



Chippewas of Georgina Island

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June 17, 2022

Honourable Steven Guilbeault, MP
Minister of Environment and Climate Change
22nd floor, Place Bell
160 Elgin Street
Ottawa ON K1A 0Hs

Anjala Puvanananathan
Director, Ontario Region
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
55 York Street, 6th Floor
Toronto, ON M5J 1R7

Dear Minister:

**Subject: Georgina Island Fixed Link Project
Request for Temporary Time Limit Suspension – Planning Phase
(Detailed Project Description and Response to Summary of Issues)**

The Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation (GIFN) is in receipt of your letter dated June 8, 2022, which included the Summary of Issues for the Georgina Island Fixed Link Project (GIFL). The letter requests that GIFN submit a Detailed Project Description and a response to the Summary of Issues to the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) by July 8, 2022 or inform the IAAC if more time is required.

As discussed with the Agency on June 9, 2022, GIFN has initiated a plan for several studies that will inform the responses to the Summary of Issues, the Detailed Project Description, plus other environmental studies and approvals as directed by GIFN in support of the GIFL project. These studies will be completed during the remainder of the 2022 field season, with reporting to follow. Extending the response period will provide GIFN time to address concerns and issues in a thorough and meaningful way. As such, GIFN are formally advising that additional time will be required to provide the response to the Summary of Issues and the Detailed Project Description.

Accordingly, GIFN is informing the Agency to temporarily suspend the time limit for the planning phase until further notice. GIFN will continue working closely with the Agency and is committed to keeping IAAC up to date on the timing of the responses to the Summary of Issues and the Detailed Project Description submission.

GIFN remains committed to doing its part to advance the review of this Project in a timely and efficient manner and appreciates the IAAC's efforts to provide an efficient regulatory review process.

Yours sincerely,

<Original signed by>

Chief Donna Big-Canoe