky Independent Métis Nation*

Notes: * Indigenous communities or organizations identified by the MECP who should be consulted on the basis that they may be interested in the Community Access Road.



^{**} The MECP indicated in a letter to MFFN that Long Lake #58 First Nation was moved from interest-based to rights-based.

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4.3 Consideration of Identity and Gender-Based Analysis Plus in Engagement

To fulfill requirements of the IAA, the Consultation and Engagement Program and the economic data collection program will consider a diverse range of perspectives from interested persons and interested Indigenous communities and their members identified in the Agency's Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan and the Public Participation Plan. This will include at a minimum providing ongoing opportunities for engagement to:

- Neighbouring Indigenous communities, including relevant subpopulations:
 - Women:
 - Youth; and
 - Elders.
- Non-Indigenous communities including:
 - Women;
 - Youth; and
 - Activity-based subgroups (e.g., recreationalists, snowmobilers, tourism establishment operators).

The Proponent will also consult and engage with other subpopulations identified by communities during consultation and engagement. The information from these activities and any additional identity groups identified by communities through consultation and engagement will be considered by applicable environmental disciplines for the purposes of data collection and considering disproportionate effects.

During consultation and engagement, these aforementioned groups will be consulted and engaged with on targeted input. Specialized knowledge will be gathered through other disciplines such as Social, Economic, Land and Resource Use and Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests. The economic data collection program will include primary data collection activities that may involve for example, targeted interviews, focus groups, questionnaires and other niche tools to gather information from diverse populations to resolve gaps in economic secondary data. These diverse populations include the aforementioned identity groups, which are also referenced in the IS / EA Consultation Plan, and those identified by communities during consultation and engagement. The importance of soliciting inputs and perspectives from diverse subgroups has also been factored into the Indigenous Knowledge Program and associated materials (see **Section 5**).





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When feedback is received from interested persons and Indigenous communities, issues, comments and questions will be tracked, which is consistent with the process described in the IS / EA Consultation Plan. Specific to Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) objectives, this will include efforts to engage with diverse populations. It is expected this will include activities specific to subgroups and tabulation of consultation and engagement participation with respect to identity factors. This will provide summary statistics to demonstrate the diversity achieved in consultation and engagement.

4.4 Consultation on Economic Concerns and Impacts

As part of the IS / EA Consultation Plan (AECOM 2020) and Indigenous Knowledge Program, Indigenous communities identified in **Table 4-1** will be contacted to determine their level of interest in the Project and their concerns related to potential economic impacts. For the Indigenous communities that express specific economic concerns, targeted economic data collection will be implemented through the economic data collection program, consistent with the likelihood of effect anticipated to the community as defined by the MFFN CAR Project Team. In addition, interested persons identified through the general engagement program and listed in the *Public Participation Plan* (the Agency 2020) may also be engaged on potential economic concerns and impacts. **Section 7.2** provides additional details on the targeted economic data collection approach.





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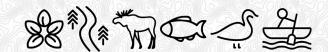
5. Consideration of Indigenous Knowledge in the IS / EA Report

The following provides a general description of how Indigenous Knowledge will be considered in the IS / EA process. The extent to which Indigenous Knowledge is considered by each specific VC will vary depending on the nature of the VC, the potential for Project effects on the VC and whether Indigenous knowledge that relates to a VC is provided / obtained. As such, not all aspects of the general approach described below may apply to all VCs / study plans.

There are two concurrent and complementary avenues for Indigenous communities and groups to be engaged with and provide input on the Project: the Indigenous Knowledge Program and the Consultation and Engagement Program. Both programs serve to support the collection of Indigenous perspectives, values, and input on the Project, including Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and how they may be impacted by the Project, to be integrated throughout the IA / EA process. However, the Indigenous Knowledge Program specifically aims to solicit and incorporate information that is considered sensitive and may have confidentiality requirements, including Indigenous Knowledge and information on Indigenous land and resource use. Indigenous Knowledge Sharing Agreements will be established between the Proponent and Indigenous communities participating in the Indigenous Knowledge Program prior to the sharing and use of any sensitive information.

All Indigenous communities and groups identified by the MECP and the Agency through the Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan have the opportunity to participate in the Indigenous Knowledge Program. The Indigenous Knowledge Program provides interested Indigenous communities an opportunity to: share existing Indigenous Knowledge and information on Indigenous land and resource use and cultural values that may be relevant to the Project, and / or complete Project-specific studies to collect and share Indigenous Knowledge and information on Indigenous land and resource use and cultural values. The Indigenous Knowledge Program includes opportunities for Indigenous communities and groups to meet with the Proponent to discuss the program, ask questions, and share concerns and interests. In support of this, the Proponent has created an Indigenous Knowledge Program Guidance Document (the Guidance Document) that provides:

 An overview of the Indigenous Knowledge Program and information on how Indigenous Knowledge, Indigenous land and resource use and cultural values and practices can be collected and / or shared;





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- Information on how Indigenous Knowledge and information on Indigenous land and resource use and cultural values and practices may be used in the planning and design processes; and
- A suite of guidance materials that were developed based on the information requirements of both the federal and provincial assessment processes, including; question guides to support the collection of information on historical and current community context; Indigenous Knowledge that may be relevant to the various technical disciplines; information on Indigenous land and resource use, cultural values and practices and associated spatial data, and perspective on potential Project-related effects and associated mitigation and / or enhancement measures.

The Guidance Document will also support participating Indigenous communities in providing Project-specific information in a manner that facilitates meaningful incorporation into the IS / EA Report. The IS / EA Consultation Plan outlines the process for obtaining information and feedback about the Project from Indigenous communities (i.e., the Consultation and Engagement Program). All Indigenous communities identified by the MECP and the Agency have the opportunity to participate in the Consultation and Engagement Program through community-specific meetings, Public Information Centres, web conferences, and other formats. All Indigenous communities identified by the MECP and the Agency will be provided information related to the Project and invited to participate at various points throughout the IA / EA process.

There are also opportunities for technical teams to engage with Indigenous communities to solicit perspectives and information relevant to the Project, including information related to collection of existing information and the development of the IS / EA Report. The Proponent also invites feedback and inputs throughout the Project via the Project website and ongoing communications with the Proponent.

The Indigenous Knowledge and Consultation and Engagement programs are designed to be complementary and provide multiple opportunities for communities to offer feedback and information, including perspectives on Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and interests and how these may be impacted by the proposed Project. Relevant information collected through both the Indigenous Knowledge and Consultation and Engagement programs, including potential effect pathways on Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and interests, will be shared with each of the relevant disciplines throughout the IA / EA to: guide and inform VCs; support characterization of the existing environment; identify the potential effects of the Project on VCs; help identify mitigation measures and potential monitoring programs; and ultimately guide Project planning. The nature of how the Indigenous Knowledge becomes integrated into the IS / EA Report will be dictated by the specific information provided by each Indigenous community and the parameters set out in the Indigenous Knowledge Sharing Agreements. A description of how Indigenous Knowledge was considered in the IA / EA and in each of the technical discipline areas will be included in the IS / EA Report.





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It is also important to note that information collected through the various activities (e.g., field studies and programs, effects assessments) of each discipline area (e.g., wildlife, vegetation, cultural heritage) will be shared with the Indigenous Knowledge Program leads. This will support the establishment of the existing environment and the effects assessment for the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests environmental discipline, as well as the identification of potential mitigation measures and monitoring programs, given the interrelated nature of Indigenous peoples and other environmental disciplines.

The Proponent will strive to respectfully collaborate with Indigenous communities on how Indigenous Knowledge and information on Indigenous land and resource use and cultural values will become part of the IS / EA Report, and how potential effects to Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and interests will be assessed. It is expected that measures to support this may include but are not limited to: engaging Indigenous communities to solicit information on Indigenous Knowledge and Indigenous land and resource use and cultural values to inform baseline conditions, providing Indigenous communities with draft sections of the IS / EA Report to illustrate how Indigenous Knowledge and information on Indigenous land and resource use and cultural values has been integrated and to confirm it has been presented appropriately, and completing collaborative working sessions with Indigenous communities for the effects assessment on Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests. Further information on how potential effects on Indigenous rights will be assessed is provided in the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests Study Plan.



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6. Assessment Boundaries

6.1 Temporal Boundaries: Project Phases

Project phases, which are temporal boundaries, are developed to establish the timeframes within which potential effects of the Project will be considered in the IS / EA Report. The Project is planned to occur in two phases, which are briefly described below and shown in **Figure 6-1**.

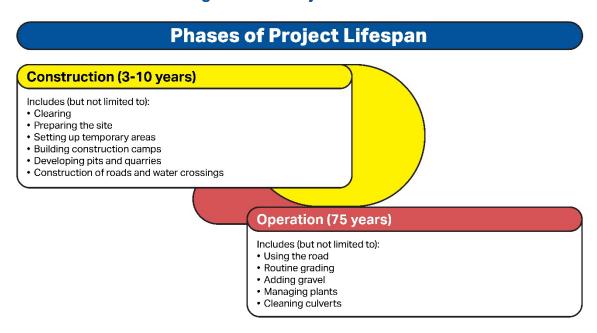
Construction Phase:

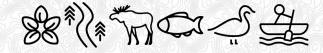
The time from start of construction, including site preparation activities, to the start of operations and maintenance of the CAR. Decommissioning of construction works is included in the construction phase. The construction phase is anticipated to take approximately 3 to 10 years to complete.

Operations and Maintenance Phase:

The operations and maintenance phase starts once construction activities are complete and lasts for the life of the Project. The operations and maintenance phase of the Project is considered to be 75 years based on the expected timeline for when major refurbishment of road components (e.g., bridges), is anticipated.

Figure 6-1: Project Schedule







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There are currently no plans to decommission the CAR as there is no expected / known end date for its need. Therefore, future suspension, decommissioning and eventual abandonment of the CAR will not be considered in the IS / EA Report. It will be considered if and when a decommissioning or abandonment application is made for the road.

In determining the temporal boundaries, in particular the long operations and maintenance phase, consideration was given to the long-term effects on the well-being of present and future generations (Sustainability Principle #2⁷). The final temporal boundaries to be used in the IS / EA Report will be based on regulatory agency guidance, professional judgement and input received through the Project consultation process.

6.2 Spatial Boundaries: Study Areas

6.2.1 General Information

Study areas identify the geographic extents within which potential effects of the Project are likely to occur and will be considered in the IS / EA Report. The existing conditions and potential effects are documented for three study areas selected for the Project:

- Project Development Area (PDA): area of direct disturbance;
- Local Study Area (LSA): the area where most of the direct effects of the Project are likely to occur; and
- **Regional Study Area (RSA):** the area where indirect effects of the Project are likely to occur.

The PDA encompasses the 100 metre wide CAR right-of-way (ROW), temporary construction access roads, work areas, worker camps, and pits, quarries and associated access roads. The preliminary LSA currently being considered within the scope of the ongoing provincial regulatory review process generally includes the area within 2.5 km of the centreline of Alternative 1 and Alternative 4. The preliminary study area generally allows for the documentation of existing conditions and prediction of potential environmental effects for the Project. A 5 km wide study area also allows for route refinements during development of Project design (e.g., adjustment of the alignment to avoid sensitive features).



^{7.} Sustainability Principles #2 is one of four sustainability principles included in Section 25 of the Project's TISG as further elaborated on Section 9.7.



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The specific location of Project components, including the roadway, quarries, pits and temporary infrastructure, are not yet known and will be included in the IS / EA Report. While most of the Project components are expected to be located within the preliminary 5 km wide study area, benefits (e.g., reduced environmental disturbance, avoidance of sensitive features, technical considerations, concerns received through consultation) for locating Project components on lands outside of the 5 km wide study area may become known during the IA / EA process. If the need to locate Project components outside the 5 km wide study area is determined to be required or of benefit to the Project, the study area would be adjusted.

The study area for each environmental discipline may vary from the above-described general study area based on the potential for the Project to directly or indirectly affect each environmental discipline; therefore, discipline-specific LSAs and RSAs have been defined for the Project. In defining the final LSAs and RSAs, each environmental discipline will consider:

- Location and other characteristics of the environmental discipline relative to the Project;
- The anticipated extent of the potential Project effects;
- Federal, provincial, regional, and local government administrative boundaries;
- Indigenous groups listed in Table 4-1;
- Community knowledge and Indigenous Knowledge;
- Current or traditional land and resource use by Indigenous communities;
- Exercise of Aboriginal and Treaty Rights of Indigenous peoples, including cultural and spiritual practices; and
- Physical, ecological, technical, social, health, economic and cultural considerations.

The study areas included in this document are preliminary, covering the extent to which readily available information suggests the Project may have noticeable effects on the environment. The size, nature and location of past, present and reasonably foreseeable projects will be taken into consideration in the development of the cumulative effects assessment study area(s). The appropriate study area(s) to assess cumulative effects are dependent on the VCs predicted to have direct residual adverse effects as a result of the Project, and therefore, cannot be defined until the IS / EA Report has sufficiently advanced.

As further detailed in **Section 4**, the Proponent will continue to provide opportunities for neighbouring Indigenous communities and interested persons to provide input and inform the effects assessment, including the LSAs and RSAs.



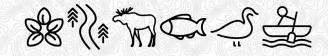
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6.2.2 Economic Environment Study Areas

The proposed LSA and RSA boundaries for Economic Environment are detailed in **Table 6-1** and shown on **Figure 6-2**.

Table 6-1: Economic Study Areas

Study Area	Geographic Extent	Rationale
Local Study Area	■ The communities of: - MFFN; - Aroland First Nation; and - Municipality of Greenstone.	■ Communities located in close proximity to the access road such that the Project or resulting access has the potential to directly influence the Economic Environment of these areas. This is the area where most economic impacts are expected.
Regional Study Area	 ■ The unorganized regional districts of: Cochrane, including the following Indigenous communities: Constance Lake First Nation Fort Albany First Nation Kenora, including the following Indigenous communities: Attawapiskat First Nation Eabametoong First Nation Kasabonika First Nation Kashechewan First Nation Kitchenuhmaykoosib Inninuwug Kingfisher Lake Fist Nation MFFN Mishkeegogamang First Nation Neskantaga Fist Nation Nibinamik First Nation Wapekeka First Nation Wawakapewin First Nation Weenusk First Nation Thunder Bay, including the following Indigenous communities: Animbiigoo Zaagi'igan Anishinaabek First Nation Aroland First Nation Ginoogaming First Nation 	■ The regional area where Project effects to the Economic Environment may also be experienced but to a lesser extent than in the LSA. If economic residual effects in the RSA are identified, the potential for cumulative economic effects from other planned future projects will be assessed.





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Study Area	Geographic Extent	Rationale
	 Long Lake #58 First Nation Red Sky 	
	Independent Métis Nation	
	 Métis Nation of Ontario, Region 2 	
	■ The Province of Ontario will also be considered	
	to estimate quantitative economic effects.	

Notes: The Economic RSA is inclusive of all Indigenous communities identified in Table 4-1. While statistics are likely to be provided for the region, specific information on communities is likely to be provided at a high-level.

As currently defined, the Economic study areas are defined to capture the potential Economic effects of the Project on the surrounding environment. The study areas are also reflective of potential changes to natural environment, health, and social conditions that could directly or indirectly impact Economic considerations.

The Economic LSA and RSA were defined based on secondary source information, including existing mapping and reports profiling relevant communities, to understand the extent to which community-level socio-economic interest was apparent in the PDA. More specifically, this included assessing the use of the PDA and / or a connection to the Project that has the potential to alter the Economic Environment of a community. The Economic Assessment will consider the potential for economic impacts on all communities identified in **Table 6-1**. Communities in the Economic LSA are those who are anticipated to experience noticeable changes due to the Project. Comparatively, communities in the Economic RSA, which is regionally defined, are likely to be impacted by the Project in a less noticeable and more variable manner due largely to their limited use and connection to the PDA and future transportation infrastructure.

Indigenous communities and interested persons will be consulted on their interest, concern and perceptions regarding the potential for economic impacts to their community. Further, the Proponent remains open to receiving information from communities on their activities within the PDA and how interlinkages between the Project and those communities may result in economic effects. The Economic LSA and RSA will be informed by feedback received from Indigenous communities and interested persons identified in **Sections 4.1** and **4.2**.

To be included in the Economic LSA, there needs to be either an articulated community concern or perception of economic impact on the community as a result of changing access to the MFFN community due to the Project; and / or due to Project effects on the environment that could result on economic impacts to a community. If there is rationale to alter study areas, the extents of the applicable study areas will be revised accordingly (i.e., if additional information is provided that warrants a community's inclusion in the Economic LSA, the Economic LSA will be adjusted). Alternatively, if requested, a community may be removed from the study area should the Project effects not be relevant to the community.





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All communities identified in **Table 6-1** will be profiled in in the Economic Assessment. Detailed economic profiles will be developed for communities listed in the Economic LSA. Primary data collection will be undertaken to develop profiles for these communities to augment secondary information sources. The Economic RSA will be profiled in less detail based on secondary data sources with key interactions and thematic information provided. Statistics collected on the Economic RSA will focus on larger regional areas such as unorganized regional districts.

6.2.3 Study Areas and Effects Assessment

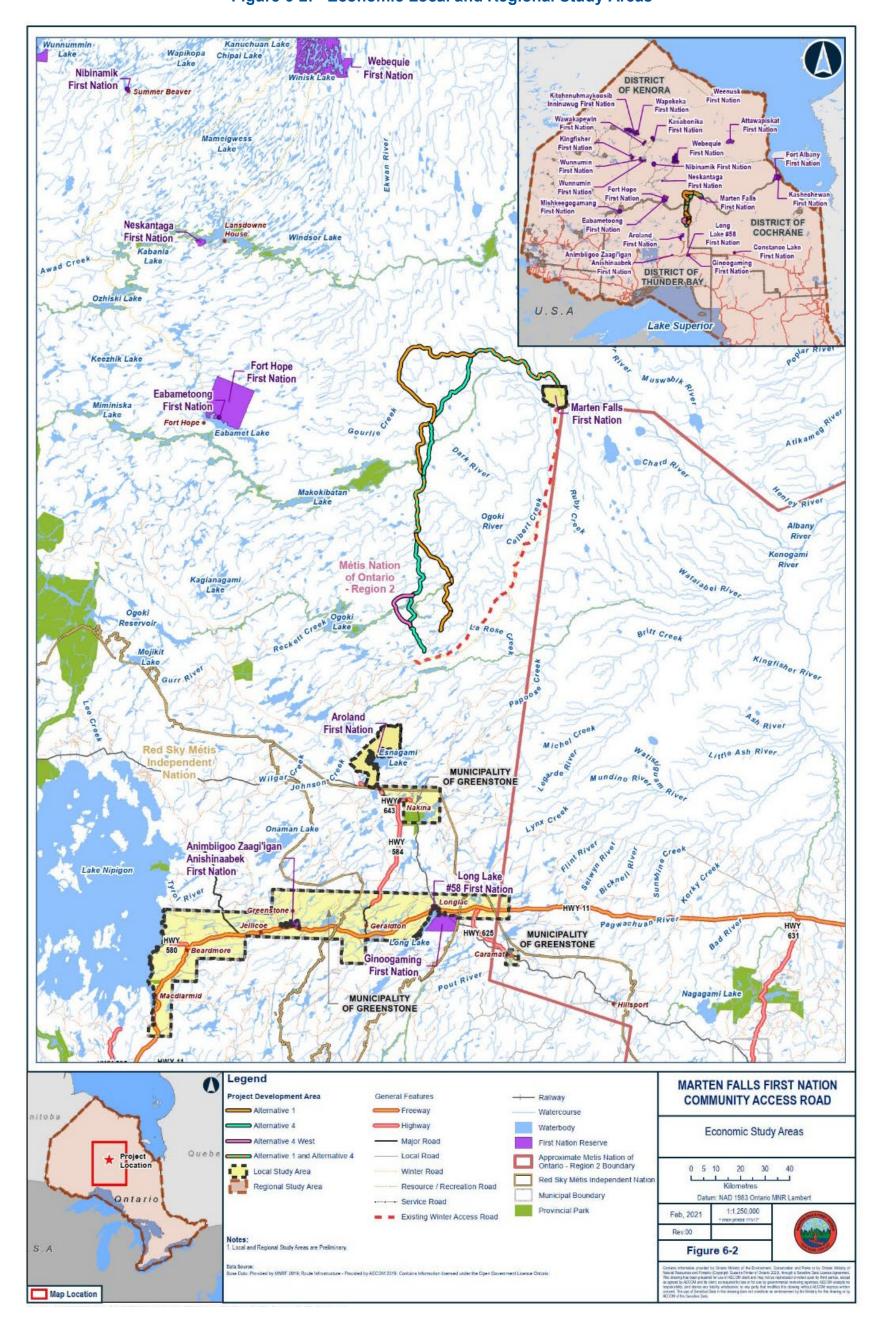
Considering the above description of study areas, a pathway analysis of potential economic impact will be completed for all Indigenous and non-Indigenous communities identified in **Table 6-1**. Communities with identified effect pathways will be assessed in detail in the IS / EA Report. For communities that are not expected to experience Economic impacts, a rationale will be provided. Communities located in the LSA will be assessed in greater detail than communities in the RSA. **Section 9.0** of this report provides a description to the effects assessment approach to be followed.

Members in other communities who are involved in land use activities within the Project area will be assessed and considered in the Land and Resource Use Assessment.





Figure 6-2: Economic Local and Regional Study Areas



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7. Baseline Study Design

7.1 Desktop Assessment

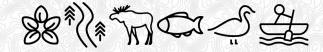
A desktop review of existing information sources will be completed to identify information gaps that will need to be addressed through further study. A preliminary list of applicable information sources has been included in Appendix A and reflects federal and provincial guidance received to date. This Study Plan focuses on the additional studies that are anticipated to be required to gather information beyond what is currently available through existing information sources, including those as described in Section 7.2 'Sources of baseline information' in the Agency's TISG for this Project.

7.2 Baseline Data Collection

Data collected for the Economic Assessment will be used to inform the IS / EA Report. Overall, data collection will be completed in support of the following objectives:

- Provide an understanding of the current state of each VC and indicator (Section 9.2) including relevant trends, barriers and opportunities;
- Describe economic conditions using disaggregated data and gender statistics, where publicly available or volunteered by knowledge holders;
- A sample table of publicly available disaggregated data are included in Appendix C;
- Identity factors that cannot be disaggregated through secondary source data will be considered qualitatively. Where available, these identity factors will be referenced and considered in existing conditions reporting and analysis;
- Define access and control of resources in alignment with GBA+ principles, for each indicator, as data allows;
- Conduct intersectional gender analysis considering resources, opportunity, control and access;
- Identify the capacity of institutions and socio-economic structures;
- Describe local and regional economic goals, as applicable; and,
- Provide relevant historical background and economic issues for the applicable study area.

These objectives will be reflected in the data collection processes and which data are included in the IS / EA Report. The purpose of the data collection will be to inform the assessment of the effects of the Project on





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the Economic Environment and to inform the development of mitigation measures to minimize adverse effects and / or enhance Project benefits. To collect information supporting the aforementioned objectives, data will be collected from primary and secondary data sources.

Indigenous communities identified in **Table 4-1** may be engaged for the purposes of economic data collection. In addition, when appropriate, the following is an initial list of stakeholders that may be engaged with for the purposes of economic data collection. This list of stakeholders may be revised and expanded upon on the IS / EA Report.

- Canada Chrome Corporation;
- Geraldton Chamber of Commerce;
- Golden Share Resource Corporation;
- KWG Resources Inc.;
- Leuenberger Air Service;
- Longlac Chamber of Commerce;
- Municipality of Greenstone;
- Noront Resources Ltd.;
- Northern Ontario Tourist Outfitters;
- Ontario Forest Industry Association;
- Wabassi Resources Inc.; and
- Wilderness North.

7.2.1 Secondary Data Collection

Secondary source data will be collected on relevant economic features, issues and activities within the LSA and RSA. The information will be collected for the purposes of assessing the effects of the Project on the Economic Environment. The secondary data will be collected from (including example sources):

- Statistics Canada;
 - Employment and labour force data
- Municipal, provincial and Indigenous government websites;
 - Municipal websites such as the Municipality of Greenstone Labour (Municipality of Greenstone 2016);



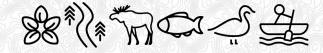


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- Municipal plans and reports;
 - Municipal reports such as the Municipality of Greenstone Financial Statements (Municipality of Greenstone 2018);
- Provincial plans and reports;
 - Provincial plans such as Plan to Build Ontario Together (Ontario Government 2019)
 2019 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review (Ministry of Finance 2019);
- Local service providers;
 - Local service providers such as Marten Falls First Nation Economic Development (211 Ontario North 2020)
- Regional reports;
 - Regional Reports such as Northern Projections Human Capital Series (Moazzami 2019b) available for Cochrane District, Kenora District and Thunder Bay District;
 - Regional Reports such as Mining Readiness Strategy: An Integrated Regional Economic Development Plan (Advantage Northwest 2013);
- Industry reports;
 - Industry reports such as Mining in Northwestern Ontario Opportunities and Challenges (Ambassador's Northwest 2012);
- Academic research;
 - Academic research such as the Northern Policy Institute's Community Labour and Market Report: Marten Falls First Nation (Martel and Noiseux 2017);
- Web-based sources such as firm websites; and,
 - Web-based sources such as Marten Falls First Nation: Economic Development (211 Ontario 2020);
- Previous relevant EAs:
 - The Hardrock Project Environmental Assessment (Greenstone Gold 2017).

Other secondary data sources publicly and readily available will also be considered and utilized as applicable. This includes sources listed in Appendix 1 of the TISG.

Economic data collection will be undertaken following the objectives outlined in **Section 7.0** to define the current state of the Economic Environment as applicable to each economic VC. Data collected from secondary sources will be disaggregated when available and analyzed to cover a diverse range of subgroups applicable to the Project area. Attention will be paid to norms, roles and relations, power





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structures, and needs, constraints and opportunities. The purpose of the disaggregation will be to understand disproportionate effects that may result from the Project.

7.2.2 Primary Data Collection

Primary data collection will include field work to collect qualitative data on the Economic Environment within communities potentially affected by the Project (included in **Table 6-1**). The MFFN CAR Project Team may undertake community visits for the purpose of data collection. Depending on COVID-19 restrictions, data collection at the community-level may also be conducted using alternative methods (i.e., online or telephone) or by Community Consultation Co-ordinators. If field visits do occur, they are expected to include interviews, focus groups and other discussions with community members to provide information on the Economic Environment. The field visits will include:

- Data collection methods including interviews, focus groups and surveys designed with respect to cultural norms and the socio-economic situation in a community;
- Focused data collection on gaps identified in the secondary sources related to VCs and indicators such as quality factors for services and infrastructure;
- Community Consultation Coordinators integrated into the data collection process to improve capacity;
- Engagement with knowledge holders including community government officials such as Chief,
 Council and band office staff;
- Engagement with relevant identity groups for the community including women, youth and elders, if culturally appropriate;
- Engagement with Community Consultation Coordinators to verify if the approach is applicable to the community and receive feedback prior to commencing activities; and,
- Cultural norms and participant confidentiality respected in all activities.

The specific scope of the primary data collection program will be informed by the final Economic study areas. However, it is anticipated primary data collection will focus on the communities most likely to be affected by the Project including MFFN and Aroland First Nation (**Section 6.2**). Based on the nature of the Economic Environment, primary data will also be collected in the regional service centre of Geraldton located in the Municipality of Greenstone. These communities are likely to experience the most Project-related change due to the location of the Project and its resulting access.





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The primary data collection will be informed by the same objectives as the overall data collection. However, the primary data collection program will have the added focuses of filling gaps identified in secondary data and informing further secondary data collection based on issue-specific items raised through primary data collection. This includes the collection of Indigenous and local knowledge of the Economic Environment, disaggregated qualitative data by identity factors when volunteered and other information relevant to understanding the current state of the Economic Environment in the Project area. Specific information requirements will be based on gaps in the secondary literature. For example, if information on youth is not readily available through secondary sources or engagement within a community, this group may be more heavily targeted for primary economic data collection.

Specific primary data collection activities will vary based on the preferences of groups, the number of individuals in the group and other information identified through the Indigenous Knowledge Program and engagement relating to cultural relevancy of data collection practices. It is important to note that this targeted data collection activity differs from the engagement activities outlined in the IS / EA Consultation Plan and the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests Study Plan.

The economic primary data collection will involve asking questions in order to fill discipline-specific information gaps. Interviews will be tailored to the specific individuals being interviewed. Example interview questions include:

- What type of employment opportunities exist within the community? Where do people work?
- Do people leave the community for work? Is it seasonal? Where do people go for work?
- Is unemployment a problem for specific groups? Youth? Women? Are there times of the year when unemployment is higher?
- Do you purchase goods outside the community? If so, how often? How much is spent on a typical month? What types of goods?
- What indigenous owned businesses operate in the community? What services do they provide? What challenges do Indigenous owned businesses face?
- Are there employment training opportunities available in the community?

There will be also be opportunities throughout the interviews for participants to raise topics they deem to be relevant and appropriate.





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When conducting this targeted primary data collection, reporting and consultation requirements identified by communities will be followed, including those provided by Indigenous communities and identified by Community Consultation Coordinators.

GBA+ will be integrated into economic primary data collection activities. Drawing on this analytical framework, the economic primary data collection program will seek to understand the diverse views and perspectives of a range of individuals including relevant identity groups such as youth, women, elders and those engaged in traditional cultural practices. Primary data collection will be inclusive of other community-specific identity factors that emerge through engagement activities and the Indigenous Knowledge Program.

Information obtained through consultation and engagement and the Indigenous Knowledge Program will be used to support the economic baseline conditions and effects assessment, including any disproportionate effects on identified sub-populations. Relevant information from engagement activities and the Indigenous Knowledge Program may also include data collection techniques for the target group, information to support baseline data collection, an expression of interest in providing additional knowledge, and identifying other sources of information (i.e., people, groups or key documents).

The economic primary data collection program will select key socio-economic knowledge holders to participate in the program. These participants may include government officials (including community officials), women's groups, youth groups, political officials (municipal and Indigenous communities), services providers and other relevant community knowledge holders consistent with gaps in secondary literature. The selection of participants will be informed by factors such as the availability of information, community level of interest, anticipated magnitude of effect and willingness to participate in activities.

In addition, the selection of participants will be based on existing stakeholder contact lists, previous engagement information, secondary data sources that identify key contacts, and information obtained from Community Consultation Coordinators. Information obtained through the general engagement activities and the Indigenous Knowledge Program may be used to identify participants, specifically if this information is relevant to the economic assessment.

Community Consultation Coordinators may be engaged to assist those Indigenous communities with the highest potential for impact and Project interest. Community Consultation Coordinators will be responsible for assisting in the coordination of engagement activities at the community-level and will be integral in gathering input from Indigenous communities. To attract participants to the economic primary data collection program, the MFFN CAR Project Team will work with Community Consultation Coordinators to advertise data collection activities, encourage participation, identify barriers to participation and identify key socio-





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economic knowledge holders. Community Consultation Coordinators will also play a key role in the identification of community-specific identity factors to be considered in the Economic Assessment.

7.3 Study Methods

The study methods that will be employed to characterize the economic baseline conditions include data collection, data analysis and qualitative descriptions and profiling. Multiple sources of data, including primary, secondary, engagement and Indigenous Knowledge, will be utilized for the purposes of economic data collection. Data collection methods are detailed in **Section 7.2**. The data collection process can be conceptualized as a matrix. For each indicator listed in **Section 9.2**, data will be collected for different groups of interest (e.g., communities, subgroups within the community). The data collected will be tracked and assessed using this approach, and, when required, primary data collection will target information gaps identified in the matrix. Data analysis will involve classifying, comparing and interpreting the data collected in line with this matrix approach. An intersectional gender analysis will also be conducted to examine the differences in the status of different subgroups and their differential access to resources, opportunities and services.

Based on this analysis, qualitative descriptions and economic profiles will be produced, including community and regional profiles derived from the data as described above. These descriptions and profiles will provide the economic baseline information to characterize the Economic VCs and inform the effects assessment. In addition, to support GBA+ objectives, the qualitative descriptions and profiles will describe economic conditions using disaggregated data and gender statistics, when available. Regional and community profiles provide a comprehensive and holistic background to consider and assess changes in a dynamic environment. These study methods are standard practices for economic impact assessments.

The scope of the Economic Baseline Study will be tailored to the Project context and consider Indigenous community inputs and priorities. The scope of this study will be inclusive of the temporal and spatial boundaries identified in **Section 6.1** and **Section 6.2**. The Project phases and the Economic LSA and RSA will inform data collection and data analysis.

The primary economic data collection is anticipated to be conducted during the Spring and Summer of 2021, however this timing is subject to change and dependent on the larger Project schedule, including engagement and consultation activities. Public gathering restrictions related to COVID-19 may also influence timing. Other economic baseline study methods will occur throughout the IS / EA process.



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8. Data Management and Analysis

Data management including quality assurance / quality control (QA / QC) will be employed to minimize potential for data entry and analysis errors, prepare data sets for analysis and limit sensitive data distribution in accordance to established agreements.

It is expected that there will be a multitude of data issues and limitations based on the Project area. This may include:

- The suppression of data by Statistics Canada due to low population numbers, particularly when disaggregating data related to income and other sensitive factors;
- Individuals volunteering to self-identify during the primary data collection program to support disaggregated data reporting; and,
- Community-specific research and planning documentation to support all elements of data collection including community-specific studies and specialized plans.

The above list is not comprehensive. It is anticipated that additional data issues and limitations may be encountered. Data issues and limitations will be tracked for the duration of the Project and, when possible, addressed with supplementary sources of information. These issues may limit the information available to be reported by the Proponent as part of the IS / EA Report, particularly related to disaggregated data to support GBA+. None of these issues are likely to limit the ability of the Proponent to assess economic effects but may result in more frequent assumptions related to the applicability of data across communities.

The economic data collection program will involve a data verification component. There will be opportunities for community members that participate in economic data collection activities to review, comment and discuss changes to the information presented in the economic baseline study. In addition, meeting minutes will be shared with participants following primary data collection activities. When appropriate, Community Consultation Coordinators will also support and inform the data verification process. The data verification process will be clearly documented.



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9. Effects Assessment

The following sections provide discipline-specific input and considerations as they pertain to the methodology for effects assessment. The Project is in the early stage of the IS / EA Report preparation and it is expected that the effects assessment methodology will be refined iteratively based on regulatory agency guidance, professional judgment and input received through the Project consultation and engagement process.

9.1 Project-Environment Interactions

The Project activities that may result in changes to the environment are described within the identified temporal and spatial boundaries. This includes identification of both direct and indirect changes by comparing the existing setting to the conditions anticipated to occur as a result of the Project. For each environmental discipline, the likely Project-environment interactions will be identified based on professional judgment, activities listed in TISG Section 3.2 as well as projects of similar magnitude and / or location.

A preliminary analysis of Project-environment interactions for the Economic Environment is provided in **Table 9-1** and will be confirmed during the IA / EA process to identify the Project-environment interactions that are likely to have a potential effect, and to identify measures to avoid or minimize potential negative effects and enhance benefits.

Table 9-1: Project – Environment Interactions

Project Phases	Project Activities	Economic
Construction Phase	Mobilization of Equipment and Supplies	Х
	Temporary Construction Staging Areas ¹	Х
	Temporary Access Roads and Trails ¹	Х
	Temporary Construction Camps ¹	Х
	ROW Clearing and Grubbing	Х
	Brush and Timber Disposal	Х
	Pits and Quarries ¹	Х
	Drilling / Blasting / Aggregate Production	Х
	Road Construction (stripping, subgrade excavation, embankment fill placement, grading, ditching)	Х
	Bridge and Culvert Installation (approach embankments, foundations, substructures, superstructures, traffic protection, erosion controls)	Х
	Construction Site Restoration	X





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Project Phases	Project Activities	Economic
Construction Phase:	Pits and Quarries	X
Decommissioning	Temporary Camps, Roads / Trails and Staging Areas	X
Operations	Road Usage	X
Phase	Maintenance ²	Х

Notes: 1. Includes construction and use of

9.2 Valued Components and Indicators

VCs are the environmental, health, social, economic or additional elements or conditions of the natural and human environment that may be impacted by a proposed project and are of concern or value to the public, Indigenous peoples, federal authorities and interested parties (the Agency 2020b). Indicators represent the resource, feature, or issue related to the VC that, if changed, may demonstrate an effect on the environment. The indicators and rationale for selection and measurement of potential effects, to be used to assess and evaluate the alternative routes and assess the overall effects of the Project in the IS / EA Report are provided in **Table 9-2**. The table includes both quantitative and qualitative indicators. The final list of VCs and indicators to be used in the IS / EA Report will be finalized based on regulatory agency guidance, professional judgement and input received through the Project consultation and engagement activities with Indigenous communities and interested persons.

The VCs of the Economic Environment have been determined through consideration of the following factors listed in the TISG8:

- VC presence in the study area;
- The extent to which the VC is linked to the interests or exercise of Aboriginal and Treaty Rights
 of Indigenous peoples, and whether an Indigenous group has requested the VC;
- The extent to which the effects (real or perceived) of the Project and related activities have the potential to interact with the VC;



^{2.} Includes General Maintenance (e.g., grading, erosion control, quarrying, borrow pits), Seasonal Maintenance (e.g., snow clearing, bridge and culvert maintenance), and Special Maintenance (e.g., slope failures, road settlement / break-up.).

^{8.} The TISG also states that information from ongoing and completed regional assessments in the proposed area of the Project should be used to inform VCs for the Project. In February 2020 a regional assessment of the Ring of Fire region commenced; however, it is not sufficiently advanced at this time to inform the Project VCs. The VCs will be consulted and engaged on early in the IA/ EA process and finalized taking into consideration the input received. Therefore, only information relevant to the Project that arises from the regional assessment of the Ring of Fire within an appropriate timeline will inform the VCs for the Project.



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- The extent to which the VC may be under cumulative stress from other past, existing or future undertakings in combination with other human activities and natural processes;
- The extent to which the VC is linked to federal, provincial, territorial or municipal government priorities (e.g., legislation, programs, policies);
- The possibility that adverse or positive effects on the VC would be of particular concern to Indigenous groups, the public, or federal, provincial, territorial, municipal or Indigenous governments; and
- Whether the potential effects of the Project on the VC can be measured and / or monitored or would be better ascertained through the analysis of a proxy VC.

Inputs received to date from Indigenous communities, agencies and interested persons through the Consultation and Engagement Program, including inputs received on the Draft ToR, have also been used to inform the selection of the VCs and indicators for the Economic discipline.

As the Economic Environment has an abundance of interlinkages and overlaps, certain aspects of the Economic Environment are considered in other study plans, and have their baseline information documented in other relevant reports. The Social Assessment will document information on housing and infrastructure. The Land and Resource Use Assessment includes information on industrial land uses and tourism establishments. Elements of the traditional economy are covered in the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests Assessment. Findings and data included in these disciplines are considered under relevant components of the Economic Assessment.





Table 9-2: Economic Indicators

Valued Component	Indicator ¹	Sub Indicator ¹	Rationale for Selection	Sources of Information
Regional Economy	Economic Opportunity	 Change in business opportunity Change in regional economic activity Change in output Change in GDP value-added 	■ The Project has the potential to change the composition of the economy and alter the industrial and commercial activities available within the area.	 Primary data (e.g., interviews with community members / key contacts; area businesses, municipal economic development office); Municipal, provincial and Indigenous government websites; Marten Falls First Nation Community Profile (Matawa 2014); Municipal plans and reports; Greenstone Business Capacity Inventory (Greenstone Economic Development Corporation 2018); Provincial plans and reports; Growth Plan for Northern Ontario (Ontario Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry (ENDM) 2011); Local service providers; Marten Falls First Nation Economic Development (211 Ontario 2020); Regional economic development reports; Mining Readiness Strategy: An Integrated Regional Economic Development Plan (Advantage Northwest 2013); Regional tourism reports; Regional Tourism Profiles (Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport 2017); Industry reports; Mining in Northwestern Ontario – Opportunities and Challenges (Ambassador's Northwest 2012) Previous EAs; and, Hardrock Project Environmental Assessment (Greenstone Gold 2017) Land and Resource Use IA.



Valued Component	Indicator ¹	Sub Indicator ¹	Rationale for Selection	Sources of Information
Regional Economy	Procurement	■ Value of procurement opportunities associated with the Project	■ The Project will require the procurement of goods and services – possibly from firms within the local area.	 Primary data (e.g., interviews with community members / key contacts; area businesses, municipal economic development office); Municipal, provincial and Indigenous government websites; Municipal plans and reports; Greenstone Business Capacity Inventory (Greenstone Economic Development Corporation 2018); Provincial plans and reports; Local service providers; Regional economic development reports; Mining Readiness Strategy: An Integrated Regional Economic Development Plan (2013) Regional tourism reports; Regional Tourism Profiles (Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport 2017); Industry reports; and, Previous EAs. Hardrock Project Environmental Assessment (Greenstone Gold 2017)
Regional Economy	Price of Goods	 Estimated price changes at an order of magnitude level for key consumptive goods 	■ The Project may affect the price of goods due to increased access to the community.	■ Primary data (e.g., interviews with community members / key contacts; area businesses, municipal economic development office);
Regional Economy	Traditional Economies	 Change in ability to undertake traditional economic activities Change in willingness to undertake traditional economic activities 	■ The Project may influence the traditional economies of local communities.	 Primary data (e.g., interviews with community members / key contacts); Indigenous Knowledge Program; and Academic research and NGO reports What's at Stake in the Ring of Fire (Gamble 2017).





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Valued Component	Indicator ¹	Sub Indicator ¹	Rationale for Selection	Sources of Information
Labour Force and Employment	Employment	 Change in job opportunities Change in labour income Training opportunities 	 The Project is likely to offer employment opportunities. Note that the IS / EA Report will include recommendations for employment training to enhance local hiring opportunities. 	 Primary data (e.g., interviews with community members / key contacts; area businesses, municipal economic development office); Statistics Canada (e.g., employment and labour force data); Municipal, provincial and Indigenous government websites; Municipality of Greenstone Community Profile: Labour Force (2016); Municipal plans and reports; Greenstone Business Capacity Inventory (Greenstone Economic Development Corporation 2018); Provincial plans and reports; Growth Plan for Northern Ontario (ENDM 2011); Industry reports; and, Mining in Northwestern Ontario – Opportunities and Challenges (Ambassador's Northwest 2012); Previous EAs; Hardrock Project Environmental Assessment (Greenstone Gold 2017).
Government Finances	Expenditure	■ Change in government expenditure	The Project may change the available funds for governments to spend.	 Municipal and Indigenous community financial statements; and Municipality of Greenstone Financial Statements (Municipality of Greenstone 2018).
	Taxation	■ Change in tax revenue	■ The Project may affect tax revenues.	 Municipal and Indigenous community financial statements; and Municipality of Greenstone Financial Statements (Municipality of Greenstone 2018).

Note: 1. Indicators define changes during both construction and operation.





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9.3 Potential Effects

A direct effect occurs through the direct interaction of an activity with an environmental discipline. The Project-environment interactions currently anticipated, based upon preliminary analysis, to result in direct effects to the Economic discipline have been identified in **Table 9-1**. The potential direct effects resulting from the Project-environment interactions will be confirmed during the IA / EA process and will be based on input received through the Indigenous Knowledge Program and Consultation and Engagement Program, regulatory agency guidance, and professional judgement.

An indirect effect occurs when a change to one environmental discipline resulting from a Project activity causes a change to another environmental discipline (e.g., changes in land and resource use could indirectly affect economic conditions for an existing business). **Table 9-3** provides a preliminary identification of how the Economic Environment may be indirectly affected by changes to other environmental disciplines.





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Table 9-3: Potential Discipline Interactions – Economic

Discipline and Associated Valued Components	Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests	Atmospheric Environment	Acoustic and Vibration Environment	Physiography, Geology, Terrain and Soils	Surface Water	Groundwater and Geochemistry	Vegetation	Wildlife	Fish and Fish Habitat	Social	Economy	Land and Resource Use	Human Health and Community Safety	Visual Aesthetics	Archaeological and Cultural Heritage
 Economy Regional Economy Labour Force and Employment Government Finances 	Х	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	Х		Х	х	-	-

Notes: X = Potential pathway for indirect effect as a result of the Project.
- = No pathway for indirect effect is anticipated as a result of the Project.



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9.4 Methods for Predicting Future Conditions

The TISG includes a request that localized direct, indirect and induced economic effects be considered in the IS / EA Report. Input-output modelling is the typical method used when conducting assessments of economic effects in Canada including direct, indirect and induced effects. Considering the likely structural economic changes associated with a road access project as indicated by the requirement to assess price changes, it is not relevant to conduct localized input-output modelling at the community-level. Input-output modelling is linear with a simplified macro-economic structure which removes key variables such as price-level, interest rates and unemployment rates (Statistics Canada 2009). Due to the reliance on existing economic relationships, price volatility can corrupt the linear relationships contained within these models making them less reliable, particularly over time (Statistics Canada 2009).

As a result, it is proposed input-output multipliers developed by the Northern Policy Institute be used to consider economic effects at an unorganized district level or provincial-level consistent with the economic RSA (Moazzami 2019a). If this approach is utilized, provincial multipliers will be used to scale the regional multipliers when multipliers are not available through the Northern Policy Institute. Alternatively, Statistics Canada's National Input-Output model will be used to conduct a provincial level assessment of economic effects. The best practices method will be determined depending on the planned procurement of goods and service by the Proponent.

Effects to factors listed in Section 18 of the TISG including changes to type of income (e.g., market, government), specific to small businesses, non-market (or non-financialized economies), and consumer spending do not have multipliers associated with them for a variety of reasons. This includes the National Input-Output Model and the Northern Policy Institutes' estimated multipliers. As a result, changes to these factors are expected to be assessed qualitatively with some quantitative techniques incorporated. For example, consumer spending may be estimated using savings rates from relevant sources and expected labour income from the multipliers. Qualitative descriptions of economic effects to these items should provide sufficient understanding of how the Project is likely to affect the Economic Environment.

Specifics for how items included in the TISG will be addressed has been included in **Section 11**. These items will commonly be addressed through a combination of qualitative and quantitative methods dependent upon the availability of data and primary data provided.



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9.5 Mitigation and Enhancement Measures

Once potential effects have been identified, the effects assessment will explore technically and economically feasible mitigation measures to avoid or minimize the identified negative effects and enhancement measures to increase positive effects beyond those that are already inherent to the design. These measures will consist of industry-standard practices, federal and provincial standard specifications, regulator-mandated measures, best management practices, Indigenous and community recommendations and recommendations from industry and environmental professionals based on expertise, scientific publications, experience and judgement.

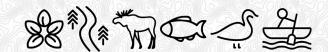
It is important that mitigation and enhancement measures are achievable, measurable and verifiable and monitored for compliance and effectiveness during all temporal phases as part of the Project follow-up monitoring plan. Required environmental monitoring will verify the potential environmental effects predicted in the IS / EA Report, evaluate the effectiveness of mitigation and enhancement measures, and identify the process the Proponent will follow if mitigation and enhancement measures are not effective.

9.5.1 TISG Section 20 Requirements

The following provides a response to the fulfillment of TISG Section 20 requirements.

Table 9-4: TISG Section 20 Requirements

Item #	TISG Section 20 Requirement	Response
1	■ Describe mitigation measures that are specific to each environmental, health, social or economic effect identified. Mitigation measures are to be written as specific commitments that clearly describe when and how the proponent intends to implement them, what decision-making criteria will be used, and the outcome these mitigation measures are designed to address;	■ The Economic Assessment will include a description of applicable mitigation measures deemed to be required to avoid / minimize adverse economic impacts or enhance positive economic impacts. This will be informed by engagement activities with applicable persons.
2	Describe mitigation measures that are specific to identified effects to Indigenous peoples;	■ The Economic Assessment will include a description of applicable mitigation measures deemed to be required subject to the results of the IA, including measures that may be specific to Indigenous people This will be informed by engagement activities with applicable Indigenous communities.
3	Describe mitigation measures proposed by Indigenous peoples and the consideration of those in the Project;	■ The Economic Assessment will include a description of applicable mitigation measures deemed to be required subject to the results of the IA, including measures that may be specific to Indigenous people including measures that may have been suggested by Indigenous people.





Item #	TISG Section 20 Requirement	Response
4	■ Propose differentiated mitigation measures for all potential adverse effects identified, if applicable, so that adverse effects do not fall disproportionately on vulnerable populations, certain Indigenous groups, or certain communities, and they are not disadvantaged in sharing any development benefits and opportunities resulting from the Project. These mitigation measures should be developed in collaboration with those who are vulnerable and / or disadvantaged;	■ The development of applicable mitigation measures will take into account identified potential impacts on vulnerable populations and developed with the input of interested persons from those vulnerable populations.
5	■ Propose mitigation measures to reduce all potential adverse effects to economic conditions of all potentially impacted communities and Indigenous groups and present opportunities for enhancing positive effects such that benefits are not disproportionate on some;	Mitigation measures will be developed to address potential adverse effects on all potentially economically impacted communities. As well, opportunities to enhance positive effects will be recommended where applicable.
6	Identify opportunities for enhancing positive effects, such as creation of local employment and infrastructure improvements;	■ Where applicable, recommendations will be made regarding opportunities for enhancing positive effects such as creation of local employment and infrastructure improvements.
7	Describe supplier development initiatives, including identification of potential local suppliers, providing them with information about technical, commercial and other requirements, and debriefing unsuccessful bidders;	Potential local suppliers will be identified and where applicable, recommendations will be made regarding supplier development initiatives.
8	 Describe any procurement policies (e.g., bid packaging) that facilitate the opportunities for local companies; 	■ Where applicable, recommendations will be made regarding procurement policies for local companies.
9	Describe education, training, hiring practices that encourage employment of local people, including the use of the Northern Ontario Network of Indigenous Training Organizations (e.g., the Indigenous Skills and Employment Training network);	■ Where applicable, recommendations will be made regarding the development and implementation of training and hiring practices to promote the hiring of local people.
10	Describe technology transfer and research and development programs that will facilitate the use of local suppliers of goods and services, local employees, develop new capabilities related to project requirements;	■ Where applicable, recommendations will be made regarding technology transfer and research and development programs that facilitate the use of local suppliers of goods and services, local employees, develop new capabilities related to project requirements.
11	Describe how disproportionate effects that were identified in the GBA+ results were used to inform mitigation and enhancement measures.	■ The Economic Assessment will describe any identified disproportionate effects to sub-populations.





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9.6 Residual Effects

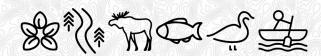
Residual effects are the effects remaining after the application of mitigation measures. The IS / EA Report will describe in detail the potential adverse and positive residual effects in relation to each temporal phase of the Project (e.g., construction, operation). Residual effects will be described using criteria to quantify or qualify adverse and positive effects, taking into account any important contextual factors. The residual effects will therefore be described in terms of the direction, magnitude, geographic extent, duration, frequency, likelihood, and whether effects are reversible or irreversible. Ecological and socio-economic context may also be relevant when describing a residual effect. Context relates to the existing setting, its level of disturbance and resilience to adverse effects. Context can also relate to timing as it applies to assessing the worst-case scenario (e.g., effect during migratory or calving season for wildlife). Where appropriate, information regarding residual effects will be disaggregated by sex, gender, age and other community relevant identifying factors to identify disproportionate residual effects for diverse subgroups.

For magnitude, Economic Environment definitions are required and are proposed below in **Table 9-5**.

Table 9-5: Economic Magnitude Definition

Magnitude Level	Definition	Rationale
Negligible	An effect that may or may not be discernible but is within the historical variability as defined by baseline conditions. The effect is within the capacity of the economic system to respond and / or will not alter the current economic structures.	Negligible effects are small and may not be noticeable. These effects do not represent a change in day-to-day life at a community-level.
Low	An effect that is small but discernable and within historical variability as defined by baseline conditions. The effect is within the capacity of the economic system to respond and / or will not alter the current economic structures.	Low effects are noticeable to community members. These effects do not represent a change in day-to-day life at a community-level
Medium	An effect that is clearly discernable and beyond the historical variability as defined by baseline conditions. The effect is within the capacity of the economic system to respond and / or will not alter the current economic structures.	Medium effects are noticeable to community members. These effects may or may not represent a change to day-to-day life but can be adjusted to within the current economic system.
High	An effect that is clearly discernable and beyond the historical variability as defined by baseline conditions. The effect is beyond the capacity of the economic system to respond and / or will alter the current economic structures.	High effects are noticeable to community members. These effects represent a change to day-to-day life and cannot be responded to within the current economic system resulting in systemic change.

^{9.} TISG Section 13.1 identifies additional effects characteristics for certain disciplines (e.g., wetlands, birds, terrestrial wildlife, species at risk). These additional effects characteristics are described in the respective discipline-specific study plans.





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9.7 Consideration of Sustainability Principles

The following provides a generic description of how sustainability principles will be considered in the effects assessment. The extent to which sustainability principles apply to a specific VC will vary depending on the nature of the VC and the potential for Project effects on the VC.

The effects assessment approach for the Project has included the consideration of the sustainability principles outlined in the Project TISG and the Agency's guidance on sustainability. The sustainability principles that have been considered include:

- 1. Consider the interconnectedness and interdependence of human-ecological systems;
- 2. Consider the well-being of present and future generations;
- 3. Consider positive effects and reduce adverse effects of the Project; and
- 4. Apply the precautionary principle by considering uncertainty and risk of irreversible harm.

The interconnectedness and interdependence of human-ecological systems will be considered through the assessment of potential indirect effects of each alternative. An indirect effect occurs when a change to one environmental discipline resulting from a Project activity causes a change to another environmental discipline (e.g., changes in vegetation could indirectly affect wildlife). A preliminary assessment of indirect effects has been included in **Section 9.3**.

The well-being of present and future generations will be considered in the effects assessment through the application of the long-term operations phase temporal boundary of 75 years (**Section 6.1**) and through the effects characteristics description of duration and reversibility for each residual effect predicted.

The consideration of positive effects and reducing adverse effects of the Project is fundamental to the effects assessment methodology through the identification of mitigation measures to reduce potential adverse effects and the identification of the preferred alternative through the evaluation of advantages (e.g., positive effects) and disadvantages (e.g., adverse effects).

The effects assessment will apply the precautionary principle by clearly describing and documenting all uncertainties and assumptions underpinning the analysis and identifying information sources. The effects assessment will consider risk of irreversible harm through the effects characteristics description of reversibility for each residual effect predicted and will describe any uncertainty associated with the assessment of residual effects.





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The scope of the sustainability assessment will be defined by issues of importance identified by Indigenous communities and interested persons through consultation and engagement activities, while also ensuring to be inclusive of the diversity of views expressed. The selection of VCs that will be the focus of the sustainability assessment will be aligned with the issues of importance identified by Indigenous communities and interested persons, as well as residual effects identified through the effects assessment process. The sustainability assessment will describe how the planning and design of the Project, in all phases including follow-up monitoring, considered the sustainability principles.

9.8 Consideration of Identity and Gender-Based Analysis Plus in Effects Assessment

The Proponent recognizes that communities and sub-populations within those communities may be impacted differently by the Project with respect to VCs and indicators. As such, the Project aims to collect economic baseline information for the purpose of assessing differential effects and establishing relevant mitigation measures, as further elaborated on in **Section 4.3**. GBA+ will not be limited to community feedback; when offered or discussed in secondary texts, additional sub-population information as is applicable to the relevant assessment will be incorporated.

As noted in **Sections 7.2** and **7.3**, GBA+ will be integrated throughout the Economic Assessment. This analysis will be derived from our matrix-based approach for baseline collection which will be foundational to understanding and assessing differential effects to sub-populations. The approach to GBA+ will be largely qualitative drawing on author's knowledge, best practices and relevant literature.

9.9 Follow-up Programs

A follow-up program verifies the accuracy of the effects assessment and evaluates the effectiveness of mitigation measures. Section 26 of the TISGs do not specifically outline required Economic-related monitoring activities that are to be included, other than the tracking of economic issues that would be the responsibility of overall Project engagement and consultation activities. The identification of Economic follow-up programs for the Project are not described in this Study Plan as the information needed to determine the need for and form of impact monitoring is dependent on the outcome of the impact assessment and on the results of consultation and engagement with Indigenous communities, agencies and interested persons.

Based on the results of the Economic effects assessment work, follow-up program recommendations will be made subject to their applicability and necessity. These programs may be targeted to specific communities and / or specific adverse effects and / or potential positive effects of the Project.





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10. Assumptions

Any assumption used in the effects assessment, for example the assumed average daily traffic on the CAR, will be clearly identified and a rationale provided in the IS / EA Report. The MFFN CAR Project Team is not aware at this time of key assumptions that will be recognized in the Economic Assessment. These will be determined during the IA / EA work and documented in the IS / EA Report.



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11. Concordance with Federal and Provincial Guidance

This section provides the best information currently available on how federal and provincial requirements identified for the Project to date will be addressed. **Table 11-1** outlines how the Economic Assessment will conform with the TISG. Presented in **Table 11-2** are the comments received on the Draft ToR that relate to the Economic Assessment. **Table 11-3** outlines proposed deviations from the TISG requirements.

The final concordance with federal and provincial requirements will be included in the IS / EA Report, and will be based on regulatory agency guidance, professional judgement and input received through the Project consultation and engagement process.





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Table 11-1: Study Plan Federal and Provincial Concordance – Conformance with Requirements

ID#	Federal TISG Reference ¹⁰	Requirement / Comment / Concern	Response	Study Plan Reference
1	TISG Section 11	■ This economic baseline should document the local and regional economic conditions and trends based on the spatial and temporal boundaries selected, and must include economic indicators and activities for all potentially impacted local communities, including municipalities, and Indigenous groups.	study areas.	Section 6.0 Section 7.0
2		■ The scope and content of the economic baseline should be tailored to the specific project context, take into account community and Indigenous group input, and should include indicators and information that are useful and meaningful for the effects analysis.	■ Information from Indigenous communities will be obtained and considered as defined in Section 4.2 and Section 5.0. Indicators are defined in Section 9.2, which have been developed in reference to this guidance.	Section 5.0Section 9.2
3	TISG Section 11	 The information provided must: be sufficient to provide a comprehensive understanding of the current state of each VC, including relevant trends; describe how community and Indigenous knowledge from related populations, including input from diverse groups, was used in establishing baseline conditions; describe baseline economic conditions using disaggregated data and gender-statistics for diverse subgroups within the community to support GBA+; conduct intersectional gender analysis to examine differences in the status of diverse subgroups (e.g., women, youth, and elders) and their differential access to resources, opportunities and services; 	■ These principles will inform both primary and secondary data collection to support the Economic Assessment. Further, the Proponent will document baseline data consistent with these principles. The exception is data will not be disaggregated by gender as Statistics Canada does not disaggregate based on gender. Data disaggregated based on sex will be included.	■ Section 7.2.1 ■ Section 7.2.2
4	TISG Section 11	■ Labour market: — Labour supply and demand; — Local and regional labour force characteristics, disaggregated by ethnicity or indigeneity, age, sex, gender and other community relevant factors to support analysis, where appropriate, including the employment rate, the unemployment rate, employment by industry, employment status (e.g., full-time, part-time, self-employed, seasonal), average monthly earnings; — known barriers and opportunities to employment for underrepresented groups, proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by age, sex and location, and gender division of labour; — information on local construction businesses and joint ventures, equipment availability and general competing projects in the community; — housing and consumer prices; and — a description of housing conditions and needs.	 The labour market information will be collected from the sources listed in Section 7.2 for the purpose of assessing changes to employment and income as stated in Section 9.2. Information will be disaggregated consistent with available secondary information from Statistics Canada including age and sex. Indigeneity will be considered for regional and municipal study areas but not at the local Indigenous community level due to the lack of a non-Indigenous population. Barriers and labour divisions will be described qualitatively. Information on domestic labour will be described as secondary sources allow and questions to that effect may be included in primary data collection. However, census-level data will not be reported as the data are not available. Information from industry and local business will be considered in the information collection as described in Section 7.2. Pricing for both housing and consumers will be considered in relevant baseline sections of the Economic and Social Assessments as indicated in Section 9.2. Housing pricing, conditions and needs are to be included within the Social Assessment. 	■ Section 9.2 ■ Social Study Plan
5	TISG Section 11	 Business environment: sources of individual and community income (e.g., market economy, government transfer payment etc.); the main industries and largest employers, and any opportunities for local/regional businesses to benefit from the Project; broader economic contributors to the regional economy, such as small businesses (e.g., nature and outdoor tourism); local traditional, subsidized and market economies, and current market trends; any commercial fisheries that may be impacted, including species fished, number of licences, and value of fisheries, where applicable; 	 Sources of income will be considered in Labour market baseline conditions using Statistics Canada data. The regional economy baseline will describe key sectors and employers including the current state of those sectors, which will include trajectory. This will be framed within their contribution to both the local and regional economies. This will include industries such as mining, forestry, tourism, and commercial resource harvesting such as fishing and trapping. Relevant information on these industries will be included such as licenses, target resources and industry value, as is available. 	 Section 5.0 Section 7.0 Section 7.2 Social Study Plan

^{10.} Federal TISG Reference should be the Section or subsection, page etc. that clearly identifies where comment/issue we are addressing can be found (ex. Section 8.1 of TISG)



ID#	Federal TISG Reference ¹⁰	Requirement / Comment / Concern	Response	Study Plan Reference
		 access, ownership and use of lands and resources (e.g., land tenure, mineral claims, mineral exploration, aggregate, food, water, social infrastructure), including ownership of land surrounding water crossings; and access and control over resources from a gender perspective (e.g., information knowledge and services). 	 Drawing on primary data collection and the Indigenous Knowledge program, information will be collected on traditional economies. Information will be described in the reporting on access, use, control and ownership of economic resources. When publicly available, it will also be provided from a gendered perspective. Social infrastructure will be considered as part of the Social Assessment. 	
6	TISG Section 11	 Infrastructure: access to infrastructure and services (transportation, electricity, telecommunications infrastructure and broadband, etc.); details on the existing road network (all weather and winter roads) and traffic patterns, including any projections of future traffic patterns; information on the nearest railways and airports; and an overview of other infrastructure (e.g., power plants, transmission lines, pipelines, dams, water mains, sewage lines) relevant to the Project. 	■ The requested information will be considered as part of the Social Study Plan and Assessment	■ Social Study Plan
7	TISG Section 11	■ Public finances: — a brief overview of the state of local public finances.	Public finances, including tax revenues and government expenditure, will be documented for municipalities and Indigenous communities in the Economic LSA.	Section 6.2Section 7.2Section 9.2
8	TISG Section 11	■ Overall economy: - a brief overview of the regional economy in recent years (e.g., if there have been any major investments or closures, if the area's resources and products have been in high or low demand, etc.); - a summary of any existing local or regional economic development plans and forest management plans; - income leakages from the communities to capture services that are being delivered outside of the community; - economic opportunities in and around the community including employment and business opportunities; - service gaps and community capacity to implement economic development plans and initiatives that provide the rationale for the Project; - Financial resources (own-source revenues, government revenues, etc.); - a brief overview of the community's power source, fuel consumption to generate power, and any issues related to power distribution in the community; and - access to capital.	 Commentary will be provided on economic opportunity for businesses and individuals. Service gaps will be considered in the study plan and Human Health and Community Safety study plan depending on the nature of the service. Financial resources will be included when available for government and individuals as part of the labour market information (income and source) and public finances (taxation). Community information on power source and use will be included in the Social Assessment. Information on access to capital in the region will be included in the summary of the regional economy. 	 Section 7.2 Section 9.2 Land and Resource Use Study Plan Social Study Plan Human Health and Community Safety Study Plan
9	TISG Section 12.3	■ The baseline conditions requirements set out in the sections above for health, social and economic conditions, include Indigenous peoples and GBA+ specific to Indigenous peoples	■ Baseline economic conditions will consider Indigenous peoples and their economic interests. The study plan commits to following a GBA+ frame work as outlined in Section 4.3.	Section 7.0 Section 9.2
10	TISG Section 17.1	 Describe the predicted effects to services and infrastructure in the study area, including but not limited to the positive and adverse effects to: housing (cost); costs of goods and services, including food; and, existing businesses. 	■ The subset of items listed in Section 17.1 will be considered as part of the regional economy assessment including under the pricing and procurement indicators. The results of these assessment will inform the Social Assessment on services and infrastructure.	■ Section 9.2



ID#	Federal TISG Reference ¹⁰	Requirement / Comment / Concern	Response	Study Plan Reference
12	TISG Section 18.1	 ■ The Impact Statement must: describe the effects of the Project on the local and regional labour markets; describe the number of new jobs (for each phase of the Project), and the expected rates of pay, and an analysis of differential effects across relevant subgroups, including by sex, age and other relevant identity factors as well as limitations to labour market access; describe longer-term labour market local and regional labour market effects as a result of the project; describe plans to encourage local employment; describe plans to encourage the recruitment, development and retention of underrepresented groups in the Project (e.g., set targets for employment for specific groups); describe the Project's diversity and inclusion work force development plans (e.g., youth with substance use programs); describe any skills-matching issues related to the Project, including:	 The IS / EA Report will describe changes to direct, indirect and induced employment, which affects the regional labour market. This will include jobs by phase of the Project and will include expected rates of pay. A GBA+ analysis will be undertaken on these opportunities. A qualitative description will also be provided on how the Project may affect the long term labour market including within the discussion of cumulative effects. Impact management measures will describe efforts the Proponent recommends to encourage local employment, including recruitment plans. Information on recruiting developing and retaining workers from underrepresented groups for the Project will also be included such as diversity and inclusion planning. The assessment of the labour market will specifically consider skill matching including if local workers can fill potential employment opportunities. Skill matching will be done based on primary and secondary information collected. Available skill development and training programs to address gaps will also be documented including those led by the Proponent. Specific attention will be paid to opportunities for underrepresented groups. Effects to pricing for housing (temporary and permanent), electricity, fuel and food will be considered as part of the assessment consistent with the indicators described in Section 9.2 	Section 9.2 Section 9.3 Section 9.3
13	TISG Section 18.3	 fuel; and electricity. The Impact Statement must: describe the potential positive and negative effects of the Project on local and regional businesses, during both construction and operation phases of the Project, including: procurement and contracting opportunities; an estimate of potential effects of the Project on the traditional economy, including the potential loss of traditional economies and jobs; and 	■ Effects on local businesses will be considered as part of the regional economy indicators (Section 9.2). Indicators for the aforementioned criteria include the procurement opportunities from the Project and traditional economies. Considerations specific to local businesses including their potential ability to compete for contracting will be documented and considered in the assessment.	■ Section 9.2
14	TISG Section 18.4	 discuss the potential ability of local businesses to compete for project-related contracting. The Impact Statement must: describe the effects on infrastructure, including: the extent of new road to be built, the number of connections to existing roads, the effect on travel times, and the additional traffic due to the replacement of winter roads; whether the Project will result in, or facilitate the construction of other infrastructure (such as railways, airports, power plants, transmission lines, pipelines, dams, water mains, sewage lines, etc.); and whether the Project will damage any existing infrastructure (same categories as above), how quickly this will be repaired, and how much the proponent will contribute to the repair cost. Describe how the Project will affect the local/regional energy system, including: how power will be provided during the construction phase; once complete, how much power the Project is likely to use; and whether the Project will improve, or could improve, the local energy transmission system (e.g., by facilitating new transmission lines, by making it easier for repair crews to access the area, etc.). 	■ These items will be considered as part of the Social Assessment and Study Plan.	■ Social Study Plan



ID#	Federal TISG Reference ¹⁰	Requirement / Comment / Concern	Response	Study Plan Reference
15	TISG Section 18.5	 The Impact Statement must: describe the Project's effects on local/municipal, provincial/territorial, federal, and Indigenous group public finances, including: revenue from tax levies, royalties, revenue sharing and other means, and how this could vary over time; and the cost of any public contribution, subsidies or tax incentives to support the Project. 	■ Effects to municipal, provincial and Indigenous government finances including taxation and expenditure will be documented in the IS / EA Report consistent with the VCs and Indicators in Section 9.2.	■ Section 9.2
16	TISG Section 18.6	 The Impact Statement must: describe the Project's impact and consistency with any existing local or regional plans for economic development; energy production; transportation and utilities and communication corridors (including community airports and winter roads); residential land use; commercial zoning; forestry and logging operations; commercial outfitters; and other land uses. provide a qualitative analysis and description of the extent to which the Project may facilitate developments, including mining projects, mineral exploration activities and other resource development in the area; provide an estimate and description of the Project's direct, indirect, and induced economic impact during construction and operation, such as:	 Descriptions of the Project's alignment with community and regional economic planning will be included in the IS / EA Report. A qualitative description will be provided of how the Project may facilitate future developments including reasonably foreseeable developments included within the cumulative effects assessment. Direct, indirect and induced economic effects will be estimated using Input-Output modelling adjusted for regional context when applicable as defined in Section 9.4. Sources and methodologies will be documented in the Economic Assessment reporting. Localized multipliers will be addressed through utilizing regional multipliers from the Northern Policy Institute. Non-market economies will be described qualitatively. 	■ Section 7.0 ■ Section 9.4



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Table 11-2: Study Plan Draft ToR Provincial Concordance

ID#	Commenter	Requirement / Comment / Concern	Response (from ToR)	Study Plan Reference
1 -	Draft ToR Comment from the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade (ID #30)	Our ability to provide valuable feedback or perspective is somewhat limited due to lack of insight and context with respect to the existing First Nations socio-economic situation and viability of the Ring of Fire resource development.	■ Additional detail on the socio-economic context of communities in the study area will be included within the IA/EA. It is not within the mandate of the LA/EA to comment on the viability of private sector developments such as the Ring of Fire area.	■ NA
2	Draft ToR Comment from the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade (ID #33)	■ Greater access can only enhance economic activity in the region not only with respect to resource development but tourism and other business opportunities as well.	■ Changes to community services and infrastructure will be considered under the socio- economic assessment within the <u>IA/EA</u> . These potential effects are identified in the ToR in Table 7-6 and Section 7.2.10.	■ Section 9.2
3	Draft ToR Comment from the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade (ID #34)	Our particular interest in reviewing Environmental Assessments and Terms of Reference is on the descriptions of potential for economic development benefits extending across the province or broad regions of the province. In Sections 5.1 and 6, it is noted that the terminus of the proposed road could serve as a staging point for and extension to the Ring of Fire mineral deposits. We are not qualified to speculate on the likelihood or extent of resource development of the Ring of Fire region and it would be premature to forecast in any degree of detail the indirect economic impact of such resource development to the rest of the province.	■ The MFFN Project Consultant agrees with this assessment and does not consider conducting quantitative analyses of indirect or induced effects as a component of the cumulative effects assessment that is to be included as part of the IA/EA .	■ Section 9.3 ■ Section 9.4
4	Draft ToR Comment from the Ministry of Economic Development, Job Creation and Trade (ID #35)	■ However, we suggest that the possibility of broad supply chain economic benefits reaching beyond the local community, should the Marten Falls Community Access Road ultimately help facilitate access to the Ring of Fire, could be acknowledged by a simple statement at some point in the above sections.	■ Section 7.2.10 of the ToR acknowledges that the potential economic effects to the regional economy will be assessed for the Project. A qualitative assessment of these effects to the regional economy will be included in the cumulative effects assessment.	■ Section 9.4
5	Draft ToR Comment from Attawapiskat First Nation (ID #265)	■ Section 7.2.11 (p.52-53): The EA must include an assessment of long-term changes to the subsistence economies (hunting, fishing, trapping, gathering) for neighbouring communities including Attawapiskat First Nation, under various development scenarios facilitated by the road project.	 An assessment of potential effects to subsistence economies within the study area will be included in the EA. We are open to receiving information Attawapiskat First Nation is willing to provide about their activities within the Project area. The socio-economic study area is driven by communities and considers the social and economic activities undertaken by these communities. The land and resource use study and the traditional land and resource use study will address hunting, gathering and other resource harvesting activities undertaken within the spatial project area. Changes to hunting and gathering that impact communities (i.e., subsistence economies) may be considered in the social and economic assessment based on the findings of these other assessments. 	■ Section 6.2 ■ Section 9.2
6 -	Draft ToR Comment from Neskantaga First Nation (ID #272)	■ Please share any details/data/studies on the estimated reduction in the price of food, fuel and supplies that will result from the construction of the all season multi purpose road.	■ We will document and reference any studies, data or details on the estimated change to the price of food, fuel and supplies that will result from the Project within the IA/EA .	■ Section 7.0
7	Draft ToR Comment from Neskantaga First Nation (ID #392)	■ How the road will achieve sufficient revenue to pay back the capital invested and pay the ongoing operating expenses? Tolls?	■ An IA/EA is not required to assess the feasibility or potential economic returns of the project considered. Commentary on the economic effects of the Project on the relevant study areas will however be provided.	Section 6.2 Section 9.2
8 -	Draft ToR Comment from Neskantaga First Nation (ID #395)	■ How will the net economic benefits of the project be measured?	■ Commentary on the economic effects, both positive and negative, of the Project on the relevant study areas will be provided in the IA/EA . Opportunities to comment on assessment methods during the IA/EA (key milestones of the updated Consultation Plan: Notice of Commencement, Effects Assessment Methods, Identification of Preferred Alternatives, and Review of the Draft and Final IS/EA Report, as well as continued opportunity during the review of the Draft and Final IS/EA Report will be provided.	■ Section 6.2 ■ Section 9.2



ID#	Commenter	Commenter Requirement / Comment / Concern Response (from ToR)		Study Plan Reference
9	■ Draft ToR Comment from Ginoogaming First Nation (ID #570)	■ Economic opportunities: GFN is interested in learning more about potential economic development opportunities to support road construction contracts and would like to encourage the construction proponent to source local, First Nation-owned business contractors. Community members are also interested in employment and training opportunities surrounding road construction work, including camp support, aggregate extraction and baseline data collection.	■ The Project Team looks forward to providing information on economic opportunities associated with the Project when information becomes available.	■ N/A
10	■ Draft ToR Comment from Ginoogaming First Nation (ID #571)	■ Increased forestry: GFN understands that the development of the MFCAR will likely result in increased forestry activities in the area. GFN is very active in forestry operations within our homelands and we recognize the economic development opportunities presented by this increased activity (especially in-light of skilled GFN membership in the forest industry).		■ Section 9.2



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Table 11-3: Study Plan Federal Concordance – Required Deviations

ID#	Federal TISG Reference	Requirement / Comment / Concern	Response and Proposed TISG Amendment (Rationale for not meeting requirement)	Study Plan Reference
1	TISG Section 9	 Level-2 health determinants: economic factors: income (average), poverty and income inequality, disaggregated by sex and gender. 	 Economic baseline information to inform economic and material determinants of health will be collected consistent with GBA+ principles. Data will be disaggregated by sex and age but not gender as Statistics Canada does not provide information disaggregated by gender. 	■ Section 7.0
2	TISG Section 11	 Overall economy: income leakages from the communities to capture services that are being delivered outside of the community; 	■ Income leakages will be considered qualitatively in the baseline based on primary data collected on economic activities and available secondary source data.	■ Section 7.2
3	TISG Section 11	 Labour market: known barriers and opportunities to employment for underrepresented groups, proportion of time spent on unpaid domestic and care work, by age, sex and location, and gender division of labour; 	■ Barriers and labour divisions will be described qualitatively. Information on domestic labour will be described as secondary sources allow and questions to that effect may be included in primary data collection. However, census-level data will not be reported as the data are not available.	■ Section 7.0
4	TISG Section 11	 The information provided must: describe how community and Indigenous knowledge from related populations, including input from diverse groups, was used in establishing baseline conditions; describe baseline economic conditions using disaggregated data and gender-statistics for diverse subgroups within the community to support GBA+; conduct intersectional gender analysis to examine differences in the status of diverse subgroups (e.g., women, youth, and elders) and their differential access to resources, opportunities and services; and describe any relevant indicators. 		■ Section 7.2.1 ■ Section 7.2.2



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Mining Readiness Strategy: An Integrated Regional Economic Development Plan. http://www.noma.on.ca/upload/documents/mining-readiness-strategy.pdf

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Moazzami, B., 2019a:

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Municipality of Greenstone, 2018:

Financial Statements. Available at: http://www.greenstone.ca/content/financial-statements

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Appendix A

Preliminary List of Data Sources





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211 Ontario North, 2020:

Marten Falls First Nation: Agency Profile.: https://211north.ca/record/65300596/agency/

Advantage Northwest, 2013:

Mining Readiness Strategy: An Integrated Regional Economic Development Plan. http://www.noma.on.ca/upload/documents/mining-readiness-strategy.pdf

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Appendix B

Agency Comments on the Draft Study Plan





Comment # / Ref #	DRAFT Study Plan Section	TISG Section	Comment / Context	Action Item	Final Response	Study Plan Reference
/ Ref #	■ GC	■ N/A	■ In addition to the required actions detailed below, other required actions to be additional detailed in a separate table titled "2020-07-02 – IAAC to MFFN - General Commer has provided these other required actions to highlight common sections of the Tail Guidelines) where requirements were not met in the draft study plans submitted to addressed in the updated study plans.	nts on MFCAR Draft Study Plans". The Agency ored Impact Statement Guidelines (the	■ We have reviewed the relevant comments and incorporated where appropriate. Please refer to the General Comments Table Response submitted separately to the Agency for specific responses.	■ Various Sections
	Section 4.1 Potentially Impacted Indigenous Groups	Section 6 of the Guidelines	 Section 4.1 of the study plan states that "data collection will focus on the communities most likely to be affected by the Project including Marten Falls and Aroland First Nations." "These communities are likely to experience the most Project-related change due to the location of the Project and its resulting access." This section does not mention how the other Indigenous groups listed in the Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan (IEPP) have been, or will be engaged to gather baseline data and to inform the assessment of potential economic impacts for the preparation of the Impact Statement. The Agency expects the proponent to engage with, at a minimum, the Indigenous groups listed in the IEPP, as is directed in Section 6 of the Guidelines. The proponent must also provide Indigenous groups with an opportunity to comment on the list of valued components and indicators. 	■ Update the study plan to include the list of all Indigenous groups that will be engaged, at a minimum the Indigenous groups listed in the IEPP, as part of the baseline data collection, defining the list of criteria and indicators, and effects assessment analysis. The list should be consistent throughout the study plan.	■ Table 4-1 in the updated Study Plan provides a list of Indigenous communities that will be engaged and consulted with on the Project, which is inclusive of all the groups listed in the IEPP provided by the Agency.	■ Table 4-1
	■ Section 3 Input from Engagement and Indigenous Knowledge	■ Section 6.2 of the Guidelines	 Section 3 of the study plan states that "In addition to information obtained from engagement activities, it is expected that provided and collected Indigenous Knowledge will be integrated into the Economic Assessment, where applicable. This may include information on economic issues, community challenges, and other information tied to economic criteria (Section 5.2) but will not include confidential data." Section 6.2 of the Guidelines requires a description of the type of confidential information provided by each Indigenous group that does not compromise any stipulations in the confidentiality agreements and the description shall state how that information impacted the project design, baseline data, effects assessment or mitigation measures. The proponent is required to provide evidence to the Agency in the form of a letter from the Indigenous group that provided confidential information, confirming that: the Indigenous group that provided confidential information is satisfied with the way the Impact Statement was informed; the Indigenous group that provided confidential information is satisfied with the way the issue was solved or addressed. It is unclear how the approach proposed in the study plan will meet the requirements of Section 6.2 of the Guidelines. 		■ Indigenous communities will be engaged with as part of the overall consultation and engagement program for the Project, which is summarized in Section 4 of the updated Study Plan. All information and comments received from Indigenous communities will be logged, tracked and responses generated where applicable. Section 5 of the Study Plan describes the Indigenous Knowledge Program, another avenue for Indigenous communities to provide input on the Project. Section 2.1 has additional information on the Project's approach to handling confidential information.	



Comment # / Ref #	DRAFT Study Plan Section	TISG Section	Comment / Context	Action Item	Final Response	Study Plan Reference
	Gender Based Analysis Plus	■ Sections 5.2 and 6.3 of the Guidelines	■ Section 4.0 of the study plan identified the following objectives: "Describe economic conditions using disaggregated data and gender statistics, where publically available or volunteered by knowledge holders:- Identity factors that cannot be disaggregated through secondary source data will be considered qualitatively. Where available, these identity factors will be referenced and considered in existing conditions reporting and analysis." Section 4.3 of the study plan states "it is expected that there will be a multitude of data issues and limitations based on the Project area."" These issues may limit the information available to be reported by the proponent as part of the Impact Assessment, particularly related to disaggregated data to support a Gender Based Analysis plus (GBA+). "The study plan does not provide enough information on how the GBA+ analytical framework will be applied to data collection methodology and analysis. Refer to Agency guidance for more information on the GBA+ approach: https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency/services/policy-guidance/practitioners-guide-impact-assessment-act/gender-based-analysis.html. The proponent should seek to solicit information necessary to support the GBA+, and if unsuccessful, efforts made should be described in the Impact Statement. Section 5.2 of the Guidelines states that the Impact Statement must include, at a minimum, a description of efforts made by the proponent to engage diverse populations, including groups identified by gender, age or other community relevant factors (e.g., recreational hunters) to support the collection of information needed to complete the GBA+. Section 6.3 of the Guidelines states that the Impact Statement must include, at a minimum, a description of efforts to engage diverse populations of each Indigenous group in culturally appropriate ways, including groups identified by gender, age or other community relevant factors (e.g., hunters, trappers, and other harvesters) to support the collection of information needed t	■ Describe in the study plan how the proponent will engage diverse populations to collect information necessary to support the GBA+ and how that information will be tracked, considered and reported in the Impact Statement.	a GBA+ framework into the Economic data collection and assessment program.	■ Section 4.3
	■ Section 4.1 List of Public Groups	■ Section 5 of the Guidelines	 Section 4.1 of the study plan highlights the Municipality of Greenstone to be included in the primary data collection. No other member of the public or public community is identified for the primary or secondary data collection in the study plan. As per Section 5 of the Guidelines, the proponent is required to engage with, at a minimum, the members of the public listed in the Public Participation Plan (PPP). 	■ Update the study plan to include the list of the members of the public and public groups that will be engaged, at a minimum the public participants listed in the PPP, as part of the baseline data collection and effects assessment analysis. The list should be consistent throughout the study plan.	■ Considering the Economic VCs as presented in Table 9.2, and the study areas presented in Section 6.2, the Municipality of Greenstone is the primary public body that will be engaged with for data collection purposes to support the Economic assessments. There are no other public interests (non-Indigenous communities) in the LSA expected to experience Economic impacts from the project. Other public interests such as land users will be engaged with to support the Land and Resource Use assessment. The study plan for that discipline should be referred to for a list of public interests that will be engaged with.	



Comment # / Ref #	DRAFT Study Plan Section	TISG Section	Comment / Context	Action Item	Final Response	Study Plan Reference
	■ Section 4.1 Primary Data Collection	■ Section 11 of the Guidelines	■ The study plan provides inadequate detail on the methodology of baseline primary information collected for the Agency and federal experts to understand the work that the proponent is planning to undertake. Additional details on the methodologies for primary information sources that will be used to describe the baseline economic conditions are needed, as required in Section 11 of the Guidelines, including:- Define who is considered a key community member, and how these key community members will be identified prior to being approached for interviews, focus group studies and other discussions Describe how Indigenous knowledge will be used to inform types of engagement activities and participant selection, including the identification of key community members Specify the types of engagement activities (such as surveys, questionnaires, community sessions, chief and council sessions, workshops etc.) Describe how GBA+ has been applied to the consideration of engagement activities. Identify any specific methods targeted to specific subgroups Describe who is considered a relevant identity group for the community and identify any specific engagement methods that are targeted to the relevant identity groups, including women, youth and elders Specify participants in engagement activities (reflecting the Indigenous groups listed in the IEPP and members of the public listed in the PPP) including rationale for how the selection of participants meets the objectives of the study and demonstrates accessibility considerations (e.g., language requirements) and GBA+ Describe the approach the proponent intends to take to encourage or attract participation, including how opportunities to participate will be planned and advertised If sample questionnaires, interview questions, or other data collection tools exist, identify them in an appendix to the study plan, and provide clear links to how they relate to the economic criteria Identify past public or Indigenous engagement activities that have taken place and are b	in the study plan.Update the study plan to provide additional detail on how the collection methodology of primary information would meet the expectations of Section 11 and other relevant sections of the Guidelines.	Primary data sources are identified in Section 7.2.2. As noted in Table 3-1, discussions with the Agency indicated that primary collection would be collected to fill in the gaps from secondary data sources. Section 9.2 of the Study Plan identifies relevant VCs and indicators for the Economic Environment and how primary information will be considered.	■ Section 7.2.2 ■ Section 9.2
	■ Section 4.2 Secondary Data Collection	■ Section 11 of the Guidelines	 The study plan provides inadequate detail on the methodology of baseline secondary information collected for the Agency and federal experts to understand the work that the proponent is planning to undertake. Additional details on the methodologies for secondary information sources that will be used to describe the baseline economic conditions are needed, as required in Section 11 of the Guidelines. The study plan should provide a clear outline of which criteria and indicator data will come from existing secondary sources and what those sources are. Necessary detail includes: Describe how the proponent has considered GBA+ requirements in the identification of secondary information sources. Section 4.2 "Secondary Data Collection" of the study plan states that "attention will be paid to norms; roles and relations; power structures; and needs, constrains and opportunities" when considering the disproportionate effects on subgroups from the Project. Clarify how this will be applied to the collection of secondary information, and for which criteria and indicators they apply to. 	■ Update the study plan to provide additional detail on how the collection methodology of secondary information would meet the expectations of Section 11 and other relevant sections of the Guidelines, including information sources to be used, and for which criteria and indicators they apply.	■ A list of secondary data sources can be found in Section 7.2.1. Section 9.2 of the Study Plan identifies relevant VCs and indicators for the Economic Environment and which sources of information will be considered.	Section 7.2.1 Section 9.2



Comment #	DRAFT Study Plan Section	TISG Section	Comment / Context	Action Item	Final Response	Study Plan Reference
	■ Section 5.1.2 Study Areas	Sections 5, 6 and 7.4 of the Guidelines	■ Section 5.1.2 of the study plan states that: "The proponent remains open to receiving information from other communities on their activities within the Project Study Area (PSA) and how interlinkages between the Project and those communities may result in socio-economic effects. To be included in the economic LSA, a community must demonstrate direct community-level socio-economic interest in the Project footprint". "While many Indigenous communities are located within the regional study area, these communities will not be profiled individually given their relation to the Project is predominantly focused on cumulative effects from future developments", and "Based on the information provided, the proponent will evaluate the individual communities that warrant inclusion in the local or regional study areas". Sections 5 and 6 of the Guidelines provide direction on the Agency's expectations for meaningful engagement with members of the public and public groups (at a minimum those listed in the PPP), as well as Indigenous groups (at a minimum those listed in the IEPP) during the impact assessment process. The Agency expects the proponent to engage equitably with the members of the public and public groups identified in the PPP and all Indigenous groups listed in the IEPP to gather baseline data and to assess the Project's effects. Additionally, Section 7.4 of the Guidelines explains that the spatial and temporal boundaries determined and established for the impact assessment with will vary depending on the valued component and are considered separately for each valued component, including valued components related to the environmental, health, social and economic conditions of Indigenous peoples, or other potential effects and impacts. The proponent should engage with Indigenous groups when defining spatial and temporal boundaries for valued components, especially for those that are identified by Indigenous groups. It is unclear how the approach proposed in the study plan will meet the requirements of Sections 5, 6	■ Revise the study plan to describe a methodology and engagement approach that will meet the requirements of Sections 5, 6 and 7.4 of the Guidelines.Provide further detail on the rationale that is used to define the PSA, Local Study Area (LSA) and Regional Study Area (RSA) for each valued component, and describe how Indigenous groups and the public have been, or will be, provided an opportunity to inform the spatial and temporal boundaries.	■ Section 6.2 of the Study Plan identifies how the PDA (formerly PSA), LSA and RSA have been defined for the Project, including for the Economic Environment. Section 6.2.1 of the Study Plan identifies that the study areas can be further refined based on input from neighbouring Indigenous communities and interested persons.	■ Section 6.2
	■ Section 5.1.2 Study Areas	■ Section 1.1 of the Guidelines	 Section 5.1.2 of the study plan states "The economic study areas are defined to capture the potential effects of the Project on the surrounding environment. For each criteria, a local study area (LSA) and regional study area (RSA) are defined to reflect the extent to which the Project has the potential to affect the environment. The extent of the potential effects includes both direct and indirect effects." Section 1.1 of the Guidelines states that "the factors [to be considered in an impact assessment] are listed in subsection 22(1) of IAA and prescribe that the impact assessment of a designated project must take into account: a) the changes to the environment or to health, social or economic conditions and the positive and negative consequences of these changes that are likely to be caused by the carrying out of the designated project, including:" The assessment of effects on the economic conditions should not only consider the extent to which Project has the potential to affect the environment but include potential changes to health, social or economic conditions. The economic study area should be defined to capture the economic area of influence of the Project, including effects not directly linked to adverse effects of the Project to the environment. 	■ Update the study plan to define study areas that capture the Project's economic effects due to potential changes to environment, health, social and economic conditions.	As currently defined, the Economic study areas are defined to capture the potential Economic effects of the Project on the surrounding environment. The study areas are also reflective of potential changes to land use, health, and social conditions that could directly or indirectly impact Economic considerations.	■ Section 6.2



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Comment # / Ref #	DRAFT Study Plan Section	TISG Section	Comment / Context	Action Item	Final Response	Study Plan Reference
	■ Section 5.2 Criteria and Indicators	■ Sections 11 and 18 of the Guidelines	■ The study plan provides inadequate detail on the criteria and indicators depicted in Table 3 to determine their adequacy to describe the economic baseline condition and to assess Project's effects. Section 11 of the Guidelines requires specific information related to the economic condition within the spatial and temporal boundaries selected. Section 18 of the Guidelines requires the effects assessment of the Project on the economic valued components during all phases of the Project. Additional details on the indicators that will be used to describe each criterion are needed. Indicators must provide data (either quantitative or qualitative) that can be measured and used to identify changes due to the Project. The three indicators presented below represent a sample from the study plan that require more detail. This sample is not a complete list of the indicators that require more detail: Example 1: Rationale for use of the indicator "Economic Opportunity" for the criterion of "Regional Economy" - The study plan indicates that the rationale for "Economic Opportunity" is that "the Project has the potential to change the composition of the economy and later the industrial and commercial activities available within the area". This rationale does not provide adequate detail on what will be evaluated or measured (for change) by the proponent in relation to the criterion of "Regional Economy" - Example 2: Rationale for the use of the indicator "Traditional Economies" for the criterion of "Regional Economy" - The study plan indicates that the rationale for "Traditional Economies" is that "the Project may influence the traditional economies of local communities". This rationale does not provide adequate detail on which indicators will be used to describe the influence of the Project on "local communities". Example 3: Description of the "Expression of Change" of the indicator "Price of Goods" for the criterion of "Regional Economy" - The description, "Changes in the price in the price of goods including food, electricit	■ Update the study plan to include detailed and measurable indicators that meet the requirements in Sections 11 and 18 of the Guidelines. Demonstrate how input received from Indigenous groups through engagement activities were incorporated into the development of the criteria and indicators.	■ Table 9-2 identifies the valued components, indicators, and subindicators that will be considered in the Economic assessment for the Project. This table includes the rationale for selection and potential sources of information. Inputs received to date from Indigenous communities, agencies and interested persons through the Consultation and Engagement Program, including inputs received on the Draft ToR, have also been used to inform the selection of the VCs and indicators for the Economic discipline.	■ Table 9-2 ■ Section 9.2
	■ Section 5.2 Criteria and Indicators	■ Section 18 of the Guidelines	 Section 5.2 of the study plan states "As the socio-economy has an abundance of interlinkages and overlaps, certain aspects of the economic environment are considered in other study plans, and have their baseline information documented in other relevant reports. The Socio-community Assessment will document information on housing and infrastructure. The Land and Resource Use Assessment includes information on industrial land uses and tourism establishments. Elements of the traditional economy are covered in the Indigenous Knowledge Assessment. Findings and data included in these sections are considered under relevant components of the Economic Assessment." Section 18 of the Guidelines states that the assessment must illustrate an understanding of linkages and effect pathways, so that when a change in one domain is predicted, there is an understanding of what other effects or consequences may be felt across the other domains. Indicators should be developed by the proponent using best practice, Agency guidance, and through engagement with Indigenous groups and the public. Rationale for the indicators chosen should be provided. The study plan provides inadequate detail on the data described in other study plans (such as the socio-community study plan) that will be collected and analyzed to meet the economic baseline data collection and economic effects assessment requirements described in Sections 11 and 18 of the Guidelines, respectively. 	■ Update the study plan to provide further detail on the specific economic criteria and indicators that will be collected and assessed through other study plans. At a minimum, provide a cross reference as to where the specific economic criteria and indicators can be found in the other plans.	 Section 9.2 identifies which other plans will be collecting data relevant to the Economic Environment. The Social Assessment will document information on housing and infrastructure. The Land and Resource Use Assessment includes information on industrial land uses and tourism establishments. Elements of the traditional economy are covered in the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests Assessment. Findings and data included in these disciplines will be considered under relevant components of the Economic Assessment, as applicable. 	 Section 9.2; Social Study Plan Land and Resource Use Study Plan Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and Interests Study Plan



Study Plan ection	TISG Section	Comment / Context	Action Item	Final Response	Study Plan Reference
ordance with al and cial	■ Section 18.4 of the Guidelines	■ More detail is required within the "Response" column on how the study plan is meeting the requirements of the Guidelines. This is not clear in the "Study Plan Reference" column, as the referenced sections do not provide sufficient detail on the type of indicators that would be used to collect baseline information for the effects assessment. The two examples below show responses from the concordance table that require more detail. This is not a complete list of the responses that require more detail in the study plan, but serves as a representative sample:- Example 1: In Table 1 ID # 9, the concordance table indicates that "income leakages will be considered qualitatively in the baseline based on primary data collected on economic activities and available secondary source data." It is unclear which qualitative indicators will be used to measure "income leakages". It is also unclear to what "data collected on economic activities" is referring Example 2: In Table 1 ID # 15, the concordance table indicates that Section 18.4 of the Guidelines requires that the Impact Statement must describe the effects on infrastructure. As a response to this requirement, the concordance table indicates "these items will be considered as part of the Sociocommunity Assessment and Study Plan". It is unclear how the Socio-community study plan will meet the requirements from Section 18.4 of the Guidelines.	■ Demonstrate that this study plan reflects the inclusion of all requirements outlined in the Guidelines and describe the approaches to collect the information.	■ Table 11-1 is a comprehensive list of the requirements of the Guidelines. This table responds to each requirement from the Guidelines and provides an updated Study Plan reference section to clearly identify where within the Study Plan each requirement is being considered. In the Economic study plan, Table 11-3 identifies the areas of non-conformance along with their justification.	



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Appendix C

Table Example: Employment by Age and Sex in the Marten Falls First Nation Community



Total - Ago | 0 to 14 | 15 years | 15 to 24 | 25 to 54 | 25 to 34 | 35 to 44 | 45 to 54 | 55 to 64 | 65 ye



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Appendix C: Table Example: Employment by Age and Sex in the XXXX First Nation Community

Note: This table is illustrative. The purpose of the table is to demonstrate how Statistics Canada data is likely to be disaggregated.

		Total - Age Groups	0 to 14 years	15 years and over	15 to 24 years	25 to 54 years	25 to 34 years	35 to 44 years	45 to 54 years	55 to 64 years	65 years and over
Total	Total - Labour force status for the population aged 15 years and over in private households - 25% Sample data	160	0	160	60	75	30	20	20	10	15
	In the labour force	80	0	80	15	50	15	15	15	10	0
	Employed	65	0	65	10	45	15	10	15	10	10
	Unemployed	20	0	15	10	10	0	0	0	0	0
	Not in the labour force	85	0	80	40	25	15	10	0	0	10
	Participation rate (%)	50	0	50	25	66.7	50	75	75	100	0
	Employment rate (%)	40.6	0	40.6	16.7	60	50	50	75	100	66.7
	Unemployment rate (%)	25	0	18.8	66.7	20	0	0	0	0	0
Male	Total - Labour force status for the population aged 15 years and over in private households - 25% Sample data	90	0	85	30	40	15	10	10	10	0
	In the labour force	40	0	45	10	30	10	10	10	10	0
	Employed	35	0	35	10	20	0	0	10	0	0
	Unemployed	15	0	10	0	10	0	0	0	0	0
	Not in the labour force	50	0	45	25	10	10	0	0	10	0
	Participation rate (%)	44.4	0	52.9	33.3	75	66.7	100	100	100	0
	Employment rate (%)	38.9	0	41.2	33.3	50	0	0	100	0	0
	Unemployment rate (%)	37.5	0	22.2	0	33.3	0	0	0	0	0
Female	Total - Labour force status for the population aged 15 years and over in private households - 25% Sample data	75	0	75	25	35	20	10	10	0	0
	In the labour force	40	0	40	10	20	10	10	0	0	10
	Employed	30	0	30	0	20	10	10	0	10	10
	Unemployed	10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Not in the labour force	35	0	35	15	15	10	0	0	0	0
	Participation rate (%)	53.3	0	53.3	40	57.1	50	100	0	0	0
	Employment rate (%)	40	0	40	0	57.1	50	100	0	0	0
	Unemployment rate (%)	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0



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