

**KINROSS**

**Great Bear**

# **Great Bear Gold Project Impact Statement**

**Appendix O-1:**

**Socioeconomic Baseline Report**



GREAT BEAR RESOURCES

# GREAT BEAR PROJECT SOCIO-ECONOMIC BASELINE STUDY

JULY 2024





# GREAT BEAR PROJECT SOCIO-ECONOMIC BASELINE STUDY

GREAT BEAR RESOURCES

Final

PROJECT NO.: OMEMA2303  
JULY 2024

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# ABBREVIATIONS

AAFS	Anishinaabe Abinoojii Family Services
BMA	Bear Management Areas
BMZ	Bait Management Zone
C	Conservation
CBC	Canadian Broadcasting Corporation
Ear Falls	Township of Ear Falls
FASD	Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder
FMU	Forest Management Unit
FMZ	Fisheries Management Zone
ft	Feet
GBA+	Gender-Based Analysis Plus
ISC	Indigenous Services Canada
KDSB	Kenora District Services Board
km	Kilometres
LIA	Local Investigation Area
LUIA	Land Use Investigation Area
MNO	Métis Nation of Ontario
MNRF	Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry
NDMNRF	Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry
NWMO	Nuclear Waste Management Organization
OP	Official Plan
Plan	Strategic Plan
Red Lake	Municipality of Red Lake
RLRHC	Red Lake Regional Heritage Centre
RIA	Regional Investigation Area
S	Sport Fishing
SAL	Supervised Alternative Learning
SDW	Specially Designated Waters
SFL	Sustainable Forest License
WMU	Wildlife Management Unit
WSP	WSP EandI Canada Limited



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# 1 INTRODUCTION

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## 1.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

Great Bear Resources Ltd. a wholly owned subsidiary of Kinross Gold Corporation (Kinross), is proposing to develop a gold mine at the Great Bear Property (the Great Bear Project or Project). The Property is located in the Red Lake mining district, in northwestern Ontario, approximately 25 kilometres (km) southeast of the Town of Red Lake (Figure 1-1). Figure 1-2 provides an overview of the Existing Mines and Mining Projects in the area.

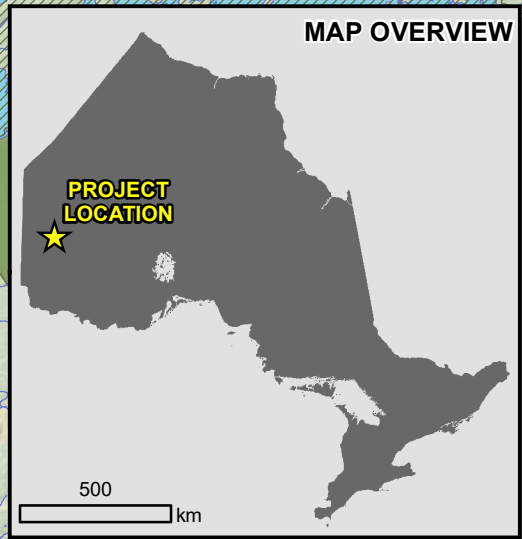
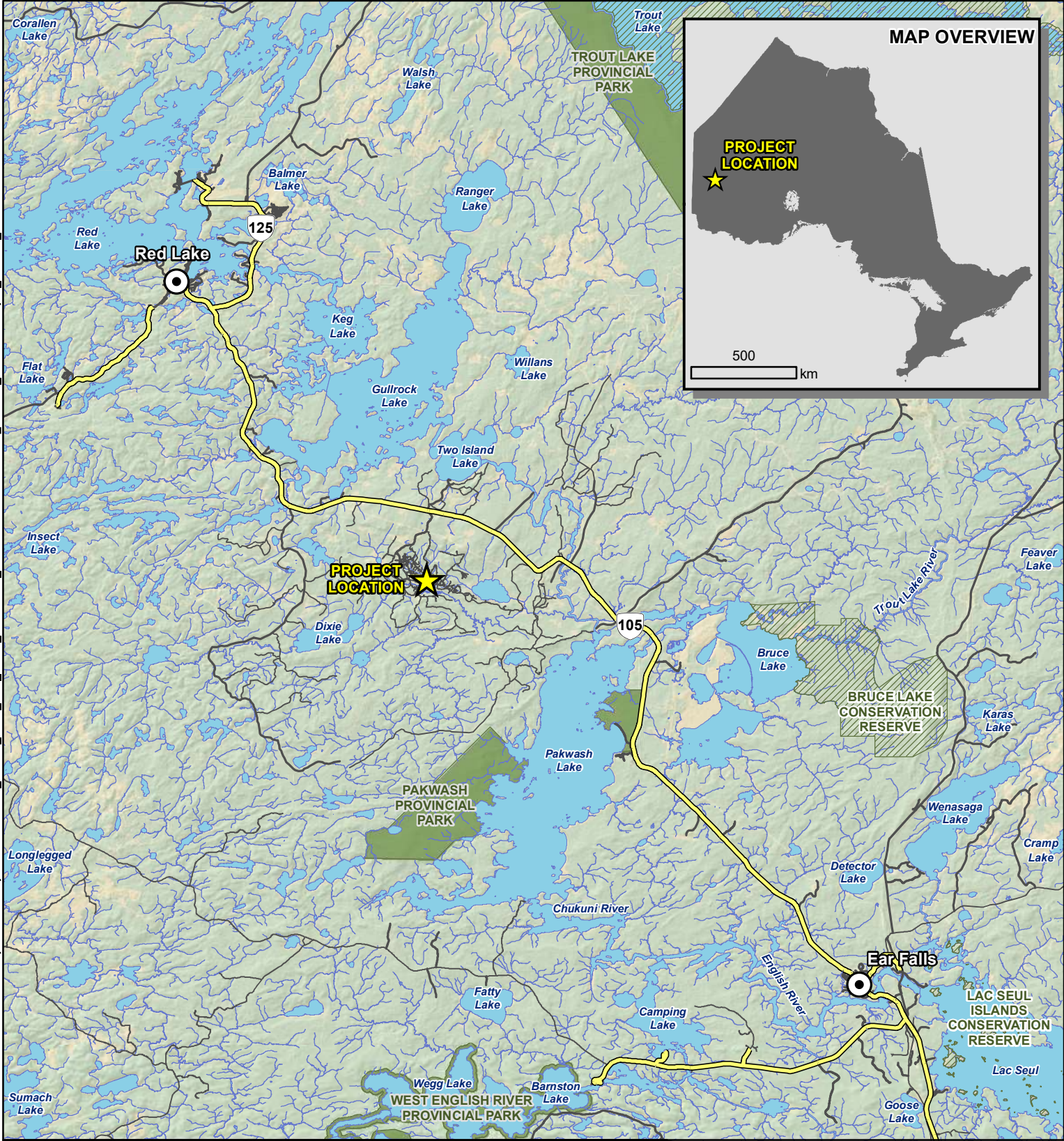
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## 1.2 OBJECTIVE

This Socio-economic Baseline Study has been prepared by WSP Canada Inc. (WSP) to summarize the findings of the current social and economic environments in the vicinity of the Project area. This study focuses on the Indigenous Nations of Wabauskang First Nation, Lac Seul First Nation, Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation, and the Northwestern Ontario Métis community (otherwise known as the Métis Nation of Ontario - Region 1), as well as the Municipality of Red Lake, Township of Ear Falls and the District of Kenora.

The objective of a socio-economic study is to determine the impacts experienced by an individual, communities, organisations, businesses or social groups in the event a change in the surrounding environment might occur. Examples of these changes include modification to land use, changes to demands for community infrastructure and services, infrastructure development or mining that changes the social landscape. This report aims to provide an overview of tangible and intangible characteristics of the study area inclusive of the structural and nonphysical components of a social environment. This report remains open to allow for continuous updates when required including newly published data or relevant information that becomes available. Limited primary research was completed but additional information will be included as the Project progresses to an advanced level.

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**LEGEND**

- Project Location
- Town
- Conservation Reserve
- Provincial Park
- Highway
- Local Road
- Resource / Recreation Road
- Watercourse
- Waterbody

**NOTES:**  
 - Base data acquired from Land Information Ontario (MNR), 2022.  
 - Road information provided by Kinross, August 2022.  
 - Watercourses and waterbody acquired from Land Information Ontario (MNR) and modified to match aerial imagery and LiDAR.

Datum: NAD83  
 Projection: UTM Zone 15N



**GREAT BEAR PROJECT**

**Project Location**

PROJECT N<sup>o</sup>: OMEMA2303

FIGURE: 1-1

SCALE: 1:320,000

DATE: April 2024

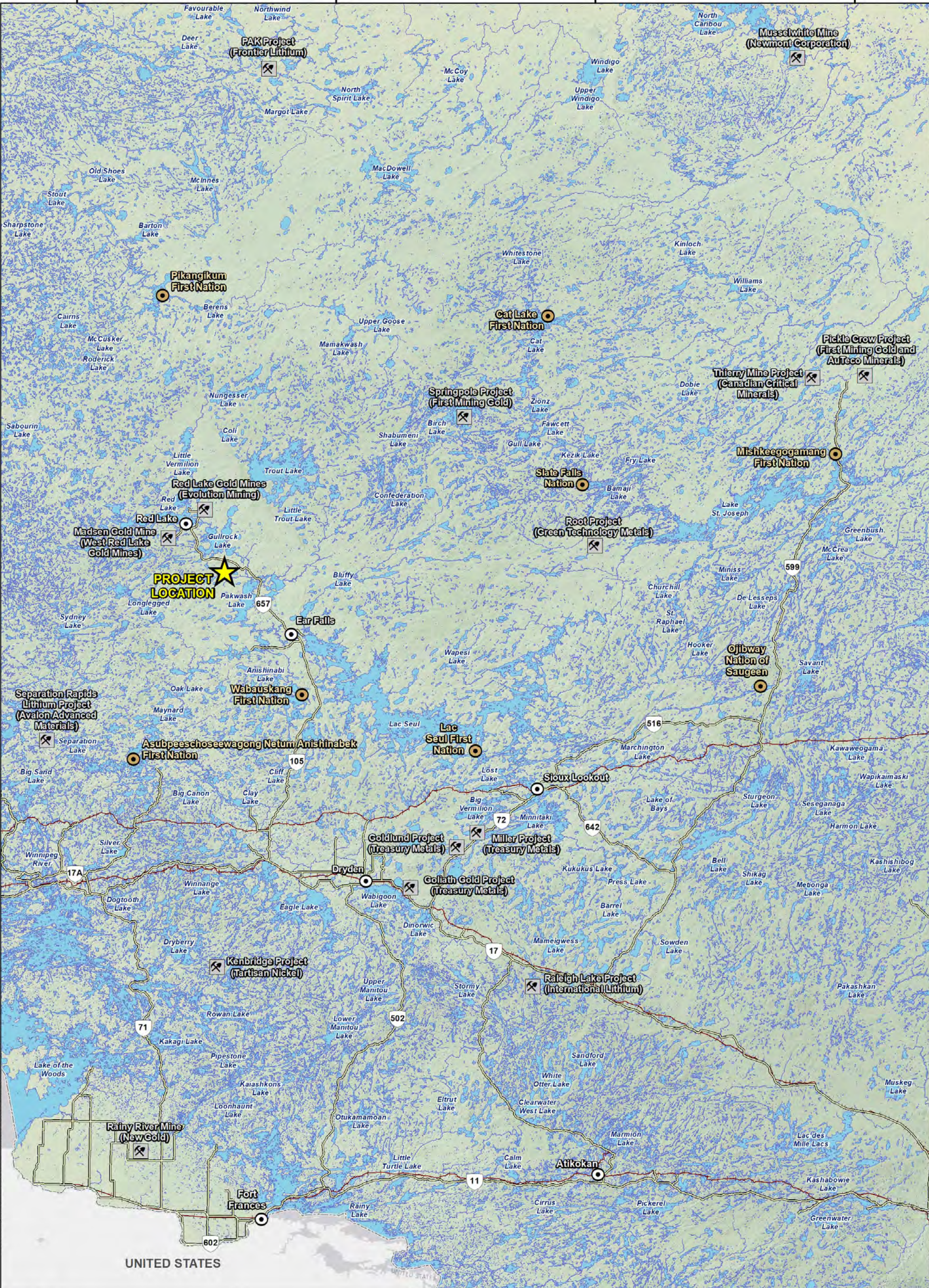


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**LEGEND**

- Project Location
- First Nation Reserve
- Town
- Existing Mines and Mining Projects
- Highway
- Railway
- National Boundary

NOTES:  
- Base data acquired from Land Information Ontario (MNR), 2022.



**GREAT BEAR PROJECT**

**Existing Mines and Mining Projects**



Datum: NAD83  
Projection: UTM Zone 15N



PROJECT N°: OMEMA2303 **FIGURE: 1-2**

SCALE: 1:1,350,000 **DATE: June 2024**

# 2 METHODOLOGY

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## 2.1 INFORMATION SOURCES

The baseline conditions presented in this report were informed by primary and secondary (desktop) research using a broad range of information sources, including:

- Interviews with the local communities to determine the tangible and intangible impacts that may occur during the development phases of the project.
- Municipal, provincial and federal government publications (e.g. policy and planning materials, municipal websites).
- Relevant publicly available information (e.g., community organization websites, business websites).
- Statistical publications (e.g., Statistics Canada Community Profiles from both 2016 and any available 2021 data, and the results of the National Household Survey).
- Media articles, including websites and social media.
- Additional historical information will be provided for the purpose of inclusion in the impact assessment phase of the project. In future relevant data will be included in the IA reports by SLR.

Gender-Based Analysis Plus (GBA+) was used throughout this report to identify the experiences of individuals within the Investigation Area based on their intersecting identities such as age, gender, race, ethnicity, class and geographic location. GBA+ was used in both secondary (desktop) and primary research.

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## 2.2 INFORMATION LIMITATIONS

Data presented in the baseline report was derived from the results of the Statistics Canada 2011, 2016, and 2021 censuses, and the Statistics Canada 2011 National Household Survey. Statistics Canada is prohibited by law from releasing any information it collects that could identify any respondent, unless consent has been given by the respondent or as permitted by the *Statistics Act*. The data in this report has not been validated by the Indigenous Nations.

Data may be suppressed for geographic areas with populations below a specified threshold to prevent unlawful publication or disclosure of information. Further, counts in census tabulations undergo random rounding to reduce the possibility of identifying individuals. For these reasons, individual values may not add up to the exact totals.

In 2011, Statistics Canada replaced the long-form census questionnaire with a National Household Survey, which was voluntary. For confidentiality purposes, the values, including totals were randomly rounded either up or down to a multiple five or 10. Thus, when the data were summed or grouped, the total value may not have matched the individual values since totals and sub-totals were independently rounded.

Information was not available if the non-response rate to the National Household Survey was greater than 50% or greater than 25% for the census population. Similarly, income data were not available if the population in the area was less than 250 or if the number of private households was less than 40. The level of detail provided in describing baseline conditions for each Indigenous Nation and municipality in this report varies due to the availability of information through secondary and primary research.

The 2011 National Household Survey and 2016 Census of Population provided respondents with two categories for gender identity: male and female, and to select the category with which they most associated themselves or to leave this question unanswered (Statistics Canada, 2017d). As not all individuals were able to see themselves in the two existing responses of male and female, the 2021

Census of Population included two questions for respondents to identify their sex at birth and current gender (which may differ from the sex assigned at birth and sex indicated on legal documents) (Statistics Canada, 2022a). However, for lower levels of geography, Statistics Canada aggregated responses to a two-category gender variable as men+ and women+ to protect the confidentiality of responses from non-binary individuals and prevent disclosure of identifiable data (Statistics Canada, 2022b). Consequently, a precise comparison is not possible for gender identity between 2011, 2016, and 2021 in the study areas.

This report attempts to identify and include information related to equity deserving groups in the populations described whenever possible. WSP recognizes equity deserving groups to include communities that identify and experience barriers to equal access of both opportunities and resources. This is due to systemic disadvantages and discrimination. This can be, but is not limited to, marginalization created by historic, social or environmental barriers related to sex, gender identity, nationality, race, sexual orientation, age, ethnicity disability, economic status or religion. In areas where secondary data on these groups is missing, limited, or withheld, attempts to supplement these gaps through primary research are also made. This report recognizes the limitations in adequately describing certain groups and does not comment on larger social challenges or issues. Where matters of intersectionality relate or pertain to specific subject areas, attempts will be made to ensure the material is as inclusive as possible.

Population groups represented throughout this baseline are compared to provincial averages, adding statistical relevance. This approach however assumes a degree of homogeneity among represented sexes, and where available, other equity deserving groups. This is both a methodological and resource limitation, reducing the ability to adequately portray underserved groups. Indigenous Nations and other communities represented above have historically, and continue to be under-represented and as such, data is often missing, unavailable or withheld. GBA+ also acknowledges a shortage in available statistical methods that explore complex intersections, noting that an exploration of all intersections would yield results that have little to no meaning to a given project.

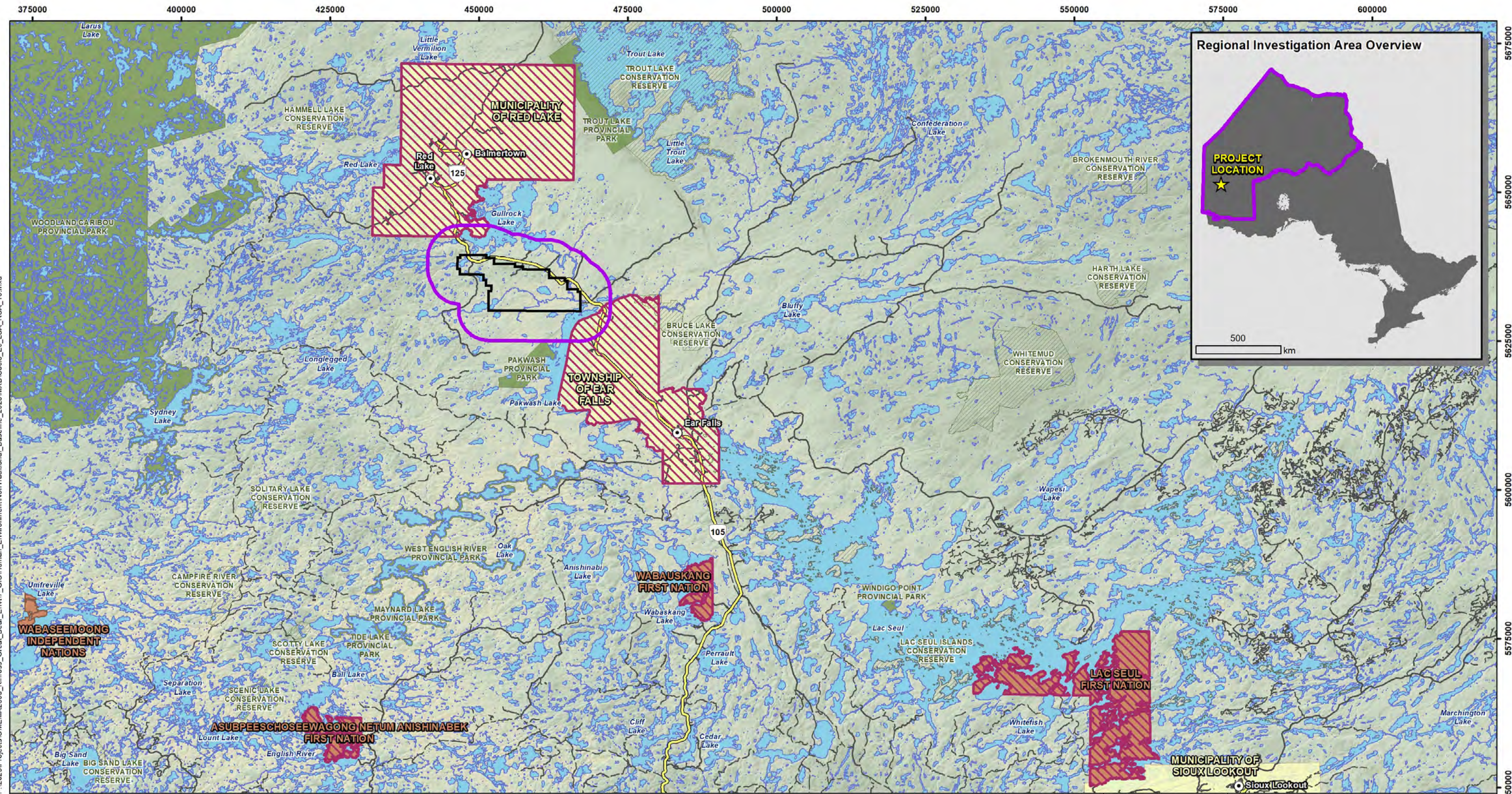
# 3 SPATIAL AND TEMPORAL BOUNDARIES

The investigation areas have been defined in consideration of the appropriate scale and spatial extent of potential effects of the Project, local and Indigenous knowledge, current or traditional land and resource use, non-traditional land use, and physical and biological environment investigation areas.

Investigation areas for the social, economic, and health baseline have been defined as the following:

- Socio-economic Local Investigation Area (LIA) for the social, economic, and health contexts is the anticipated area that could be influenced by the Project, and includes Indigenous Nations as identified by the federal and provincial government for the Project, or non-Indigenous communities within a reasonable distance to the Project (approximately 100 to 150 km), with a focus on the Township of Ear Falls and the Municipality of Red Lake. These communities are likely to provide key services and benefit from business opportunities resulting from the Project, are located along major travel and service corridors, and are part of Statistics Canada reporting units.
- Socio-Economic Regional Investigation Area (RIA) for the social, economic, and health contexts is a broader scale that provides a regional setting that could be influenced by the Project and defined by the District of Kenora, in which the Project, identified Indigenous Nations and municipalities are situated within.

The investigation areas are illustrated in Figure 3-1 and Figure 3-2.



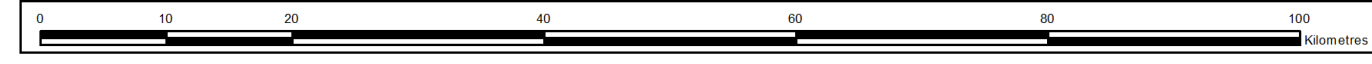
**LEGEND**

Property Boundary	Highway	Socio-economic Local Investigation Area - Lac Seul First Nation - Wabauskang First Nation - Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation - Township of Ear Falls - Municipality of Red Lake	Socio-economic Regional Investigation Area - District of Kenora
Town	Local Road		
First Nation Reserve	Resource / Recreation Road		
Lower Tier Municipal Boundary	Waterbody		
Conservation Reserve			
Provincial Park			

**NOTES:**  
 - Base data acquired from Land Information Ontario (MNR), 2022.  
 - Property boundary provided by Kinross, March 2023.

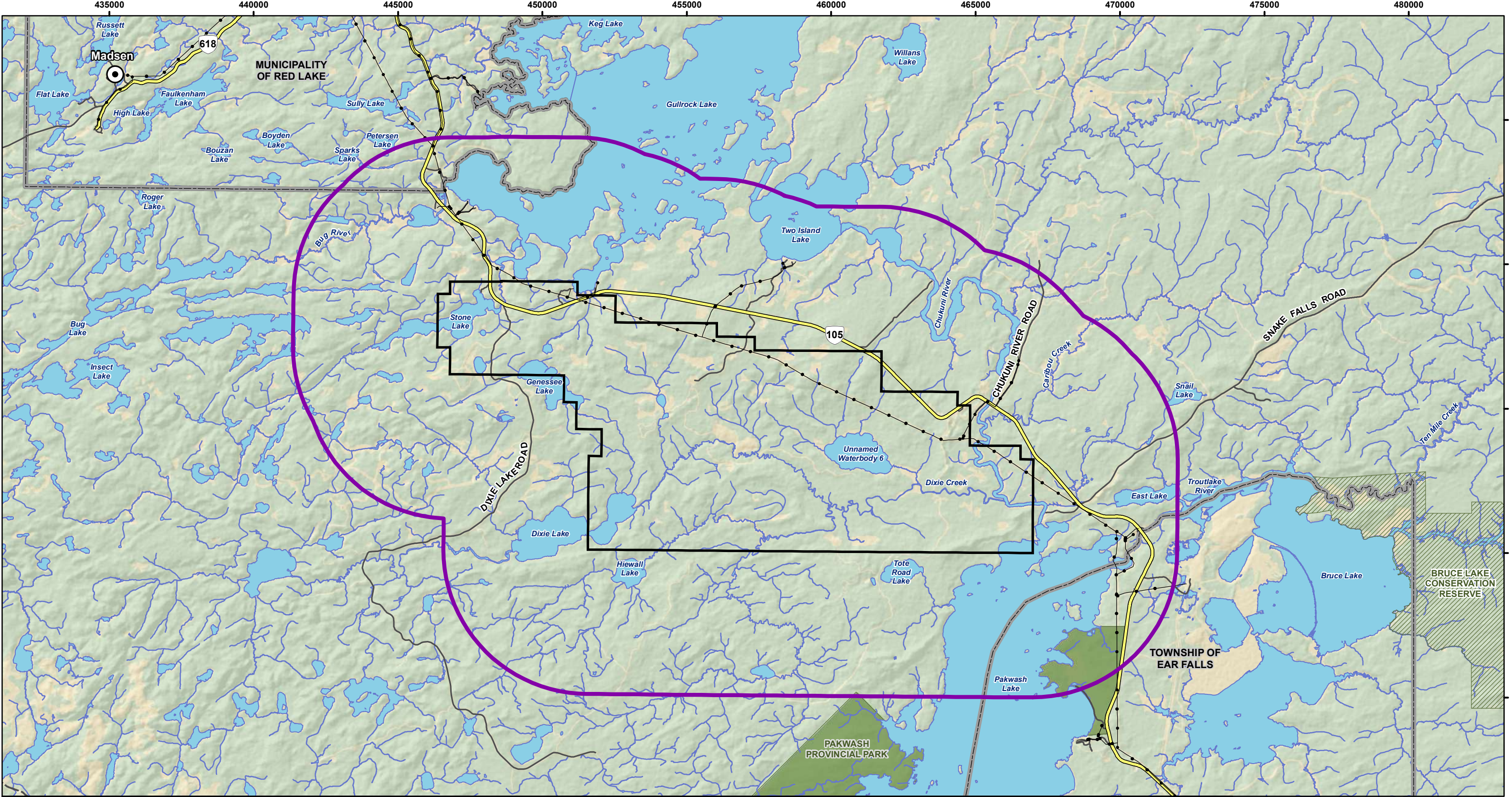
Datum: NAD83  
 Projection: UTM Zone 15N

<b>GREAT BEAR PROJECT</b>			
Socio-economic Local and Regional Investigation Areas			
PROJECT N°: OMEMA2303	FIGURE: 3-1		
SCALE: 1:600,000	DATE: June 2024		

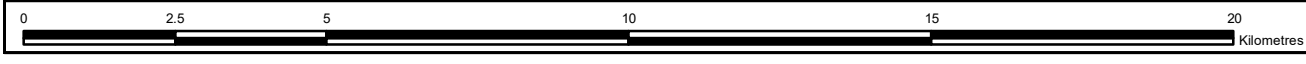


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X:\CACA\OAK300-OAK\WMS-FS1-1-Project\F\2023\Projects\OMEMA2303\_Kinross\_Great\_Bear\_Env\7\_GIS\Human\_Environment\NonTraditional\_Land\_Use\_Study\_Area\_9.mxd



- LEGEND**
- Land Use Investigation Area
  - Property Boundary
  - Town
  - Conservation Reserve
  - Provincial Park
  - Highway
  - Local Road
  - Resource / Recreation Road
  - Power Line
  - Lower Tier Municipal Boundary
  - Watercourse
  - Waterbody



**NOTES:**  
 - Base data acquired from Land Information Ontario (MNR), 2022.  
 - Property boundary provided by Kinross, March 2023.

Datum: NAD83  
 Projection: UTM Zone 15N



**KINROSS**

**GREAT BEAR PROJECT**

**Land Use Investigation Area**

PROJECT N°: OMEMA2303	FIGURE: 3-2
SCALE: 1:125,000	DATE: April 2024

# 4 STUDY AREA OVERVIEW

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## 4.1 INDIGENOUS NATIONS OVERVIEW

The information contained below has not been validated by communities listed below inclusive of Lac Seul First Nation, Wabauskang First Nation, Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek (Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation, and the Métis Nation of Ontario. The data contained in the overview includes secondary information collected during the completion of the baseline study.

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### 4.1.1 LAC SEUL FIRST NATION

Lac Seul is located in Northwestern Ontario and approximately 38 kilometres from Sioux Lookout (Lac Seul First Nation, 2023). Lac Seul First Nation, one of the largest Indian Reserves located in Treaty #3, is comprised of 3,689 members, as of May 2022 with two thirds of the population living off-reserve (Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, 2022b) (Lac Seul First Nation, 2019). The 2021 Census notes the population to be 1,022, which is a 4.9% increase from 2016 (974) (Statistics Canada, 2023d). Due to regional flooding in the 1930's caused by hydro developments, community members were forced to move from their traditional territory and reside in the areas surrounding Red Lake, Trout Lake and Ear Falls. Historically, the main community resided near Keesic Bay, on the north shore of Lac Seul. The community notes several finishing camps and trap lines throughout the RIA, ranging from Bear Narrows to Root River on the northeast end of the lake (Lac Seul First Nation, 2019).

Keesic Bay island, located near Ross' point and named after a previous Hudson's Bay outpost, is also recognized as part of the larger traditional area having once been occupied by a smaller group of community members. Likewise, near the northwest tip of Keesic Bay island and Ningewance Bay, members of the community still currently reside (Lac Seul First Nation, 2019). A school built in the 1970's in Keesic Bay triggered a relocation effort to return families from nearby areas, however success was limited until year-round road access was constructed from Hudson Bay to present day Frenchman's head in the 1977.

The Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management (FA) presents a historic, government to government agreement signed in 1996. This agreement was signed between the original First Nations who created and advocated for it. Each signatory community that forms part of the Framework Agreement accepts the administration and full law-making authority of their reserve lands (First Nations Land Management Resource Centre, 2024).

Lac Seul First Nation joined as signatory into a Framework Agreement under the First Nation Land Management in 2019. The Framework Agreement provides the First Nation with an opportunity to govern their reserve lands and resources using their own land codes. The Framework Agreement aims to free the First Nation from any restrictions placed on them by the federal government (Lac Seul First Nation, 2024).

The location of unmarked graves at the former residential school sites in Canada triggered the requirement for the Government of Canada to work with Survivors, Indigenous leaders and impacted families as well as surrounding communities to address historical wrongs. The Lac Seul First Nation is engaged with the 33 affiliated northern Ontario communities to determine their cultural and spiritual protocols. The protocols will be identified by working with Survivors and intergenerational Survivors, knowledge keepers as well as leaders to determine the location of burial sites (Government of Canada, 2021).

An estimate of 200 First Nations in Canada hold elections under the Indian Act and the Indian Band Election Regulations. Under the act, the elections must be held every two years (Government of Canada, 2022). Lac Seul First Nation is governed by a Band Council, which consists of a Chief and eight elected Councillors, who serve on a two-year period. The appointment date for the current term was November

14, 2022, and the term ends on November 13, 2024 (Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, 2023a).

The aspect of local governance continues to play a key role in the management of opportunities for the local communities and subsequently the Good Governance Project was initiated. The Good Governance Project aims to continuously update the laws as well as policies aligned with Lac Seul First Nation's (LSFN) elections, voting procedures and governance processes. In 2023, the Metallic Law Firm was identified to assist with this component of the project (Lac Seul First Nation, 2024).

The Good Governance Approach necessitates engaging in sensitive discussions rooted in the past to demonstrate respect for First Nations. Discussion topics include equitable compensation, land flooding and respect to the nation's authority. The land flooding challenge played out during a court case referred to as the Southwind versus Canada trial (Monchalin S.B., 2021).

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#### **4.1.2 WABAUSKANG FIRST NATION**

The Wabauskang First Nation is a member of the Bimose Tribal Council and also the Grand Council of Treaty 3 (Native Ministries International, 2022). The Grand Council Treaty #3 is located in the Anishinaabe Nation and planned to be the first post-Confederation treaty held by the Anishinaabe held firm (Grand Council Treaty #3, 2024). Wabauskang First Nation is the most northern community of Treaty #3 territory, located approximately 30 km south of Ear Falls, proximal to the community of Perrault Falls. The community is accessed off Highway 105 via a short (5 km) access known as Wabuaksang Road. Band Office, administrative facilities, and housing are located within the community. Wabauskang First Nation is situated on the east shores of Wabauskang Lake.

The First Nation has a total registered population of 366, as of May 2022 (Great Bear Resources Ltd., 2020) (Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, 2022c). The 2021 Census notes the population to be 57, which is a 18.6% decrease from 2016 (70) (Statistics Canada, 2023g). Wabauskang First Nation is part of Bimose Tribal Council and Grand Council Treaty #3. The Grand Council Treaty #3 is a governing body, with a goal to protect the leadership and citizens of the communities it serves. Wabauskang First Nation is governed by a Band Council, which consists of a Chief and three elected Councillors. The appointment date for the current term was June 8, 2024, and the term ends on June 8, 2027 (Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, 2022c).

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#### **4.1.3 ASUBPEESCHOSEEWAGONG NETUM ANISHINABEK FIRST NATION**

Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek (ANA) First Nation is an Ojibway First Nation located in Treaty #3 and is 80 km north of Kenora, Ontario. The registered population was approximately 1,602 members as of 2022 (Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, 2022a). The 2021 Census notes the population to be 584, which is an 8.5% decrease from 2016 (638) (Statistics Canada, 2023b). ANA First Nation is part of Bimose Tribal Council and Grand Council Treaty #3. The Grand Council Treaty #3 is a governing body, with a goal to protect the leadership and citizens of the communities it serves. ANA First Nation is governed by a Band Council, which consists of a Chief and four elected Councillors, who serve on a two-year period. The appointment date for the current term was October 22, 2022, and the term ends on October 8, 2024 (Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, 2022a).

ANA First Nation enacted a Land Declaration in October 2018, setting out the will of the First Nation with respect to their traditional territory. The Land Declaration asserts that the First Nation's Territory is an Indigenous Sovereignty and Protected Area (also known as an Indigenous Protected and Conserved Area, banning certain land uses on the Territory, including mineral staking and mining activities that do not have the First Nation's consent (Ontario Superior Court of Justice, 2021).

ANA First Nation operates as a self-government and responsible for the community. The governance office takes responsibility for the oversee of various community programs, facilities and services available to the community. In April 2020, the government of Canada and the elected council of ANA First Nation met in community to sign an amendment to the Mercury Care Home Framework Agreement. This

Agreement builds on the Government of Canada's commitment to ensure that residents from ANA who live with methylmercury poisoning receive the care they require while living closer to their homes, families or communities. The Government of Canada also committed funding to develop a new water treatment facility in ANA First Nation *via* the 2020 Fall Economic Statement (The Government of Canada, 2021).

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#### 4.1.4 NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO MÉTIS COMMUNITY (MÉTIS NATION OF ONTARIO - REGION 1)

The Métis are a distinct Indigenous People with a unique culture, language, and history, with ancestry resulting from the relationships between Indigenous women and European men. Emerging as an outgrowth of the fur trade, Métis settlements grew along freighting waterways and watersheds. In Ontario, these Métis settlements were part of larger regional communities, interconnected by the mobile lifestyle of the Métis, and a shared collective history and identity (Métis Nation of Ontario, 2024). The Supreme Court of Canada's unanimous decision in *R. v. Powley* (2003) affirmed that the Métis were included as one of the Aboriginal peoples of Canada in Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982.

The Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO) was founded in the early 1990s to represent the collective interests and rights of Métis people. The MNO has a province-wide governance structure and is a Governing Member of the Métis National Council. The MNO signed a Consultation Agreement with the Ontario Government on July 31, 2015, establishing a consultation process with members of the Ontario Métis communities represented by the MNO to consult on proposed actions or decisions that may adversely impact asserted or established Indigenous rights. The MNO Lands, Resources, and Consultation Department fields all requests for consultation within Ontario and subsequently contacts community councils on a proponent's behalf (Métis Nation of Ontario, 2024).

The MNO signed an Agreement on Advancing Reconciliation with the Northwestern Ontario Métis Community with the Government of Canada on December 11, 2017, in which the MNO asserted that "the Northwestern Ontario Métis Community has outstanding rights, interests and claims based on its unique history and geography in the Northwest that require reconciliation, including, but not limited to, an outstanding collective claim of the Métis descendants of the 'Halfbreeds of Rainy River and Lake,' whose representatives signed an Adhesion to Treaty No. 3 [1875]" (Government of Canada, 2017).

The MNO has nine regional governance areas and holds regional and provincial elections every four years. The Project Investigation Area falls within MNO - Region 1, otherwise known as the Northwestern Ontario Métis Community, in the vicinity of the Northwest Métis Council and the Kenora Métis Council. The Captain of the Hunt (COTH) play a critical role in the management of the Métis Nation Of Ontario's harvesting rights. One COHT is assigned to each of nine regional administrative areas and they support the overall management of the harvest. The management of the harvest is described in the Harvesting Policy and is practiced in the traditional harvesting areas. The COHT plays a key role in the line of communication between Harvesters, the MNO and the MNR. Some of the COHT's duties include the implementation of the Interim Harvesting Policy and to determine the acceptable harvest management in the various regions (Métis Nation, 2024).

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## 4.2 MUNICIPAL OVERVIEW

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### 4.2.1 MUNICIPALITY OF RED LAKE

The Municipality of Red Lake (Red Lake) is located approximately 270 km north of the City of Kenora, Ontario, and is one of the largest municipalities in the Kenora District. Red Lake is comprised of the Golden Township, Red Lake Township and the Unorganized Territory, which can be reached by Highway 105, Highway 125 and Highway 618 (FOTENN Planning and Urban Design, 2015a).

The total population of Red Lake was 4,094, according to the 2021 Census. The land use in Red Lake is primarily rural with five serviced townsites: Red Lake, Balmertown, Cochenour, Madsen and McKenzie

Island. Development in Red Lake is limited to these townsite locations. Of these townsites, Red Lake is the largest settlement area. There are also three non-serviced residential settlements, which accommodate rural residential subdivisions. These settlements are Starratt-Olsen, Flat Lake and McMarmac (Municipality of Red Lake, 2015).

The Official Plan (Municipality of Red Lake, 2015) indicates that there are a number of key challenges facing the municipality. According to the Ontario Planning Act municipalities are required to develop and adopt an Official Plan to provide guidance in terms of the development of local communities. The Red Lake Municipality delivers on a range of responsibilities to meet the requirements set out by the government inclusive of the management and conservation of natural as well as human resources.

The Comprehensive Review Report completed in 2011 provides an in-depth analysis of the vacant land status. The report introduction indicates eight existing Townsites in the municipality consistent of unique land uses and policies aligned with these. According to the report only five Townsites are fully serviced by the Municipality and considered for a detailed review. According to the final analysis the settlement area, boundaries of certain Townsites in the Municipality of Red Lake need expansion to accommodate future growth. According to the report in 2011 43.1 gross hectares are required for additional Residential Land and 193 gross hectares are needed for additional Employment Land (Municipality of Red Lake Comprehensive Review 2010 – 2011, 2011, p. 14).

Since the leading industry in Red Lake is mining, Red Lake's population is projected to further grow. Hence, the Official Plan (OP) outlines four key challenges, including commitments to address the following.

### **Projected Household Demand**

A comprehensive review in 2011 projected that Red Lake's population could increase by 4,553 by 2031, to a total population of 9,079. To address the projected growth, the Official Plan notes that an additional 1,751 new dwelling units are required. This municipality experiences diverse challenges inclusive of an increase in temporary and permanent residents. This impacts on the availability of municipal infrastructure, housing stock, land supply, community services, industrial as well as commercial space. In addition to this the availability of housing stock may be impacted. Various key objectives stipulated in the official plan includes the promotion of compact development, use of existing infrastructure, support to the intensification of townsites and re-use of past industrial areas and brownfield sites (Municipality of Red Lake, 2022).

The basis of the plan relates to the provision of affordable housing that will integrate with existing developments and provide opportunities to an ageing population in need of special support.

This population growth will not only affect housing supply and demand, but also place significant demands on municipal infrastructure, including land supply, industrial and commercial space, the transportation network, community services and amenities. The following key land use areas planned include the following:

- Townsite residential in the serviced townsites;
- Townsite employment sites;
- Commercial area;
- Open spaces;
- Rural residential areas;
- Rural commercial areas;
- Natural resources areas;
- Waste disposal sites;
- Environmental protection sites;
- Hazard land to be determined; and

- Crown land overlay to be determined (Municipality of Red Lake, 2022).

### **Youth Retention**

Reducing youth out-migration from the municipality (youth retention) is an important issue for Red Lake. Council intends to allocate land for educational and employment uses, helping to enhance learning opportunities (e.g., post-secondary institutions) and expand employment options. According to the Municipality of Red Lake post-secondary opportunities are available through the Confederation College extension campus and distance learning centre. This is to help ensure candidates remain in the area and refrain from leaving the municipality (Municipality of Red Lake, 2015).

### **Indigenous Population and Interests**

Red Lake recognizes their large Indigenous population and anticipate continued growth. Indigenous Nations in close proximity to Red Lake are also recognized to have an interest in land use planning within the municipality. As per the Keewatin Litigation Area, in which Red Lake is situated, there may be a need to receive First Nation consent or federal authorization before changes to land uses are made. This is currently pending a decision at the Ontario Court of Appeal (Municipality of Red Lake, 2015).

### **Crown Land**

The OP notes that some locations within the municipality may need to utilize Crown land to achieve development objectives. To do so, there are ongoing discussions and negotiations between the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNR) and Red Lake to determine the best course of action (Municipality of Red Lake, 2015).

In addition, Red Lake has a Strategic Plan (Plan) for 2020-2023, which provides a vision and direction for the municipality to lead towards a sustainable future. The strategic directions identified in the Plan include (Municipality of Red Lake, 2020):

- Towards a Responsive Regional Service Hub.
  - Prepare for the Road South: This includes objectives such as developing partnerships with Indigenous Nations and organizations, developing a memorandum of understanding for the north and south corridor, establish service agreements etc.
  - Expand Government Investment: This includes objectives such as maximizing lobbying opportunities, establish collaborative approach for funding with adjacent communities, and organizations etc.
- Towards More People, More Businesses.
  - Stimulate Business Development: This includes objectives such as supporting business organizations, developing business investment strategy etc.
  - Revitalize Downtown and Enhance Neighbourhoods: This includes objectives such as supporting volunteerism, investing in beautification efforts and affordable housing etc.
- Towards Modern, Efficient Operations and Infrastructure.
  - Targeted Investments in Infrastructure: This includes objectives such as developing brownfield sites, investing in road and water infrastructure projects etc.
  - Efficient, Citizen-Centered Services: This includes objectives such as improving local transportation, increase opportunities and participation in community activities etc.
  - Expand Municipal Revenue: This includes objectives such as seeking alternative funding sources and revenue sharing etc. (Municipality of Red Lake, 2020).

The Municipal Council in Red Lake is made up of five members, one of whom is a woman+ presently, and none of whom are presenting people of colour, which could provide a challenge with regards to enacting plans and policies reflecting the needs of individuals with intersecting identities (Municipality of Red Lake, n.d. - c). Research from the Government of Canada has shown that gender and racial diversity within

leadership and democratic roles is necessary for decision-making to represent and benefit all members of society (Government of Canada - Women and Gender Equality Canada, 2022).

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#### 4.2.2 TOWNSHIP OF EAR FALLS

The Township of Ear Falls offers a variety of services to the local community. The Planning Act stipulates that the Township of Ear Falls is responsible to look after provincial interests inclusive of the following:

- Protection of natural resources;
- Looking after agricultural resources;
- Conservation of and management of natural and mineral based resources;
- The supply of energy and water to the communities;
- Management of waste and water;
- Provision of transportation inclusive of easy access to people with disability;
- The provision of sufficient housing and commercial land use opportunities;
- The support and identification of possible employment opportunities;
- To give support to local bodies in the shape of religious and recreational centres;
- The provision and support to the development of educational centres inclusive of day care facilities; and
- The development of a sustainable and safe living environment (Ear Falls Official Plan, 2015).

The Township of Ear Falls (Ear Falls) is located approximately 200 km northeast of Kenora, Ontario. The Township is surrounded by several lakes such as Pakwash Lake, Bruce Lake, Lac Seul, Wenasaga Lake and Camping Lake in Northwestern Ontario (Township of Ear Falls, 2016b).

The total population of Ear Falls was 924 according to the 2021 Census. The Ear Falls Official Plan mentioned that due to uncertainty in the resource-based economy, it is difficult to predict projected population for Ear Falls. The population scenarios were given in terms of ranges. The population could decrease by 144 people or increase by 72 people by 2026 to a total population range of 882 to 1,098 by 2026 (FOTENN Planning and Urban Design, 2015b). The cyclical nature of resource-based “boom-bust” economies were described for Ear Falls in the Nuclear Waste Management Organization (NWMO) Phase 1 Preliminary Community Well-Being Assessment for the Township of Ear Falls (Nuclear Waste Management Organization, 2013) where migration from northern communities to more diverse and reliable centres of employment. NWMO indicates that Ear Falls’ population has declined since the 1980s by approximately 50%.

Ear Falls consists of an urban portion north of the English River, at the crossing of Highway 105 and Highway 804. The Township of Ear Falls provides municipal water and sewage systems, fire protection, regional landfill and street maintenance. The Township also manages a public library, a cemetery, a business directory, a visitor information centre, a permitting office (Township of Ear Falls, 2022k) and waste disposal sites (Township of Ear Falls, 2022n). The rural areas contain both residences and cottages along Lac Seul and the English River. Rural residential areas are occupied both seasonally and year-round. These are subject to rural residential area policies, which are outlined in the Ear Falls OP (FOTENN Planning and Urban Design, 2015b).

As mentioned above, population projections for Ear Falls range from a reduction of 144 people to growth of 72 people by 2026. The OP indicates that there are enough vacant residential lots in the Township to accommodate any population growth until 2031. However, due to the cyclical nature of a resource-based economy, it is difficult to predict population growth. Industrial development is supported by the Township by having designated zones for industrial land use such as the airport site (FOTENN Planning and Urban Design, 2015b). The information provided in the Ear Falls Official Plan dates to the year 2015 and reflects the status of the land use during the specific time period. Statistics Canada estimated a -7.1% decline in

the enumerated population of Ear Falls, the occupation of 402 private dwellings and a change of -1.2% between 2016 and 2021 (Statistics Canada, 2021)

The Ear Falls Strategic Plan highlights the following mission and objectives:

“...Ear Falls will strive to create a business and family-friendly environment that will retain, attract and develop businesses and families.”

There are five priorities listed in the Township of Ear Falls Strategic Plan, 2019 - 2022 (Township of Ear Falls, 2019) with associated action items:

### **Local Economy**

- Focus on community pride projects, tourism initiatives and business support; and
- Develop cottage lots within the municipal boundary.

### **Community Pride**

- Implement the Parks and Playground Plan which is updated annually to review assets and provide budget allocations and access external funding sources;
- Design a new Ear Falls flag;
- Host a volunteer fair;
- Contract a photographer to support community event promotion; and
- Undertake a beautification initiative.

### **Efficient and High Performing Government**

- Update the Township’s Energy Management Plan 2014-2019 and point to possible energy efficiency initiatives; and
- Complete a Water Leak Detection Study.

### **Communications**

- Lobby for better Internet service;
- Use social media to market the Township; and
- Develop Ear Falls Ambassadors to communicate positive events.

### **Relationships and Partners**

- Support the Local Business Forum and the Community Economic Development Committee (Township of Ear Falls, 2019).

Finally, The Strategic Plan identifies that Ear Falls aims to build a stronger sense of community through beautification projects, community ambassadors, volunteerism, supporting the Museum Working Group, producing professional photos of community events and creating a new Township flag (Township of Ear Falls, 2019).

The Town Council of Ear Falls is made up of four members, three of whom are men+, and one of whom is women+ (Township of Ear Falls, n.d. - b) There is no available information on the racial or ethnic identity of the councilors. Research from the Government of Canada has shown that gender and racial diversity within leadership and democratic roles is necessary for decision-making to represent and benefit all members of society (Government of Canada - Women and Gender Equality Canada, 2022).

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## 4.3 REGIONAL OVERVIEW

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### 4.3.1 DISTRICT OF KENORA

The Kenora District Municipal Association considers matters of interest to the municipalities inclusive of the two provincial ridings of Kenora and Kiiwetinoong. The District of Kenora under the Planning Act is responsible to look after a range of provincial interests inclusive of the following:

- Protection of natural resources;
- Looking after agricultural resources;
- Conservation of and management of natural and mineral based resources;
- The supply of energy and water to the communities;
- Management of waste and water;
- Provision of transportation inclusive of easy access to people with disability;
- The provision of sufficient housing and commercial land use opportunities;
- The support and identification of possible employment opportunities;
- To give support to local bodies in the shape of religious and recreational centres;
- The provision and support to the development of educational centres inclusive of day care facilities; and
- The development of a sustainable and safe living environment (The City of Kenora, 2024).

Kenora District is one of the three main districts located in northwestern Ontario, along the TransCanada Highway. It is approximately 210 km from Winnipeg and includes the following cities and townships: City of Kenora, Dryden and Red Lake and the Township of Ear Falls, Pickle Lake, Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls, Sioux Lookout and Ignace. Kenora and Dryden make up the largest cities in the District. The Kenora District also makes up 40% of the land base in the Province of Ontario (approximately 407,213 km<sup>2</sup>) (Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants, 2024).

As of the 2021 Census, Kenora District reported a population of 66,000, which is a 0.7% increase from 2016. Similar to much of northern Ontario, the population density is sparse, with 0.2 persons per km<sup>2</sup>. The Kenora District population grew by 11% from 1991 (58,748) to 2016 (65,533). As of the 2016 Census, approximately 49.2% (31,800) of the population in the District identify as Indigenous. Kenora District's population is expected to grow in the next 30 years, specifically the Indigenous population is projected to increase by 26.2% from 2015 to 2030 (Conteh, 2017).

The Kenora District presents a wide range of services to the community inclusive of residential, commercial and recreational opportunities. The forestry, mining and tourism sectors remain strong in the area. One of the key economic impacts experienced by the district refers to the closure of the Abitibi Mill. Kenora's natural environment is representative of the Lake of the Woods, Winnipeg River, Black Sturgeon Lakes and smaller lakes scattered along the city area (The City of Kenora, 2024).

The district struggles with youth retention and development of an ageing community but continues to display economic growth over the years especially with regards to tourism (The City of Kenora, 2024).

The District of Kenora forms part of the Kenora District Municipal Association (KDMA), which considers matters of interest to the municipalities that maybe to the advantage of the district. The KDMA strives to make the regional municipal governments stronger and focus on the following key concepts:

- To develop policy positions and reports issues of general interest to the municipalities;
- To inform and educate governments, the media and the public on municipal challenges; and

- To conduct continues engagement with the provincial elected and non-elected officials.

The KDMA represents the following municipalities:

- City of Dryden;
- City of Kenora;
- Municipality of Machin;
- Municipality of Red Lake;
- Municipality of Sioux Lookout;
- Township of Ear Falls;
- Township of Ignace;
- Township of Pickle Lake; and
- Township of Sioux Narrows-Nestor Falls.

The KDMA is led by Mayor Kevin Kahoot, who serves a four-year term at the Township of Ear Falls; Mayor Fred Mota, who serves as the first VP at the Municipality of Red Lake; and Mayor Gord Griffiths, the second VP at the Municipality of Machin. The KDMA's key mandate is to seek to foster understanding; to study all matters insofar as they affect the social and economic conditions of the residents of the district municipalities of the Kenora District. Further, the KDMA serves as a conduct to the provincial and federal Crown serving a government relation pertaining to municipal affairs and pending legislation that be beneficial in view of conditions existing in the District of Kenora. The KDMA also seeks to evaluate all legislation of municipal matters when deemed necessary in the interest of Municipal Government in the District of Kenora (Kenora District Municipal Association, 2024).

Regional communities are also jointly members in the Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association (NOMA). NOMA was organized in 1946, incorporated on September 18th, 2001, and is made up of four components: the Kenora District Municipal Association, the Rainy River District Municipal Association, the Thunder Bay District Municipal League and the City of Thunder Bay. Other than the City of Thunder Bay, membership is attained by being a member of the district organization. The area represented by NOMA extends from the City of Kenora in the west to the Town of Hearst.

The mandate of NOMA is to consider matters of general interest to the municipalities and to procure enactment of such legislation that may be of advantage to the municipalities in Northwestern Ontario and to take united action on all matters where the rights of the municipalities may be affected, to advance the standards of municipal government through education and discussion, and generally to promote their interests.

The organization is governed by an 18-member Board of Directors: The President, an Executive Vice President, a Vice President from each of the member organizations, the Past President and the Executive Director.

NOMA and the Federation of Northern Ontario Municipalities (FONOM) form the Northern Caucus of the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO). Each of the organizations have three elected representatives on the Board and also have a vice president on the Executive of AMO. Although the Executive Directors of both organizations are invited to the Board meetings, they do not have any voting privileges. There are also members appointed to various other committees and task forces from among their membership. NOMA also has representation on various other bodies/organizations (Northwestern Ontario Municipal Association, 2024).

The District of Kenora Unincorporated Areas Ratepayers Association (DoKURA), formed in 1996, represents the interests of more than 25 000 permanent and seasonal residents who live outside the organised municipalities and First Nation communities in the Unincorporated Territories. These territories occur in the southern portion of Kenora District (DoKURA, 2024).

# 5 SOCIAL CONDITIONS

## 5.1 POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

All gender-related language in this section follows Statistics Canada 2022 categories of men+” and women+. According to (Statistics Canada, 2022c), the category men+ includes men as well as some non-binary persons, and the category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

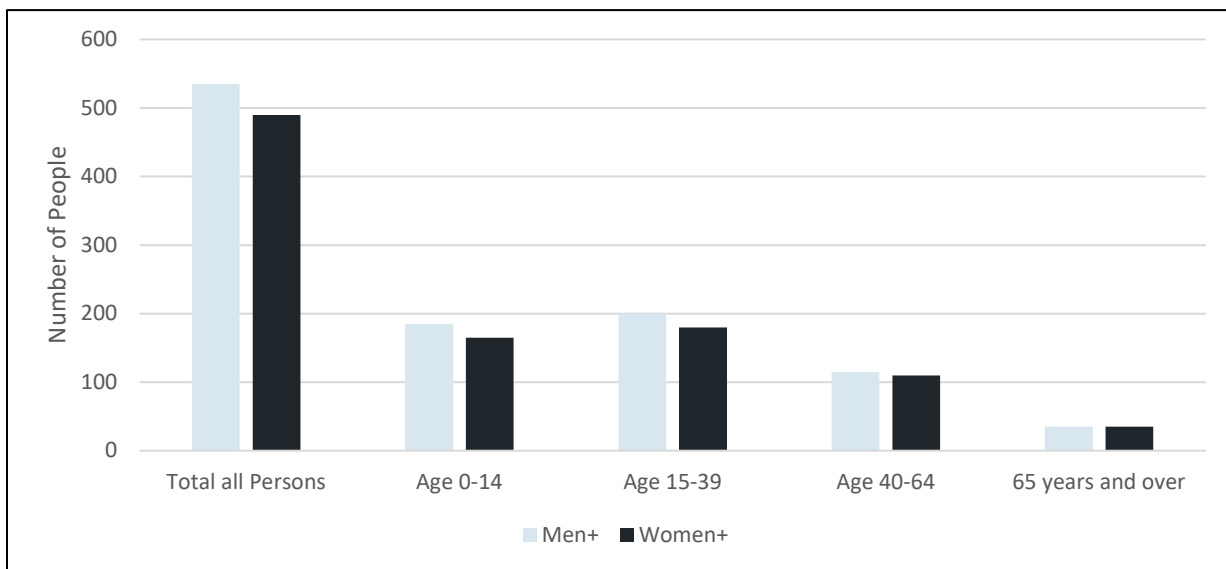
### 5.1.1 INDIGENOUS NATIONS

#### 5.1.1.1 LAC SEUL FIRST

##### **NATION Age and Gender**

Figure 5-1 presents age characteristics for Lac Seul First Nation’s on-reserve population. The 2021 census shows there to be a population of 1,025 individuals, 535 of which identify as men+ and 490 who identify as women+. According to the 2021 Census, the median age of the on-reserve population of Lac Seul First Nation was 25.6, with the largest age group for both men+ and women+ being 15 to 39 years, followed by 40 to 64 years. The age range of 65 years and over made up the smallest amount of the total population (7%) (Statistics Canada, 2023d).

**Figure 5-1: Lac Seul First Nation Age Characteristics, 2021**



Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023d).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### **Immigration**

Immigration characteristics do not apply for Lac Seul First Nation.

### **Migration and Mobility**

The mobility characteristics for Lac Seul First Nation’s on-reserve population are presented in Table 5-1. Statistics Canada’s data from 2021 demonstrates that most residents did not move within the past year

(95.5%). The highest proportion of the total population that moved in the past year was women+ (5.3%) followed by men+ (3.8%) (Statistics Canada, 2023d).

**Table 5-1: Lac Seul, Wabauskang, and Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nations Mobility Characteristics, 2021**

<b>Mobility Characteristics</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Men+</b>	<b>Women+</b>
<b>Lac Seul First Nation</b>			
Total responses	1,005	530	475
Did not move in the past year (%)	95.5	97.2	95.8
Moved in the past year (%)	4.0	3.8	5.3
Moved within Ontario (%)	1.0	1.9	2.1
Moved into Ontario from a different province (%)	1.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Wabauskang First Nation</b>			
Total responses	55	25	30
Did not move in the past year (%)	90.9	100.0	83.3
Moved in the past year (%)	18.2	40.0	33.3
Moved within Ontario (%)	18.2	40.0	33.3
Moved into Ontario from a different province (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation</b>			
Total responses	580	295	280
Did not move in the past year (%)	95.7	96.6	94.6
Moved in the past year (%)	4.3	1.7	2.6
Moved within Ontario (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
Moved into Ontario from a different province (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023d; Statistics Canada, 2023g; Statistics Canada, 2023b).

## Language

Table 5-2 presents the language characteristics of Lac Seul First Nation's on-reserve population. According to the 2021 Census, the on-reserve population of Lac Seul First Nation is predominantly Anglophone, with 99.5% of the population speaking English only, and 0.5% of the population speaking both French and English. Of the total population, 3.4% spoke an Indigenous language most often at home, with women+ (4.1%) more frequently speaking Indigenous language at home than men+ (1.9%). Algonquian languages made up 100% of the proportion of the Indigenous languages spoken most often at home (Statistics Canada, 2023d). In the 2021 Census, Algonquian languages is the category that includes Ojibway-Potawatomi languages, Blackfoot, Cree-Innu languages, and Eastern Algonquian languages.

**Table 5-2: Lac Seul, Wabauskang, and Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nations Language Characteristics, 2021**

<b>Knowledge of Official Languages - Total Population</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Men+</b>	<b>Women+</b>
<b>Lac Seul First Nation</b>			
Total responses	1,020	535	485
English Only (%)	99.5	100.0	100.0
French Only (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
English and French (%)	0.5	0.9	0.0
Indigenous languages spoken most often at home (%)	3.4	1.9	4.1
English spoken most often at home (%)	96.6	97.2	95.9
French spoken most often at home (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Wabauskang First Nation</b>			
Total responses	55	30	30

<b>Knowledge of Official Languages - Total Population</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Men+</b>	<b>Women+</b>
English Only (%)	100.0	100.0	100.0
French Only (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
English and French (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
Indigenous languages spoken most often at home (%)	9.1	0.0	0.0
English spoken most often at home (%)	81.8	66.7	83.3
French spoken most often at home (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation</b>			
Total responses	585	295	285
English Only (%)	100	100	100
French Only (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
English and French (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
Indigenous languages spoken most often at home (%)	3.4	3.4	3.4
English spoken most often at home (%)	94.9	96.6	96.4
French spoken most often at home (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023b; Statistics Canada, 2023d; Statistics Canada, 2023g).

### Educational Attainment

Levels of education attainment on reserve in Lac Seul First Nation are presented in Table 5-3. In 2021, the percentage of adults 15 years and over who did not have a secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate was 51.9%. Women+ made up a higher proportion of this population (53.1%) compared to men+ (52.9%). A college or non-university certificate had been obtained by 11.1% of the population, with women+ (14.1%) more likely than men+ (10.0%) to obtain this level of education. A university certificate or diploma was obtained by 3.7% of the population at a bachelor level or above, with women+ making up a higher proportion than men+ (4.7% and 2.9%, respectively). Men+ made up the entire proportion of the population to achieve an apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma (5.2%) (Statistics Canada, 2023d).

**Table 5-3: Lac Seul, Wabauskang, and Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nations Education Characteristics, 2021**

<b>Education Characteristics</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Men+</b>	<b>Women+</b>
<b>Lac Seul First Nation</b>			
Population 15 years and over	675	350	320
No high school diploma or equivalency certificate (%)	51.9	52.9	53.1
Secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate (%)	25.9	28.6	25.0
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma (%)	5.2	8.6	0.0
College, or non-university certificate (%)	11.1	10.0	14.1
University certificate below bachelor level (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
University certificate or diploma at bachelor level or above (%)	3.7	2.9	4.7
<b>Wabauskang First Nation</b>			
Population 15 years and over	45	20	25
No high school diploma or equivalency certificate (%)	33.3	50.0	60.0
Secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate (%)	33.3	50.0	40.0
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
College, or non-university certificate (%)	33.3	0.0	40.0
University certificate below bachelor level (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
University certificate or diploma at bachelor level or above (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation</b>			
Population 15 years and over	410	200	210
No high school diploma or equivalency certificate (%)	61.4	60.0	64.2

Education Characteristics	Total	Men+	Women+
Secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate (%)	19.3	2.0	19.0
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma (%)	3.6	5.0	0.0
College, or non-university certificate (%)	9.6	1.0	9.5
University certificate below bachelor level (%)	2.4	0.0	0.0
University certificate or diploma at bachelor level or above (%)	4.8	5.0	7.1

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023b; Statistics Canada, 2023d; Statistics Canada, 2023g).

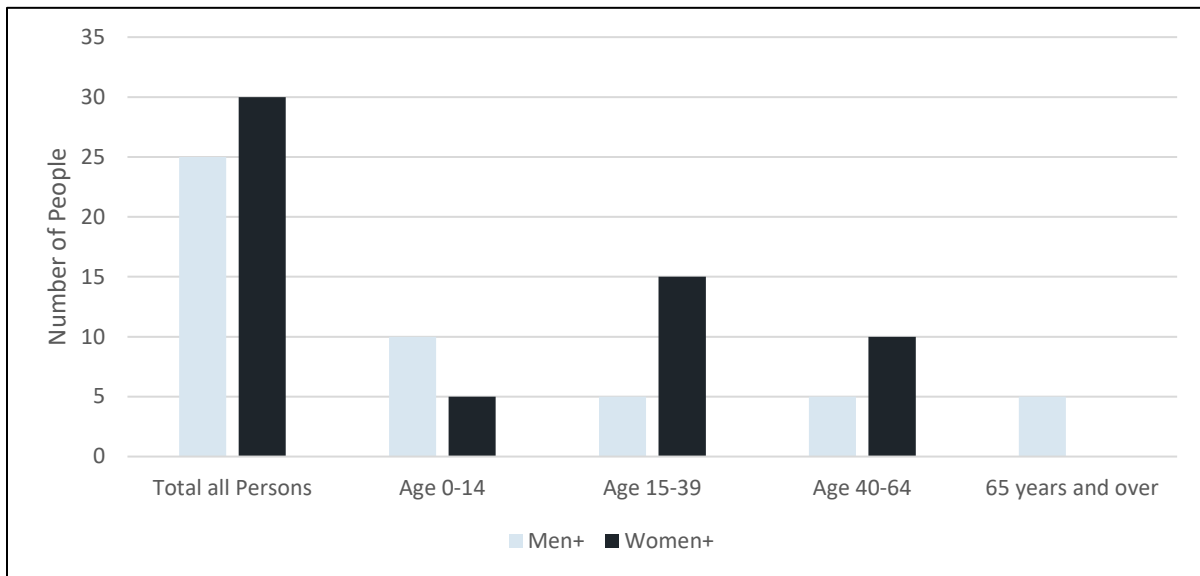
Note - The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### 5.1.1.2 WABAUSKANG FIRST NATION

#### Age and Gender

Figure 5-2 presents age characteristics for Wabauskang First Nation’s on-reserve population. The most recent census shows there to be an on-reserve population of 57 individuals, 25 of which identify as men+ and 30 who identify as women+ in 2021. According to the 2021 Census, the median age of the population was 30, with the largest age group for both men+ and women+ being 15 to 64 years, followed by 0 to 14 years. The age range of 65 years and over made up the smallest amount of the total population (8.4%) (Statistics Canada, 2023g).

**Figure 5-2: Wabauskang First Nation Age Characteristics, 2021**



Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023g).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

#### Immigration

Immigration characteristics do not apply for Wabauskang First Nation.

#### Migration and Mobility

The mobility characteristics for Wabauskang First Nation’s on-reserve population are presented in Table 5-1. Statistics Canada’s data from 2021 demonstrates that most residents did not move within the past year (95.5%), while the proportion of the population that moved within the past year was slightly higher for men+ (40.0%) than women+ (33.3%) (Statistics Canada, 2023g).

## Language

Table 5-2 presents the language characteristics of Wabauskang First Nation's on-reserve population. According to the 2021 Census, the on-reserve population of Wabauskang First Nation is entirely Anglophone, with none speaking French. Of the total on-reserve population, 9.1% spoke an Indigenous language most often at home, with Algonquian languages making up 100% of the proportion of the Indigenous languages spoken most often at home (Statistics Canada, 2023g).

## Educational Attainment

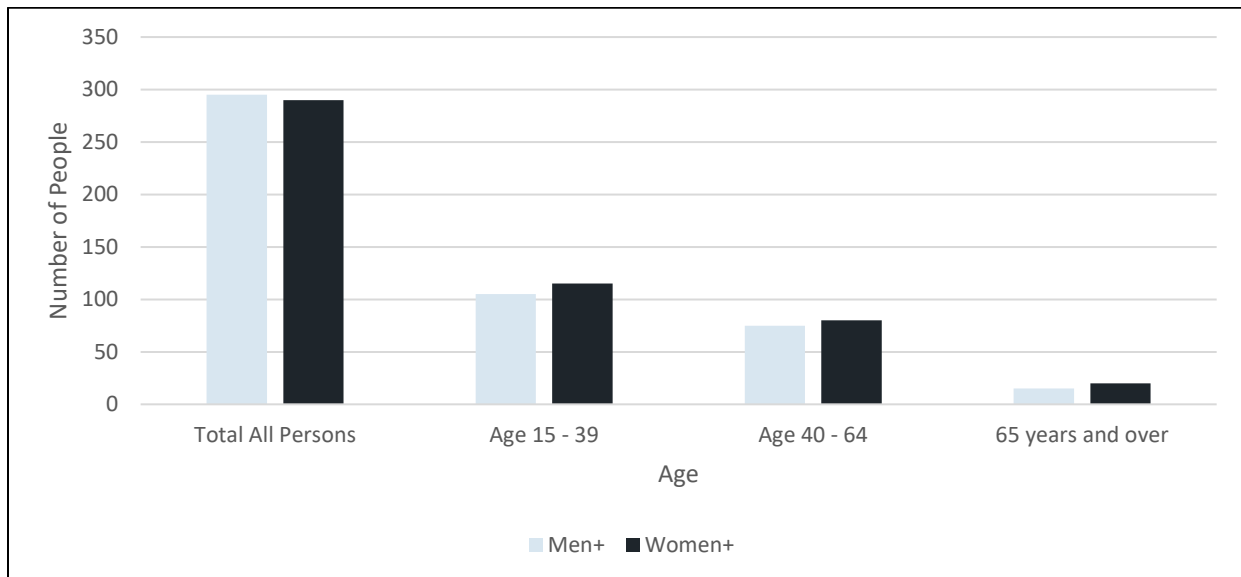
Levels of education achieved on reserve in Wabauskang First Nation are presented in Table 5-3. In 2021, the percentage of adults 15 years and over who did not have a secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate was 33.3%, with women+ slightly more likely than men+ (60.0% and 50.0%, respectively). A college or non-university certificate had been obtained by 33.3% of the population, with women+ comprising the entirety of the population to obtain this level of education. As of 2021 none of the population had achieved an apprenticeship or trades certificate, and none of the population had achieved a university certificate or diploma at a bachelor level or above (Statistics Canada, 2023g).

### 5.1.1.3 ASUBPEESCHOSEEWAGONG NETUM ANISHINABEK FIRST NATION

## Age and Gender

Figure 5-3 presents age characteristics for Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation's on-reserve population. The most recent breakdown of the total on-reserve population by gender shows there to be 295 individuals who identify as men+ and 290 individuals who identify as women+ in 2021. According to the 2021 Census, the median age of the on-reserve population of Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation was 27.8, with the largest age group for both men+ and women+ being 15 to 39 years, with 40 to 64 years close behind. The age range of 65 years and over made up the smallest amount of the total population (6%) (Statistics Canada, 2023b).

**Figure 5-3: Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek Age Characteristics, 2021**



Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023b).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## Immigration

Immigration characteristics do not apply for Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation.

## Migration and Mobility

The mobility characteristics for Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek’s on-reserve population are presented in Table 5-1. Statistics Canada’s data from 2021 demonstrates that the majority of residents did not move in the past year (95.7%). Women+ made up a higher proportion of the total population that moved in the past year (2.6%) compared to men+ (1.7%) (Statistics Canada, 2023b).

### Language

Table 5-2 provides data on the language characteristics of Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation’s on-reserve population. The 2021 Census identified that the on-reserve population of Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek is predominantly Anglophone, as 100% identified as knowing the English language only; 0% of the population had knowledge of French. Of the total on-reserve population, 3.4% spoke an Indigenous language most often at home, with men+ and women+ equally represented. Algonquian languages made up 100% of the proportion of the Indigenous languages spoken most often at home (Statistics Canada, 2023b).

## Educational Attainment

Table 5-3 presents levels of education achieved on reserve in Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek. In 2021, the percentage of adults 15 years and over who did not have a secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate was 61.4%. Women+ made up a higher proportion of this population (64.2%) compared to men+ (60%). The population (9.6%) had obtained a college or non-university certificate, with women+ making up the majority of this population (9.5%). A university certificate or diploma was obtained by 4.8% of the population at a bachelor level or above, with women+ making up a higher proportion than men+ (7.1% and 5%, respectively). Men+ made up the entire proportion of the on-reserve population to achieve an apprenticeship, or trades certificate or diploma (5%) (Statistics Canada, 2023b).

### 5.1.1.4 NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO MÉTIS COMMUNITY (MÉTIS NATION OF ONTARIO - REGION 1)

## Age and Gender

Table 5-4 presents age and gender statistics for self-identified Métis people in the district and municipalities in the Project Investigation Area. According to the 2021 Census, there were 4,075 self-identified Métis people in the District of Kenora, of which 2,060 identified as men+ and 2,015 identified as women+; in the Municipality of Red Lake, there were 350 self-identified Métis people, of which 170 identified as men+ and 175 identified as women+; and in the Township of Ear Falls, there were 90 self-identified Métis people, of which 45 identified as men+ and 40 identified as women+ (Statistics Canada, 2023h) (Statistics Canada, 2023i) (Statistics Canada, 2023j). The median age of self-identified Métis people was 37.6 in the District of Kenora, 31.4 in the Municipality of Red Lake, and 54.0 in the Township of Ear Falls (Statistics Canada, 2023h) (Statistics Canada, 2023i) (Statistics Canada, 2023j).

**Table 5-4: Age Characteristics for Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls (Métis Identity), 2021**

Age Characteristic	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Kenora District (Métis identity)</b>			
Total Population	4,075	2,060	2,015
Average Age	37.6	38.0	37.2
Median Age	37.6	37.6	37.6
<b>Red Lake (Métis identity)</b>			
Total Population	350	170	175
Average Age	35.2	34.0	36.4
Median Age	31.4	27.8	32.8

Age Characteristic	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Ear Falls (Métis identity)</b>			
Total Population	90	45	40
Average Age	53.6	56.0	51
Median Age	54	53.6	54

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023h) (Statistics Canada, 2023i) (Statistics Canada, 2023j)

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## Immigration

Immigration characteristics were not available for self-identified Métis people in Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls.

## Migration and Mobility

The mobility characteristics self-identified Métis people living in the Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls are presented in Table 5-1. (Statistics Canada, 2023h) (Statistics Canada, 2023i) (Statistics Canada, 2023j).

**Table 5-5: Mobility Characteristics for Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls (Métis Identity), 2021**

Mobility Characteristics (Métis Identity)	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Kenora District (Métis identity)</b>			
Total responses	4,040	2,045	1,995
Did not move in the past year (%)	86.5	86.6	86.5
Moved in the past year (%)	13.5	13.2	13.5
Moved within Ontario (%)	2.2	1.7	2.5
Moved into Ontario from a different province (%)	1.4	1.2	1.5
<b>Red Lake (Métis identity)</b>			
Total responses	345	170	175
Did not move in the past year (%)	87.0	88.2	88.6
Moved in the past year (%)	13.0	14.7	14.3
Moved within Ontario (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
Moved into Ontario from a different province (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Ear Falls (Métis identity)</b>			
Total responses	85	50	40
Did not move in the past year (%)	100	100	100
Moved in the past year (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
Moved within Ontario (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
Moved into Ontario from a different province (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023d; Statistics Canada, 2023g; Statistics Canada, 2023b).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## Language

Table 5-6 provides available data on the language characteristics of self-identified Métis people in Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls. The 2021 Census identified that 87.9% of self-identified Métis people living in Kenora district knew only English, 0.0% knew only French, and 12.1% knew both English and French (Statistics Canada, 2023h). More self-identified Métis women+ individuals knew English and French in Kenora District. In Red Lake, 97.1% of self-identified Métis people knew only English, 0.0% knew only French, and 2.9% knew both English and French (Statistics Canada, 2023i). In Ear Falls,

88.9% of self-identified Métis people knew only English, 0.0% knew only French, and 0.0% knew both English and French (Statistics Canada, 2023j).

**Table 5-6: Language Characteristics for Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls (Métis Identity), 2021**

Language Characteristics	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Kenora District (Métis identity)</b>			
Knowledge of official languages for the total population	4,075	2,060	2,015
English Only (%)	87.9	89.1	86.4
French Only (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
English and French (%)	12.1	10.9	13.4
<b>Red Lake (Métis identity)</b>			
Knowledge of official languages for the total population	350	170	175
English Only (%)	97.1	97.1	97.1
French Only (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
English and French (%)	2.9	0.0	0.0
<b>Ear Falls (Métis identity)</b>			
Knowledge of official languages for the total population	90	45	45
English Only (%)	88.9	100.0	77.8
French Only (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
English and French (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023h) (Statistics Canada, 2023i) (Statistics Canada, 2023j)

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## Educational Attainment

Table 5-7 presents levels of education achieved by self-identified Métis people in Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls. In 2021, the percentage of adults 15 years and over who did not have a secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate was 19.6% in Kenora District, 20.4% in Red Lake, and 25.0% in Ear Falls (Statistics Canada, 2023h) (Statistics Canada, 2023i) (Statistics Canada, 2023j). In Kenora District, men+ made up a higher portion of this population; in Red Lake and Ear Falls, women+ made up a higher portion of this population.

In Kenora District, 34.8% obtained only a high school diploma (or equivalency), 8.4% obtained an apprenticeship or trades certificate (12.7% of men+ and 3.5% of women+), 23.5% obtained a college certificate (19.7% of men+ and 27.2% of women+), and 12.0% obtained a university certificate at bachelor level or above (7.6% of men+ and 16.6% of women+) (Statistics Canada, 2023h).

In Red Lake, 42.6% obtained only a high school diploma (or equivalency), 7.4% obtained an apprenticeship or trades certificate (11.5% of men+ and 0.0% of women+), 7.4% obtained a college certificate (7.7% of men+ and 10.7% of women+), and 16.7% obtained a university certificate at bachelor level or above (15.4% of men+ and 21.4% of women+) (Statistics Canada, 2023i).

In Ear Falls, 31.3% obtained only a high school diploma (or equivalency), 25% obtained an apprenticeship or trades certificate (33.3% of men+ and 0.0% of women+), and 18.8% obtained a college certificate (0.0% of men+ and 42.9% of women+) (Statistics Canada, 2023j).

**Table 5-7: Educational Attainment for Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls (Métis Identity), 2021**

Education Characteristics	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Kenora District (Métis identity)</b>			
Population 15 years and over	3,215	1,650	1,565
No certificate; diploma; degree (%)	19.6	23.0	15.7
Secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate (%)	34.8	34.2	35.5
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma (%)	8.4	12.7	3.5
College, or non university certificate (%)	23.5	19.7	27.2
University certificate below bachelor level (%)	1.6	2.1	1.3
University certificate or diploma at bachelor level or above (%)	12.0	7.6	16.6
<b>Red Lake (Métis identity)</b>			
Population 15 years and over	270	130	140
No certificate; diploma; degree (%)	20.4	19.2	21.4
Secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate (%)	42.6	46.2	35.7
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma (%)	7.4	11.5	0.0
College, or non university certificate (%)	7.4	7.7	10.7
University certificate below bachelor level (%)	9.3	7.7	7.1
University certificate or diploma at bachelor level or above (%)	16.7	15.4	21.4
<b>Ear Falls (Métis identity)</b>			
Population 15 years and over	80	45	35
No certificate; diploma; degree (%)	25.0	22.2	42.9
Secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate (%)	31.3	33.3	0.0
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma (%)	25.0	33.3	0.0
College, or non university certificate (%)	18.8	0.0	42.9
University certificate below bachelor level (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
University certificate or diploma at bachelor level or above (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023h) (Statistics Canada, 2023i) (Statistics Canada, 2023j)

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## 5.1.2 MUNICIPALITIES

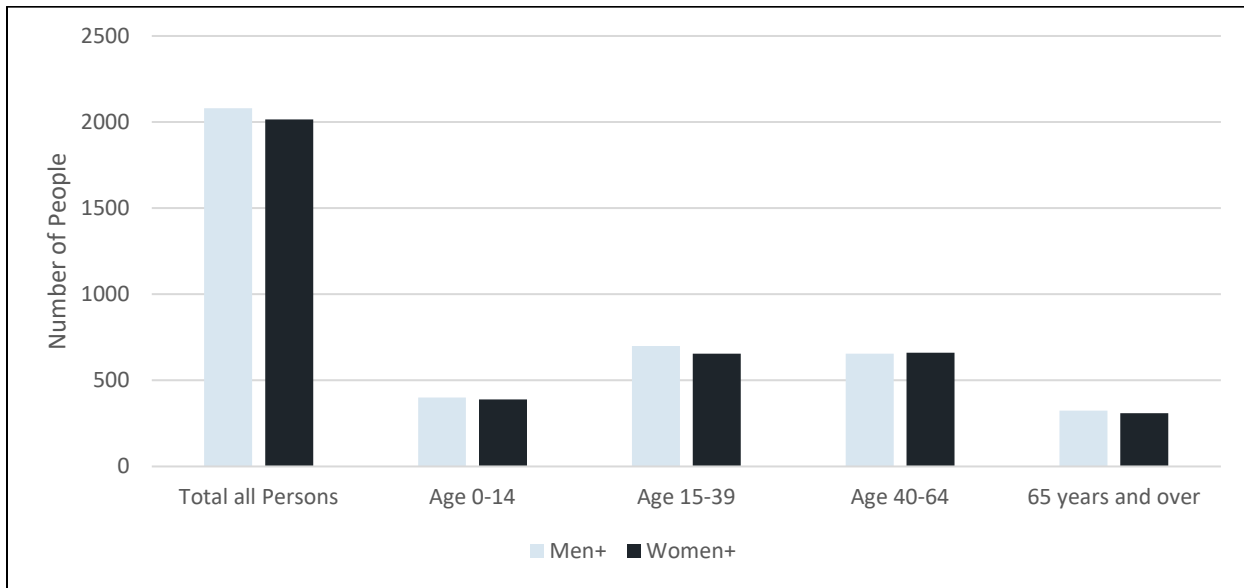
### 5.1.2.1 MUNICIPALITY OF RED LAKE

According to the 2021 Census, the population of Red Lake was 4,094, a decrease of 0.3% since 2016. Red Lake's population makes up 6.2% of the total population of Kenora District (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

#### Age and Gender

Figure 5-5 presents age characteristics for Red Lake according to the 2021 Census, comparing the proportions of age by gender. The most recent breakdown of the total population by gender for Red Lake shows there to be 2,080 men+, and 2,015 women+ in 2021. The median age of the population of Red Lake was 38.4, with the largest age group for both men+ and women+ being 15 to 39, followed closely by ages 40-64. Of those between the ages of 15 and 39, 51.7% were men+ and 48.3% were women+. In the 0 to 14-year age group, men+ and women+ make up a relatively equal proportion of the age group. However, for 65 years and over, men+ make up a slightly larger portion (51.2%) of the population.

**Figure 5-4: Municipality of Red Lake Age Characteristics, 2021**



Source: (Statistics Canada, 2022).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Immigration

The immigration characteristics in Red Lake are presented in Table 5-12. The total percentage of immigrants in Red Lake in relation to the total population was 5.2% in 2021. Women+ made up a slightly larger proportion of the total immigrants (6.7%) compared to men+ (3.6%) (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

**Table 5-8: Municipality of Red Lake Immigration Characteristics, 2021**

Immigration Characteristics	Total	Men+	Women+
Total Population 15 years and over - Immigration Status and Period of Immigration	4,025	2,080	1,945
Immigrants (%)	5.2	3.6	6.7
Non-permanent residents (%)	1.4	1.7	1.0

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Migration and Mobility

The mobility characteristics in Red Lake are presented in Table 5-13. Statistics Canada's data related to mobility characteristics is available from 2020 to 2021 and demonstrates that the majority of residents did not move in the past year (88.7%). For those that did move, women+ (1.8%) moved within the province more than men+ (1.4%). However, more men+ Moved into Ontario from a different province than women+ (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

**Table 5-9: Municipality of Red Lake Mobility Characteristics, 2021**

Mobility Characteristics	Total	Men+	Women+
Total responses	3,990	2,065	1,930
Did not move in the past year (%)	88.7	89.3	87.6
Moved within Ontario (%)	1.5	1.4	1.8
Moved into Ontario from a different province (%)	1.2	1.4	1.3

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## Language

Table 5-14 provides data on the language characteristics of Red Lake. The 2021 Census identified that the population of Red Lake is predominantly Anglophone, as 92% identified as knowing the English language only. Approximately 7.7% of Red Lake residents reported knowing both English and French. Additionally, 0.2% of individuals in Red Lake noted speaking an Indigenous language at home (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

**Table 5-10: Municipality of Red Lake Language Characteristics, 2021**

Knowledge of Official Languages	Total	Men+	Women+
Total responses	4,040	2,055	1,985
English Only (%)	92.0	92.2	91.7
French Only (%)	0.1	0.2	0.0
English and French (%)	7.7	7.3	8.3
Indigenous languages spoken most often at home (%)	0.2	0.2	0.2
English spoken most often at home (%)	93.6	94.2	92.9
French spoken most often at home (%)	0.9	1.0	0.8

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## Educational Attainment

The educational characteristics of Red Lake are presented in Table 5-15. Red Lake (18.4%) respondents over the age of 15 reported not receiving a certificate, diploma, or degree. The level of education with the highest proportion of the population was a secondary (high) school diploma or equivalent certificate (33.7%). Women+ comprised a higher percentage of the population to obtain college or non-university certificate (24.5%) compared to men+ (15.9%). Women+ also had a higher percentage of obtaining a university degree at a bachelor level or higher (21.7%) compared to men+ (13.5%). In contrast, men+ reported achieving apprenticeship or trades certificate, or diploma at a higher percentage than women+ (13.2% and 2.8%, respectively) (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

**Table 5-11: Municipality of Red Lake Education Characteristics, 2021**

Education characteristics	Total	Men +	Women +
Population 15 years and over	3,260	1,670	1,590
No certificate; diploma; degree (%)	18.4	19.8	17.3
Secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate (%)	33.7	36.2	30.8
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma (%)	8.3	13.2	2.8
College, or non-university certificate (%)	20.1	15.9	24.5
University certificate below bachelor level (%)	2.0	1.5	2.8
Bachelor's degree or higher (%)	17.6	13.5	21.7

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023a).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

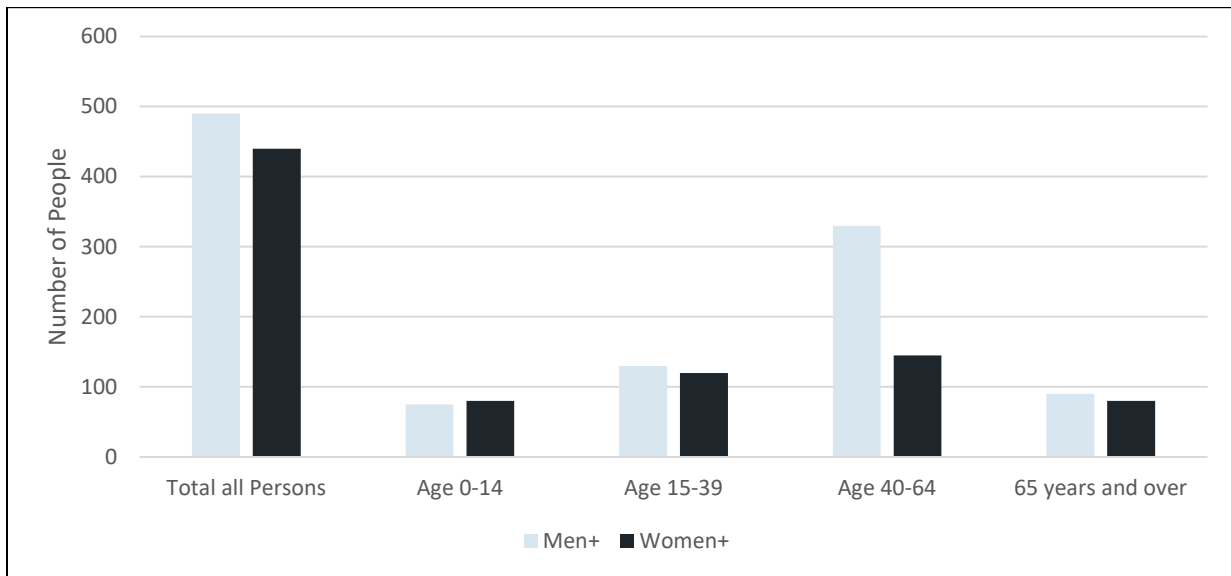
### 5.1.2.2 TOWNSHIP OF EAR FALLS

According to the 2021 Census, the total population of Ear Falls was 924, with a decrease of 7.1% from 2016. Ear Falls population makes up 1.4% of the total population of Kenora District (Statistics Canada, 2023a).

#### Age and Gender

Figure 5-6 presents age characteristics for Ear Falls in 2021, comparing the proportions of age by gender. According to the 2021 Census, the median age of the population was 43.6 years with the largest age group for both men+ and women+ being 39 to 64 years. The age group of 15 to 39 years dropped from 285 people in 2016 to 250 in 2021. The population over the age of 65 increased from 15.1% of the total population in 2016, to 18.4% in 2021. Men+ made up a higher percentage of the total population in 2021 (52.3%) compared to women+ (47.8%). Of those between the ages of 15 and 39, 52% were men+ and 48% were women+. In the 0-to-14 age group, men+ and women+ both made up 50% of the population. However, for the population that is 65 years and older, men+ made up a larger proportion of the population (53%) than women+ (47%) (Statistics Canada, 2017a) (Statistics Canada, 2023a).

**Figure 5-5: Township of Ear Falls Age Characteristics, 2021**



Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023a).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## Immigration

The 2021 Census data indicated that 3.3% of the population of Ear Falls are immigrants, as indicated in Table 5-16. Women+ made up a higher proportion of the immigrant population (4.1%) compared to men (1.8%) (Statistics Canada, 2023a).

**Table 5-12: Township of Ear Falls Immigration Characteristics, 2021**

Immigration Characteristics	Total	Men+	Women+
Total Population 15 years and over - Immigration Status and Period of Immigration	1,050	560	490
Immigrants (%)	3.3	1.8	4.1
Non-permanent residents (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023a).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## Migration and Mobility

The mobility characteristics in Ear Falls are presented in Table 5-17. Statistics Canada's data related to mobility characteristics is available from 2020 to 2021 and demonstrates that Ear Falls is predominantly comprised of non-movers (88.5%). Women+ made up the entire population that moved within the last year, specifically moving to out of Ontario (2%) (Statistics Canada, 2023a).

**Table 5-13: Township of Ear Falls Mobility Characteristics, 2021**

Mobility Characteristics	Total	Men+	Women+
Total responses	1,045	550	490
Did not move in the past year (%)	88.5	90.0	88.8
Moved within Ontario (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
Moved into Ontario from a different province (%)	1.4	0.0	2.0

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023a).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## Language

Table 5-18 presents the language characteristics of the Ear Falls as per the 2021 Census data. The data indicates that Ear Falls is a majority Anglophone community with 93.5% of the population having knowledge of the English language only. English was cited as the language most often spoken at home by 96.2% of the population. Approximately 5.9% of Ear Falls residents reported knowing both English and French. The Census data shows that 0% of the population speak an Indigenous language most often at home (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

**Table 5-14: Township of Ear Falls Language Characteristics, 2021**

Knowledge of Official Languages	Total	Men+	Women+
Total responses	925	485	435
English Only (%)	93.5	93.4	94.3
French Only (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
English and French (%)	5.9	5.2	5.7
Indigenous languages spoken most often at home (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
English spoken most often at home (%)	96.2	96.9	97.7
French spoken most often at home (%)	0.5	0.0	1.1

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023a).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Educational Attainment

Table 5-19 presents levels of education achieved in Ear Falls in 2021. The percentage of adults 15 years and over who did not have a certificate, diploma, or degree was 27.4%. The level of education with the highest proportion of the population was a secondary (high) school diploma or equivalent certificate (29.6%). While men+ made up a higher proportion of the population to earn an apprenticeship or other trades certificate (22.8% to 7.7%, respectively), women+ made up a higher proportion of the population to earn a college or non-university certificate (25.6% to 13.9%, respectively). None of the population earned a university certificate below or above a bachelor level (Statistics Canada, 2023a).

**Table 5-15: Township of Ear Falls Education Characteristics, 2021**

Education Characteristics	Total	Men+	Women+
Population 15 years and over	895	505	390
No certificate; diploma; degree (%)	27.4	26.7	28.2
Secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate (%)	29.6	30.7	28.2
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma (%)	16.2	22.8	7.7
College, or non-university certificate (%)	20.1	13.9	25.6
University certificate below bachelor level (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
University certificate or diploma at bachelor level or above (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023a).

Note:

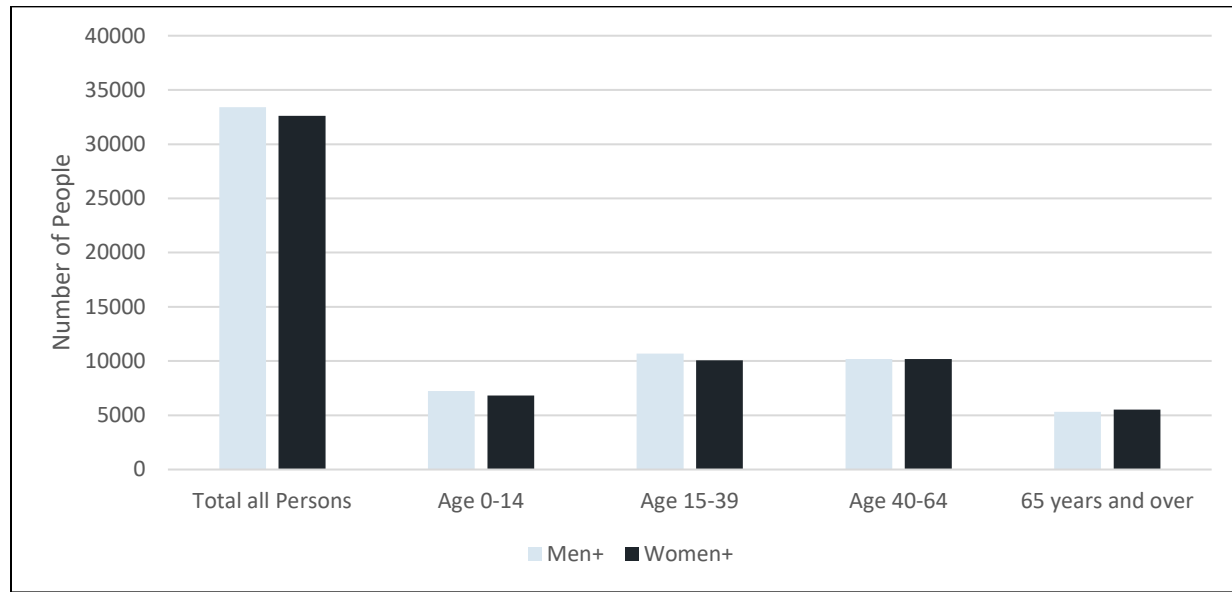
The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### 5.1.2.3 DISTRICT OF KENORA

#### Age and Gender

Figure 5-4 presents age characteristics for the District of Kenora. The most recent breakdown of the total population by gender shows there to be 33,400 individuals who identify as men+ and 32,600 individuals who identify as women+ in 2021. According to the 2021 Census, the median age of the population of Kenora District was 37.6, higher than the median age of 36.5 in 2016, but lower than the 38.6 median age in the 2011 census. The largest age group for both men+ and women+ according to the 2021 census was 15 to 39 years, with 40-64 years close behind. Within the age group of 15 to 39 years, 51.5% are men+ and 49% are women+. In the 0-to-14-year age group, men+ make up 51.4% of the population and women+ make up 48.6% of the population. For 65 years and over, women+ make up a larger portion (51%) of the population, compared to men+ (49%) (Statistics Canada, 2022).

**Figure 5-6: District of Kenora Age Characteristics, 2021**



Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023c).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Immigration

The immigration characteristics in Kenora District are presented in Table 5-8. The total percentage of immigrants in relation to the total population was 3.8% in 2021. This is lower than Ontario's immigrant population (29.9%). The immigrant population for men+ and women+ is distributed relatively equally for both Kenora District and Ontario (Statistics Canada, 2023c) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

**Table 5-16: Kenora District Immigration Characteristics Compared to Ontario, 2021**

Immigration Characteristics	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Kenora District</b>			
Total Population 15 years and over - Immigration Status and Period of Immigration	65,040	32,860	32,175
Immigrants (%)	3.8	3.6	4.1
Non-permanent residents (%)	0.6	0.7	0.5
<b>Ontario</b>			
Total Population 15 years and over - Immigration Status and Period of Immigration	14,031,755	6,887,565	7,144,185
Immigrants (%)	29.9	28.8	31.0
Non-permanent residents (%)	2.7	3.0	2.4

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023c) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Migration and Mobility

The mobility characteristics in Kenora District are presented in Table 5-9. Statistics Canada's data related to mobility characteristics is available from 2020 to 2021 and demonstrates that Kenora District is comprised predominantly of non-movers, with 90.5% reporting not moving from Kenora District. This is slightly higher than the non-moving rates in 2016 (90.0%) and 2011 (89.3%). Women+ made up a higher proportion of the population that moved in the past year (9.7%) compared to men+ (9.1%). Additionally, women+ made up a higher proportion of the population that moved within Ontario (2.3%) compared to men+ (1.9%) (Statistics Canada, 2023c).

**Table 5-17: Kenora District Mobility Characteristics, 2021**

Mobility Characteristics	Total	Men+	Women+
Total responses	64,180	32,385	31,795
Did not move in the past year (%)	90.5	90.9	90.3
Moved in the past year (%)	9.4	9.1	9.7
Moved within Ontario (%)	2.1	1.9	2.3
Moved into Ontario from a different province (%)	0.9	0.9	0.9

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023c).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## Language

The language characteristics of the Kenora District are presented in Table 5-10. The 2021 Census findings demonstrate that Kenora District is a primarily Anglophone community, as 94.9% identified as knowing only the English language. Approximately 4.6% of Kenora residents reported knowing both English and French. Additionally, 2.4% of individuals in Kenora District speak an Indigenous language at home (Statistics Canada, 2023c).

**Table 5-18: Kenora District Language Characteristics, 2021**

Knowledge of Official Languages	Total	Men+	Women+
Total responses	65,460	32,125	32,340
English Only (%)	94.9	95.6	94.3
French Only (%)	0.1	0.1	0.1
English and French (%)	4.6	4.1	5.2
Indigenous languages spoken most often at home (%)	2.4	2.3	2.4
English spoken most often at home (%)	85.2	85.8	84.6
French spoken most often at home (%)	0.3	0.3	0.2

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023c).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## Educational Attainment

The educational characteristics of the Kenora District are presented in Table 5-11. Statistics Canada data related to education is available for the population aged 15 years and older. This does not represent the average high school graduation age, which is around 17 years old. Given this, 30.9% of district respondents 15 years and over reported not receiving any certificate, diploma, or degree. This is lower than the 35.2% of respondents who reporting not receiving any certificate, diploma, or degree in the 2016 census, and the 31.2% of respondents in the 2011 census. For college and non-university diplomas and degrees in 2021, women+ comprised a higher percentage of the population (22.4%) compared to men+ (15.1%). Women+ also made up a higher percentage of the population that achieved a bachelor's degree or higher (15.2%) compared to men+ (9.6%). In contrast, men+ made up a higher proportion of the population in achieving an apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma (11.7%) compared to women+ (3.3%). Kenora District had a higher proportion of the population that obtained no certificate, diploma, or degree compared to the province of Ontario (30.9% and 15.2%, respectively). Similarly, Kenora District had a lower percentage of the population to obtain a bachelor's degree or higher (12.4%) compared to the province of Ontario (30.0%) (Statistics Canada, 2023c) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

**Table 5-19: Kenora District Education Characteristics Compared to Ontario, 2021**

Education Characteristics	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Kenora District</b>			
Population 15 years and over	50,995	25,645	25,350
No certificate; diploma; degree (%)	30.9	32.5	29.2
Secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate (%)	29.0	29.6	28.4
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma (%)	7.5	11.7	3.3
College, or non-university certificate (%)	18.7	15.1	22.4
University certificate below bachelor level (%)	1.6	1.2	1.9
Bachelor's degree or higher (%)	12.4	9.6	15.2
<b>Ontario</b>			
Population 15 years and over	11,782,820	5,733,360	6,049,460
No certificate; diploma; degree (%)	15.2	16.0	14.8
Secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate (%)	27.2	28.0	26.4
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma (%)	5.0	7.4	2.7
College, or non university certificate (%)	20.3	18.3	22.2
University certificate below bachelor level (%)	2.3	2.1	2.5
Bachelor's degree or higher (%)	30.0	28.4	31.3

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023c) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

#### 5.1.2.4 COMPARISON OF POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS (MUNICIPALITIES)

##### Age and Gender

Table 5-20 shows a comparison of age characteristics between Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls as of the 2021 Census. Kenora District has the highest population level out of the three investigation areas. Ear Falls has the highest average and median age of the general population while Kenora District has the lowest. For both Kenora District and Red Lake, the average and median age of women+ was higher than men+. However, in Ear Falls, men+ made up a higher average and median age group compared to women+ (Statistics Canada, 2023a) (Statistics Canada, 2023c) (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

**Table 5-20: Age Characteristics for Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls, 2021**

Age Characteristic	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Kenora District</b>			
Total Population	66,000	33,400	32,600
Average Age	38.8	38.3	39.4
Median Age	37.6	36.8	38.4
<b>Red Lake</b>			
Total Population	4,095	2,080	2,015
Average Age	39.4	39.2	39.7
Median Age	38.4	38.0	38.8
<b>Ear Falls</b>			
Total Population	924	490	440
Average Age	42.0	42.5	41.5
Median Age	43.6	44.4	42.4

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023f) (Statistics Canada, 2023a).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

##### Immigration

Table 5-21 provides a comparison of immigration characteristics for Kenora, Red Lake, and Ear Falls. In 2021, Red Lake had the highest percentage of immigrants (5.2%) compared to Kenora District and Ear Falls. While Kenora District had a relatively equal proportion of immigrant men+ and women+, women+

made up more than double the percentage of immigrants (4.1%) compared to men+ (1.8%) in Ear Falls. Similarly, women+ made up almost double the percentage of immigrants in Red Lake (6.7%) compared to men+ (3.6%) (Statistics Canada, 2023a) (Statistics Canada, 2023f) (Statistics Canada, 2023c).

**Table 5-21: Immigration Characteristics for Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls, 2021**

Immigration Characteristics	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Kenora District</b>			
Total Immigrant Status and Period of Immigration Population 15 years and over	65,040	32,860	32,175
Immigrants (%)	3.8	3.6	4.1
Non-permanent residents (%)	0.6	0.7	0.5
<b>Red Lake</b>			
Total Immigrant Status and Period of Immigration Population 15 years and over	4,025	2,080	1,945
Immigrants (%)	5.2	3.6	6.7
Non-permanent residents (%)	1.4	1.7	1.0
<b>Ear Falls</b>			
Total Population 15 years and over	1,050	560	490
Immigrants (%)	3.3	1.8	4.1
Non-permanent residents (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023f) (Statistics Canada, 2023a) (Statistics Canada, 2023c).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## Migration and Mobility

Table 5-22 presents a comparison of migration and mobility characteristics for Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls as of the 2021 Census. Kenora District had the highest percentage of the population that did not move in the past year (90.5%) compared to the two municipalities. Kenora also had the highest percentage of the population that moved within Ontario (9.4%) compared to 1.5% for Red Lake and 0% for Ear Falls (Statistics Canada, 2023a) (Statistics Canada, 2023c) (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

**Table 5-22: Migration and Mobility Characteristics for Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls, 2021**

Mobility Characteristics	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Kenora District</b>			
Total responses	64,180	32,385	31,795
Did not move in the past year (%)	90.5	45.9	44.7
Moved within Ontario (%)	9.4	4.5	4.8
Moved into Ontario from a different province (%)	2.1	0.9	1.2
<b>Red Lake</b>			
Total responses	3,990	2,065	1,930
Did not move in the past year (%)	88.7	89.3	87.6
Moved within Ontario (%)	1.5	1.4	1.8
Moved into Ontario from a different province (%)	1.2	1.4	1.3
<b>Ear Falls</b>			
Total responses	1,045	550	490
Did not move in the past year (%)	88.5	90.0	88.8
Moved within Ontario (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
Moved into Ontario from a different province (%)	1.4	0.0	2.0

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023c) (Statistics Canada, 2023a) (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## Language

Table 5-23 shows a comparison of language characteristics for Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls in 2021. For all three areas, English was the language spoken most often at home by the majority of the population. Red Lake had the highest percentage of the population that had knowledge of both English and French (7.7%). Kenora District had the highest percentage of the population who's language spoken most often at home was an Indigenous language (2.4%) (Statistics Canada, 2023a) (Statistics Canada, 2023c) (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

**Table 5-23: Language Characteristics for Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls, 2021**

Language Characteristics	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Kenora District</b>			
Total responses	65,460	32,125	32,340
English Only (%)	94.9	95.6	94.3
French Only (%)	0.1	0.1	0.1
English and French (%)	4.6	4.1	5.2
Indigenous languages spoken most often at home (%)	2.4	2.3	2.4
English spoken most often at home (%)	85.2	85.8	84.6
French spoken most often at home (%)	0.3	0.3	0.2
<b>Red Lake</b>			
Total responses	4,040	2,055	1,985
English Only (%)	92.0	92.2	91.7
French Only (%)	0.1	0.2	0.0
English and French (%)	7.7	7.3	8.3
Indigenous languages spoken most often at home (%)	0.2	0.2	0.2
English spoken most often at home (%)	93.6	94.2	92.9
French spoken most often at home (%)	0.9	1.0	0.8
<b>Ear Falls</b>			
Total responses	925	485	435
English Only (%)	93.5	93.4	94.3
French Only (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
English and French (%)	5.9	5.2	5.7
Indigenous languages spoken most often at home (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
English spoken most often at home (%)	96.2	96.9	97.7
French spoken most often at home (%)	0.5	0.0	1.1

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023a) (Statistics Canada, 2023c) (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## Educational Attainment

Table 5-24 presents a comparison of educational attainment between the three areas according to the 2021 Census. Kenora District had the highest percentage of individuals 15 years and over who did not have a certificate, diploma, or degree (30.9%). While men+ in both Kenora District and Red Lake represented a higher proportion of the population to not obtain a certificate, diploma, or degree, women+ represented a higher proportion in Ear Falls. Ear Falls had the highest percentage of the population with an apprenticeship or trades certificate, or diploma (16.2%) compared to Kenora and Red Lake. However, Ear Falls had the lowest percentage of the population who obtained a university certificate or diploma (0%) compared to Kenora District and Red Lake (12.4% and 17.6%, respectively). Women+ made up a

higher proportion of the population that obtained a bachelor's degree in both Kenora and Red Lake (Statistics Canada, 2023a) (Statistics Canada, 2023c) (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

**Table 5-24: Educational Attainment for Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls, 2021**

Education Characteristics	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Kenora District</b>			
Population 15 years and over	50,995	25,645	25,350
No certificate; diploma; degree (%)	30.9	32.5	29.2
Secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate (%)	29.0	29.6	28.4
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma (%)	7.5	11.7	3.3
College, or non university certificate (%)	18.7	15.1	22.4
University certificate below bachelor level (%)	1.6	1.2	1.9
University certificate or diploma at bachelor level or above (%)	12.4	9.6	15.2
<b>Red Lake</b>			
Population 15 years and over	3,260	1,670	1,590
No certificate; diploma; degree (%)	18.4	19.8	17.3
Secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate (%)	33.7	36.2	30.8
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma (%)	8.3	13.2	2.8
College, or non university certificate (%)	20.1	15.9	24.5
University certificate below bachelor level (%)	2.0	1.5	2.8
University certificate or diploma at bachelor level or above (%)	17.6	13.5	21.7
<b>Ear Falls</b>			
Population 15 years and over	895	505	390
No certificate; diploma; degree (%)	27.4	26.7	28.2
Secondary (high) school diploma or equivalency certificate (%)	29.6	30.7	28.2
Apprenticeship or trades certificate or diploma (%)	16.2	22.8	7.7
College, or non university certificate (%)	20.1	13.9	25.6
University certificate below bachelor level (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
University certificate or diploma at bachelor level or above (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023a) (Statistics Canada, 2023c) (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## 5.2 COMMUNITY RESOURCES

The sections below provide an overview of the community resources available in the communities within the LIA including recreation and leisure, social services, health services education, housing, and emergency services. Red Lake and Ear Falls will both be detailed individually below, and information provided in the District of Kenora section is inclusive of the wider area.

### 5.2.1 INDIGENOUS NATIONS

#### 5.2.1.1 LAC SEUL FIRST

##### **NATION Recreation and Leisure**

The Lac Seul Events Centre in Frenchman's Head is a central meeting place which contains an ice arena and conference rooms. The Events Centre hosts minor hockey (although usage has declined recently), a yearly outdoor show, as well as other community events and meetings throughout the year (Lac Seul First Nation, 2023c).

## **Social Services**

The Sakhatcheway Access Centre provides assistance with household chores and outdoor work, such as firewood and snow shovelling to community members with disabilities as well as elders. The centre also acts as a respite for caregivers and provides short-term loan of mobility aids (211 Ontario North – Lakehead Social Planning Council, 2023d).

Ontario Works operates out of offices in both Frenchman's Head and Kejick Bay and provides short term financial assistance to individuals and families in need, as well as developing skills for employment and self-reliance (Lac Seul First Nation, 2023g). Ontario Works collaborates closely with the Lac Seul Training Centre of Excellence, and services include:

- Employment support consisting of training, job searches, assisting with employment applications, and maintaining employment.
- Support to assist with childcare, equipment, and transportation.
- Eligibility Review Officer/Family Support Worker who supports single parents with accessing community services, child support, custody matters, family care, treatment, and legal aid.
- Community service which assists community events and activities.

## **Health Services**

The Lac Seul First Nation Health Department oversees the operation of medical services within the Nation, including community health clinics, early childhood development, home and community care, dental and vision care, medical transportation, and the Suboxone Treatment Program (Lac Seul First Nation, 2023d).

The three medical clinics within Lac Seul First Nation are in the communities of Frenchman's Head, Kejick Bay, and Whitefish Bay. The Frenchman's Head Health Clinic and Whitefish Bay Health Clinic are open Monday to Friday 8:30 am to 4:30 pm (211 Ontario North – Lakehead Social Planning Council, 2023b; 211 Ontario North – Lakehead Social Planning Council, 2023g), and the Kejick Bay Health Clinic is open Monday to Friday 8:30 am to noon and 1:00 pm to 4:40 pm (211 Ontario North – Lakehead Social Planning Council, 2023c). Each of the clinics provide the following services:

- Coordinates consultations with visiting professionals including regular Nurse Practitioners and Physicians.
- Provides services of visiting physicians several days per week.
- Provides services of a visiting dentist and dental hygienist once per month.
- Provides intermittent services of a visiting optometrist.
- Provides health awareness, education and prevention workshops that may include Childcare, Diabetes, Elderly and Chronic Disease, Immunization, and Sexual Health and Communicable Diseases.
- Treatment of ongoing health problems.
- Emergency services.
- Advocacy on behalf of an individual with other health professionals.
- Coordination of one-on-one pre-natal care with community health nurse.
- Home visits to the sick, elderly, new mothers and persons with health care needs.
- Assistance with coordinating local and long-distance travel arrangements for medical appointments.
- Telemedicine services at the Kejick Bay Clinic via the Ontario Telemedicine Network.

The Healthy Babies Healthy Children program which provides parenting support and promotes healthy child development, including educational sessions and home visits.

The Home and Community Care program which provides home health care services for ill, injured, and elderly community members. Services include the development of personalized care plans, case management, home care nursing, personal care, foot care, education, transportation, and respite for family members and caregivers.

The National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program which provides services and support for individuals and families struggling with addiction issues. Services focus on prevention, intervention and aftercare, including public seminars to raise awareness, holding educational sessions, offering Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous meetings, and offering cultural and spiritual gatherings.

The Kejick Bay Health Clinic also provides a medical transportation program which is responsible for providing transportation to medical appointments within the community and to appointments in Sioux Lookout, submitting travel, mileage, meal, and accommodation requests, assisting with travel arrangements, and maintaining documentation.

The Lac Seul First Nation Health Department provides medical transportation in the form of four drivers who work two shifts per day, with a travel coordinator overseeing scheduling. This transportation service provides four to six trips per day to and from the Sioux Lookout Health Centre (Lac Seul First Nation, 2023d).

The Lac Seul First Nation's Health Authority also provides Aboriginal Headstart Programs, Home and Community Care programs, and two Telehealth stations in the Kejick Bay Health Clinic (Lac Seul First Nation, 2023d). A Suboxone Treatment Program was established in 2015 based out of the Kejick Bay Health Clinic to reduce the prevalence of drug users within the community. The program has treated 14 individuals so far, and consists of regular meetings with a physician, detoxification, Suboxone treatment, aftercare, and counselling (Lac Seul First Nation, 2023h).

After the identification of an increase in drug usages, the Lac Seul reserve authorities decided to develop and provide access to a treatment program. The Suboxone Treatment Program was created in Lac Seul and a clinic at Keijick Bay was established (Lac Seul First Nation, 2023h).

### **Burial Services**

The Sahkatcheway Access Centre assists with the identification of burial services (NortWesthealthline, 2024).

### **Educational Services**

There are three schools within the Lac Seul First Nation, the Morris Thomas Memorial Christian School, Obishikokaang Elementary School, and the Wanintawingaang Memorial School (Lac Seul First Nation, 2023b).

The Morris Thomas Memorial Christian School is located within the community of Whitefish Bay and offers schooling from junior kindergarten to grade 10. The school currently has 27 students enrolled and offers courses in Christian teachings and Native language, in addition to cultural and traditional activities (211 Ontario North, 2023b).

The Obishikokaang Elementary School is located within the community of Frenchman's Head and offers schooling from junior kindergarten to grade 8. There are currently 104 students enrolled at the school, which offers Native language as a subject course, cultural and traditional outings, and an after-school program. The facility contains a computer lab, gymnasium, library, and industrial kitchen (211 Ontario North, 2023c).

The Wanintawingaang Memorial School is located within the community of Kejick Bay and offers schooling from junior kindergarten to grade 8. The school currently has 74 students enrolled at the facility which contains a gymnasium and a library. The school offers Native language as a subject course, in addition to cultural and traditional outings (211 Ontario North, 2023d).

One of the key discussions in Lac Seul refers to child welfare and subsequently a range of engagement sessions formed part of the development of a Child Welfare law for the community (Lac Seul First Nation, 2024). Some of the day care centres include the following:

- Biidaan Children’s Centre;
- Dryden ON Child and Family Centre;
- Kenora Play Group;
- Sioux Mountain Children’s Centre;
- Waninawakang Aboriginal Head Start; and
- Kinew Childcare Centre.

Higher education is available in the study area and includes the following names:

- Lakehead University ;
- Confederation College Sioux;
- Wahsa Distance Education;
- University of Guelph; and
- Gaagagekiizhik School (Lac Seul First Nation, 2023b).

### **Housing**

As of the 2021 Census, Lac Seul First Nation had a total of 320 occupied private dwellings, and 255 of these were provided by the local government, First Nation or Indian band. Of the occupied private dwellings in Lac Seul First Nation, 255 were in need of regular maintenance or minor repairs and 65 dwellings were in need of major repairs (Statistics Canada, 2023d).

The Lac Seul First Nation Ke-nawind Housing Development Authority was established in 2002 and provides services to all three communities within the Nation. The Authority manages 120 rental units in addition to providing a home ownership program for community members. Future plans for the Authority include enhancing employee skill sets, personal finance workshops for tenants, as well as the approval to construct six new homes (Lac Seul First Nation, 2023e).

### **Emergency Services**

The Lac Seul Fire and Emergency Services Department was established in 2019 comprised of 17 volunteer firefighters. Equipment utilized by the Department includes two pumper trucks, a tanker, and a first response and command vehicle. Services are currently limited to Frenchman’s Head and Kejick Bay, however the Department is working towards establishing a third station in Whitefish Bay (Bonello, 2019).

The Lac Seul Police Service has been serving the communities of Frenchman’s Head, Kejick Bay, and Whitefish Bay, in addition to others within the Lac Seul First Nation for 25 years. The detachment is comprised of 11 individuals and based out of the town of Hudson (Lac Seul Police Service, 2023). Crime prevention is a cornerstone of the service, with an overall strategy of prevention, intervention, and suppression.

### **Technical Services**

In terms of technical access, the provision of free WIFI and Internet accessibility was provided in Kejick and Whitefish Bay as well as Frenchman’s Head by the following partners:

- FedNor;
- Northern Ontario Heritage Fund; and
- Casinorama (Lac Seul First Nation, 2023).

### **Religious and Wellbeing Services**

Various religious and retreat centres are evident in the study area including the following:

- Makhwa Conference and Retreat Centre;

- Rexdale Singh Sabha Religious Centre;
- Scott Religious Centre;
- Calvary Baptist Church;
- New Life Assembly;
- First United Church; and
- St Andrew’s United Church ( (Microsoft Bing Chat, 2024).

### 5.2.1.2 WABAUSKANG FIRST NATION

#### **Recreation and Leisure**

The Wabauskang Band Office contains a community hall which serves as the central meeting place in the community and hosts an annual spring community feast (211 Ontario North – Lakehead Social Planning Council, 2022f).

#### **Social Services**

The Wabauskang Band Office operates a licensed daycare centre which provides activities, school readiness programs, snacks and hot lunch, as well as incorporating Indigenous cultural programs for children under the age of 6. These programs are offered as both full day and part-time programs (211 Ontario North, 2022b).

The Wabauskang Youth Centre serves as a community public library which is equipped with an e-reader, two iPads, a reading nook lounge area, as well as books with all Indigenous content (211 Ontario North - Lakehead Social Planning Council, 2022d).

Child and Family services for Wabauskang are provided by Anishinaabe Abinoojii Family Services (AAFS) based out of Kenora (211 Ontario North – Lakehead Social Planning Council, 2022f).

Ontario Works operates out of the Wabauskang Band Office and services include (211 Ontario North, 2022e):

- Providing information regarding seeking employment, basic education, volunteering, or self-employment.
- Short term financial assistance for individuals and families in need.
- Extended Health Benefits for qualifying individuals.
- Programs include childcare, clothing needs, community placement program, discretionary and drug benefits, employment resource centre, employment start-up costs, employment placement program, funeral and burial expenses, learning, earning, and parenting, pay-direct to landlord, special diets allowance, and transportation.

#### **Health Services**

The Wabauskang Health Office is open Monday to Thursday 9 am to 4 pm, and Fridays from 9 am to noon (211 Ontario North – Lakehead Social Planning Council, 2022g). The health office provides the following services for community members:

- Coordinates consultations with visiting professionals including a Nurse Practitioner and Community Health Nurse.
- Provides health awareness, education and prevention workshops that may include Diabetes, Immunization, and Sexual Health and Communicable Diseases.
- Identified and attempts to correct health hazards.
- Intake services to determine individual health care needs.
- Referrals to appropriate health care providers.

- Advocacy on behalf of an individual with other health professionals.
- Coordination of one-on-one pre-natal care with community health nurse.
- Home visits to the sick, elderly, new mothers and persons with health care needs.
- Assistance with coordinating local and long-distance travel arrangements for medical appointments.
- The Aboriginal Diabetes Initiative which provides services and education for the prevention, treatment, and management of diabetes.
- The Community Wellness Program which supports the prevention and reduction of family and community violence.
- The Family Well Being Program which assists Indigenous communities with designing and delivering holistic prevention focused services and programs along with cultural supports to support families and promote a healthy community.
- The Home and Community Care program which provides home health care services for ill, injured, and elderly community members. Services include the development of personalized care plans, case management, home care nursing, personal care, foot care, education, transportation, and respite for family members and caregivers.
- The Medical Transportation Program which provides transportation to medical appointments within the community and to specialists in Dryden, Ear Falls, Kenora, and Red Lake.
- The Mental Health Program which provides information and awareness regarding depression, family violence, and stress management, in addition to providing counselling services and cultural, recreational, and wellness activities.
- The National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program which provides services and support for individuals and families struggling with addiction issues. Services focus on prevention, intervention and aftercare, including public seminars to raise awareness, holding educational sessions, offering Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous meetings, and offering cultural and spiritual gatherings.

The closest hospital services are located in the town of Dryden (211 Ontario North – Lakehead Social Planning Council, 2022f).

### **Burial Services**

At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding burial services within Wabauskang First Nation.

### **Educational Services**

There are no schools located within the Wabauskang First Nation, however the Wabauskang First Nation Education Authority provides services and support to students attending schools off the reserve. The Education Authority receives support and assistance from the Bimose Tribal Council Education Authority.

Elementary students attend Ear Falls Public school in the community of Ear Falls and high school students have the choice of attending in the town of Sioux Lookout or the City of Kenora. The Education Authority provides a bus service to Ear Falls for elementary students and coordinates boarding or transportation arrangements for secondary students attending school in Sioux Lookout or Kenora (211 Ontario North, 2022c).

On reserve educational instruction and academic upgrading is available for individuals 14 years or older through the Seven Generations Education Institute in partnership with the Wabauskang First Nation Education Authority (211 Ontario North, 2022c).

### **Housing**

As of the 2021 Census, Wabauskang First Nation had a total of 20 occupied private dwellings, all of which were provided by the local government, First Nation or Indian band. Of the occupied private

dwellings in Lac Seul First Nation, 10 were in need of regular maintenance or minor repairs and 10 dwellings were in need of major repairs (Statistics Canada, 2023g).

The Wabauskang First Nation Housing and Infrastructure department addresses housing issues and related requests, as well as ensuring the effective management of housing within the community. Services include reviewing applications for renovations, loans, and new housing units, inspecting rental units and community houses, carrying out annual maintenance and repairs on behalf of tenants, enforcing tenant agreements, and providing recommendations and changes to the housing policy (211 Ontario North, 2022d).

### **Emergency Services**

The Wabauskang Volunteer Fire Department maintains a community fire hall and provides education, emergency planning, fire investigation and suppression, hazardous materials information, and well as home fire safety (211 Ontario North, 2022g).

Police services for Wabauskang First Nation are provided by the Treaty #3 Police Services Kenora East Region based out of Kenora (211 Ontario North – Lakehead Social Planning Council, 2022e).

### **Technical Services**

According to media releases, the digital landscape in Northwestern Ontario is experiencing improved technological services with expecting high-speed fibre optic broadband internet in the near future. This initiative forms part of the Dibaajimowin Project that aims to bridge the digital divide between the First Nations located within the Treaty #3 territory (NetNewsLedger, 2024). The Dibaajimowin Project is providing high-speed fibre optic internet access to residents and businesses in Naicatchewenin First Nation, Wauzhushk Onigum First Nation, Couchiching First Nation and Wabauskang First Nation according to a Grand Council Treaty #3 newsarticle (Grand Council Treaty #3, 2024).

### **Religious and Wellbeing Services**

Various churches are located in the Wabauskang First Nation inclusive of the Sunnyside Wesleyan Church, Southminster United Church, St. Luke Lutheran Church and the Resurrection Church. Brighter Futures provide access to wellness programmes linked to a variety of individual health support (NorthWest Healthline, 2023).

#### **5.2.1.3 ASUBPEESCHOSEEWAGONG NETUM ANISHINABEK FIRST NATION**

### **Recreation and Leisure**

The Band Office offers the Grassy Narrows Multipurpose Complex for community events.

### **Social Services**

There are two childcare centers in Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation. The Kitapinoonjiiminaanik Family Services operates out of First Nation's Band Office. It administers services on behalf of AAFS, a mandated Native Child Welfare Agency in Kenora, but functions independently. Services include childcare, prevention and protection services and family support services (Caregiver Exchange, 2023b).

Migizi Wazason Child Care Centre provides childcare services to infants, toddlers, and preschoolers. Alongside offering school readiness activities for children, the centre also incorporates Indigenous cultural programs with the daily community-based programming (211 Ontario North, 2022a).

Ontario Works Building - Ontario Works operates out of Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation's Band Office and provides short term financial assistance to individuals and families in need (Caregiver Exchange, 2023c). Services include:

- Offering Extended Health Benefits to qualifying individuals; and
- Providing information to recipients about participation requirements including seeking employment, basic education, volunteer work, or self-employment.

## **Health Services**

Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek has one medical centre that is open from Monday to Friday 8 am to 12 noon, 1 pm to 4 pm, and is closed on the weekends. The medical center provides the following services:

- Coordinates consultations with visiting professionals including regular nurse practitioners and physicians.
- Provides health awareness, education and prevention workshops and seminars.
- Coordinates clinics in areas that may include Diabetes, Immunization, Sexual Health and Communicable Diseases.
- Coordinates regular foot care sessions with visiting chiroprapist.
- Identifies and attempts to correct health hazards.
- Intake services to determine health care needs of individual.
- Referrals to appropriate health care providers based on information in the intake assessment.
- Advocacy on behalf of individuals with other health professionals.
- Coordination of one-on-one pre-natal care with the community health nurse.
- Home visits to persons with health care needs.
- Assistance with coordinating local and long-distance travel arrangements for medical appointments.

The medical center provides three additional services and programs, including crisis intervention, diabetes program, and Trappers Building - National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program (Caregiver Exchange, 2023a). The Trappers Building - National Native Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program offers and facilitates public seminars, meetings, recreational activities and social events, and spiritual events and gatherings within the realms of prevention, intervention, and aftercare services (211 Ontario North – Lakehead Social Planning Council, 2022b).

The Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek Band Office indicates that hospital services are also available at Lake of the Woods District Hospital in Kenora (Caregiver Exchange, 2023c).

As of 2019, Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek developed a plan with Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) to implement a mercury treatment centre to help community members dealing with mercury poisoning. Known as the Mercury Care Home, this facility is planned to be a 24-bed care facility. As of July 2021, ISC allocated \$69 million in funding to provide long-term care and services at the treatment centre (Turner, 2021).

## **Burial Services**

At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding burial services within Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek.

## **Educational Services**

Sakatcheway Anishinabe School is the one school located within Grassy Narrows First Nation. It hosts students from kindergarten to grade 12 and is affiliated with the Migizi Wazason Childcare Centre.

## **Housing**

As of the 2021 Census, Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation had a total of 185 occupied private dwellings. One hundred and eighty households were living in a dwelling provided by the local government, First Nation or Indian band. Of the occupied private dwellings in Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation, 90 were in need of regular maintenance or minor repairs and 95 dwellings were in need of major repairs (Statistics Canada, 2023b).

The Housing Department within Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek's Band Office addresses and acts upon all housing issues and related requests (Grassy Narrows First Nation Band Office, 2022). The following services are provided by the Housing Department:

- Provides recommendations and changes to the housing policy.
- Receives and reviews applications for renovations, new housing units, housing loans and housing renovation loans.
- Reviews rents to ensure payments are made.
- Arranges inspections of rental units and community houses for maintenance and renovations.
- Carries out annual maintenance and repairs on behalf of tenants and ensures work is completed.
- Maintains a comprehensive database on all community housing units (including information such as what programs were accessed for building and repairs, loans outstanding, services available, inspection reports, condition of unit, year it was built and other unit particulars).

### **Emergency Services**

Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation has a volunteer fire department provided by the Band Office which is responsible for fire prevention and administration of the Ontario Fire Code. It provides the following services:

- Education.
- Emergency planning.
- Fire investigation.
- Fire suppression.
- Hazardous materials information.
- Home safety (including ensuring all homes are equipped (and annually inspected) with smoke alarms and charged fire extinguishers).

While the Band Office is only available on weekdays, after hour services are provided by Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation volunteer firemen on-call (Caregiver Exchange, 2023d).

The Treaty 3 Police are available for emergency services from Monday to Sunday, 24 hours per day (Caregiver Exchange, 2023d). The Treaty 3 Police provides assistance to victims of crime, crime prevention, emergency response, law enforcement, public order maintenance and provides criminal reference checks. The Treaty 3 Police is a self-administered Policing entity and operates under the First Nation's Policing Program in Canada. It covers the Greater Treaty 3 Region in Northwestern Ontario (TREATY #3, 2024). In addition, the Ontario Provincial Police also operates in Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek (Ontario Provincial Police (Opp), 2024). The Royal Canadian Mounted Police has overall authority in federal law enforcement in Ontario and operates under the authority of the RCMP Act and RCMP Regulations (2014) (Royal Canadian Mounted Police, 2022). Bordering to this the Nishnawbe Aski Police Service operates as an organization that serves 34 First Nation communities in the Nishnawbe Aski Nation Territory (The Nishnawbe Aski Police Service, 2024).

### **Technical Services**

The Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation became the second First Nation in Canada to receive the SpaceX Starlink in 2021. This technology allowed 1500 community members to gain access to high-speed internet and to avoid regular outage during poor weather conditions (FSET, 2024).

### **Religious and Wellbeing Services**

The Roman Catholic Church and Mennonite Church is located in the Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation. In addition, the Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation

receives community support offered by the Kitapinoonjiiminaanik Family Services (Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation Band Office, 2022).

#### 5.2.1.4 NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO MÉTIS COMMUNITY (MÉTIS NATION OF ONTARIO - REGION 1)

##### Recreation and Leisure

The Métis Nation of Ontario offers an Extra-Curricular Reimbursement Program for members of the Northwestern Ontario Métis community. Through this program, families can apply to have child extra-curricular fees reimbursed, including but not limited to:

- March Break camps;
- Summer camps;
- Early Learning science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) Programs;
- Early Learning Arts (music, visual arts, dance, drama) and Language Courses;
- Sports and Skills Development;
- Community Programs including Scouting and Girl Guides; and
- Virtual/Online programs (Métis Nation of Ontario, 2023).

##### Social Services

Table 5-25 outlines social services available to members of the Northwestern Ontario Métis community, in addition to those available in the municipalities in which they live.

**Table 5-25: Métis Nation of Ontario Social Services**

Social Services	Details
Community Support Services Program	Supports elderly and/or chronically ill individuals experiencing isolation or having difficulty managing disease or coping with terminal illness. Services are coordinated with other community-based programs and may include referrals to other agencies and programs such as Meals on Wheels, adult day programs, nursing, and home care.
MNO Justice Program	Provides MNO citizens with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Access to alternatives to the criminal justice system</li> <li>– Access to legal information</li> <li>– Access to legal resources</li> </ul>
Community Diversion Program	Offers an alternative to sentencing for Indigenous people, promoting conflict resolution and reintegration into the community.
Métis Family Wellbeing Program	Provides family-specific programming to address the needs of Métis families healing from violence, having children in the care of family services, or having youth involved in the justice system.
Community Wellness Worker Program	Additional information not available.
Anti-Human Trafficking Program	Supports communities by creating partnerships, tools, and training resources to increase knowledge about human trafficking.
Community Development Support Worker Program	Provides community-based services such as workshops, presentations, and team building activities, with the goal of developing and enhancing front-line worker skills and capacity.

Source: (Métis Nation of Ontario, 2023).

##### Health Services

Table 5-26 outlines health services available to members of the Northwestern Ontario Métis community, in addition to those available in the municipalities in which they live.

**Table 5-26: Métis Nation of Ontario Health Services**

Health Services	Details
Mental Health and Addictions Program	Provides services and supports to Métis children, youth, and adults across Ontario, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Case management</li> <li>– Mental Health and Addictions assessment</li> <li>– Individual counselling</li> <li>– Couples counselling</li> <li>– Family therapy and parenting coaching</li> <li>– Addictions counselling</li> <li>– Other psychiatry, psychology, and psychotherapy services</li> </ul>
Métis Healthy Babies Healthy Children Program	Supports children and families from the pre-natal stage to six years of age, through services including home visits, service coordination, and referrals.
Canada Pre-Natal Nutrition Program	Additional information not available.

Source: (Métis Nation of Ontario, 2023).

### Burial Services

Members of the Northwestern Ontario Métis community have access to burial services in the municipalities in which they live.

### Educational Services

Table 5-27 outlines educational services available to members of the Northwestern Ontario Métis community, in addition to those available in the municipalities in which they live.

**Table 5-27: Métis Nation of Ontario Educational Services**

Educational Services	Details
Education Support Advocacy Program	Provides support for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Attendance</li> <li>– Suspensions</li> <li>– Social isolation</li> <li>– Individual Education Planning</li> <li>– Behavioural Planning</li> <li>– Specialized placement for children with exceptionalities</li> <li>– Mental health or learning disabilities</li> <li>– Communications with the school</li> <li>– Reaching academic potential</li> </ul>
Post-Secondary Education Program	Provides support for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Student success and transitions</li> <li>– Curriculum and institutional changes that meet the unique needs of Métis learners</li> <li>– Indigenous Education Committee participation and community involvement</li> <li>– Research and curriculum development</li> <li>– Memorandums of Understanding between post-secondary institutions and the MNO</li> <li>– Post-secondary student support programs</li> </ul>
Early Learning and Child Care Program	Provides culturally-grounded early learning opportunities for Métis individuals and families.

Educational Services	Details
Employment / Training Programs	Offers programs including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Summer Career Placement Program</li> <li>– Métis Employability Program</li> <li>– Métis Wage Subsidy Program</li> <li>– Métis Youth Program</li> <li>– Métis Apprenticeship Program</li> <li>– Strategic Partnership Program</li> <li>– Métis Training Purchase Program</li> <li>– Métis Disabilities Support Program</li> </ul>

Source: (Métis Nation of Ontario, 2023).

## Housing

The Métis Nation of Ontario offers housing and homelessness services for members of the Northwestern Ontario Métis community, through the Métis Nation of Ontario’s Housing and Infrastructure Branch. These services include:

- Métis Housing Stabilization Program;
- Emergency Repair Program;
- Financial Literacy Program;
- Home Buyers Contribution Program; and
- Infinity Property Services (Métis Nation of Ontario, 2023).

## Emergency Services

Members of the Northwestern Ontario Métis community have access to emergency services in the municipalities in which they live.

## Technical Services

The Northwestern Ontario Métis community provides community support in the event community members requires guidance in terms of communication technology. In addition, technology plays a key role to provide the youth with access to a diversity of workshops and online education sessions. The community has access to connect with the relevant people for assistance when needed (Métis Nation, 2024).

## Religious and Wellbeing Services

The Métis Nation of Ontario’s (MNO) Healing and Wellness branch facilitates the holistic needs of the people in relation to their healing and wellness. This includes a community wellbeing and support programme (Métis Nation of Ontario, 2023).

## 5.2.2 MUNICIPALITIES

### 5.2.2.1 MUNICIPALITY OF RED LAKE

#### Recreation and Leisure

The Red Lake Recreation Centre offers a variety of recreational activities geared towards fitness. In the winter months, the Recreation Centre offers ski rentals, with groomed trails around the centre. Red Lake also houses two skating rinks with rental services. There are a variety of clubs that take place during the winter, including the Balmertown Figure Skating Club and recreational hockey programs for both men, women, and children. In addition to winter outdoor activities, the Community Center includes a weight training and cardio facility and squash courts, where various fitness classes take place. Summer recreation activities include baseball, soccer, skate park, tennis court, and a splash pad. There is also a multi-purpose indoor facility with a commercial grade kitchen (Municipality of Red Lake, 2014a). Other

recreation and leisure resources in Red Lake include, but not limited to, the following (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, 2022a):

- Association Francophone de Red Lake
- Balmertown Figure Skating Club
- Buffalo Street Dog Park
- Centennial Park
- Chukuni Rod and Gun Club
- Chukuni Shotokan Karate Club
- Clever Corvid Art (Art Workshops)
- Cochenour Arena
- Cochenour Ball Field
- Cochenour Beach
- Cochenour Boat Launch
- Cochenour Playground
- Cochenour Soccer Field
- Cross Country Ski Club
- Curling Club
- Evolution Mining Recreation Centre
- Gail’s Stitches Quilting and Sewing Classes
- Goldcorp Mine Baseball Field
- Golden Learning Centre Outdoor Rink
- Government Docks and Boat Launch
- K.P’s Dream Dance Academy
- Keesic Beach
- Kelson’s Farm Playground
- Kinsmen Beach
- Laverty Park
- Madsen Playground
- Mat Cats Gymnastics
- Minor Hockey Association
- Norseman Festival (Activities, Entertainment and Artisan Booth)
- Norseman Floatplane Festival
- Norseman Park
- Patricia Players (Drama and Production Group)
- Rahill Beach
- Red Lake Arts Council
- Red Lake Brazilian Jiu Jitsu Club
- Red Lake Community Centre Playground
- Red Lake District Baseball
- Red Lake Fall Classic Walleye Tournament
- Red Lake Golf and Country Club
- Red Lake Heritage Centre
- Red Lake Mixed Slow Pitch League
- Red Lake Pavilion
- Red Lake Trail Masters
- Red Lake Wilderness Entertainment Series
- Royal Canadian Sea Cadets
- Sandy Point Beach
- Sew Bizzy (Kids sewing class and art workshop)
- St. Paul’s Bay Boat Launch

In addition to these resources, Red Lake also provides workshops and events dedicated to mental well-being, cultural activities and community development (Municipality of Red Lake, 2014a).

Red Lake is home to the Red Lake Regional Heritage Centre (RLRHC). RLRHC has more than 30,000 historical documents and photographs in its archives and provides educational tours and programs. RLRHC also has facilities available for rent including a boardroom, the main exhibit gallery, and lobby (Red Lake Regional Heritage Centre, 2024).

The Red Lake Indian Friendship Centre aims to provide social, recreational and cultural activities, while promoting traditional values of unity, sharing, respect, honesty, caring and spirituality. The programs and service areas available include: children and youth, education to employment, family, healing, health, and justice (Red Lake Indian Friendship Centre, 2024).

The Red Lake Parks and Recreation and Master Plan (2010) was created to achieve a vision of healthy living and provide recreational and cultural experiences. It was developed through an extensive public

engagement program with Red Lake residents to identify the community's needs, interests, and ultimate vision for Red Lake. Through this engagement, a vision of Red Lake was determined as stated in the plan:

“The Municipality of Red Lake's parks, open spaces, cultural and recreational opportunities give life and passion to our community and successfully merge the natural and built environments. Recreation and Culture connect people to place, self and others. Red Lake residents will treasure and care for this legacy, building on the past to provide for future generations” (Municipality of Red Lake, 2010).

The Plan provides a Needs Assessment that outlines the strengths and weaknesses of Red Lake's existing challenges. The guiding principles of the Plan are Excellence, Stewardship, Connected System, Inclusive, Health, Essential Element, and Community Involvement (Municipality of Red Lake, 2010).

### **Social Services**

There are a number of non-profit organizations in Red Lake and the wider Kenora District that provide a variety of different social, environmental, and health services. Community Counseling and Addiction Services (CCAS) provides both virtual and in-person counseling and mental health services for individuals struggling with addiction (Red Lake Margaret Cochenour Memorial Hospital, 2018a). CCAS and Red Lake Margaret Cochenour Memorial Hospital propose to jointly launching a Safe Beds Program in 2024, a voluntary, non-medical program offering a therapeutic environment for individuals working through a mental health or addictions crisis (Tennant, 2023).

FIREFLY is another non-profit organization, providing a range of physical, emotional, developmental, and community services for children, youth, and families across northwestern Ontario. The organization has professionals specialized in the fields of social work, speech and language, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, developmental services, and early childhood education. FIREFLY offers a number of programs and services to residents of Ear Falls, Red Lake, and Sioux Lookout including: Autism Services, Canadian Prenatal and Nutrition Program, Child and Family Intervention, Child Care, Child Development, EarlyON, Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD), Infant and Child Development Services, Northwestern Ontario FASD Diagnostic Clinic, Occupational Therapy, Outreach, Physiotherapy, Prevention, Respite Care, School Based Rehab Services, Stop Now and Plan (S.N.A.P), Speech-Language Pathology, Tele-Mental Health, Treatment Foster Care, Youth Justice Committee, Youth Justice Services, and a Youth Mental Health Courtworker Program (FIREFLY, n.d.). However, as of 2020, there was a reported waiting list for FIREFLY, which specifically impacted youth dealing with emotional or sexual violence (Municipality of Red Lake and Township of Ear Falls, 2020).

Kenora Rainy River Child and Family Services and Tikinagan Child and Family Services offer child protective services in the Municipality (Tennant, 2023). The Children's Aid Society is an Ontario-wide organization with an office in Red Lake. Their objective is to protect, and provide support to, infant, children, and youth who are experiencing domestic abuse. They conduct assessments, provide crisis intervention, and offer services and support to families to reduce the likelihood of domestic violence (Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies, 2022).

Among their various services, The Indian Friendship Centre offers social services for Indigenous people living in Red Lake. These include the Red Lake Family Food Bank, the FASD community support program, community action program for children, Aboriginal health babies healthy children program, Akwe:go and Akwe: GoSpecial Supports Programs, the Wasa-Nabin Youth Program, the Urban Aboriginal Healthy Kids Program, and the Kids are Recreationally Equal Program. All of these programs use a holistic approach to improve the quality of life of Indigenous families and children through the delivery of culturally appropriate services.

Red Lake has access to the Harmony Centre, a government service that is specialized in providing programs for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities (211 Ontario North – Lakehead Social Planning Council, 2021a).

There are three childcare services in Red Lake: Balmertown Early Learning, Moozoons Childcare Centre, and Red Lake Early Learning. Balmertown Early Learning and Red Lake Early Learning both provide daycare services for toddlers, preschool, and school age (12 months) (Chukuni Communities

Development Corporation, n.d. - b). Moozoons Childcare Centre offers daycare for Indigenous children aged 0-12 years old and has a maximum capacity of 15 children (Red Lake Indian Friendship Centre, n.d.-c).

Red Lake offers health care support for elders through the North West Home and Community Care Support Services. Located in the Northwood Lodge senior home, this organization supports individuals who are facing the challenges of age, illness, injury or disability (NorthWest Healthline, n.d.). Services include:

- Assisting clients to plan and make informed choices about managing their health care needs;
- Coordinates information about other services available within the community and links them with these services when appropriate;
- Determines access to health care services provided in the home;
- Determines admission to Long Term Care Facilities (homes for the aged, nursing homes); and
- Maintains an ongoing waiting list.

There are currently no withdrawal management facilities or residential addictions treatment facilities in the Municipality of Red Lake; the closest facilities are in the City of Kenora and the City of Thunder Bay (Tennant, 2023).

### Health Services

There are six health clinics, hospitals and medical centres in Red Lake. The Municipality of Red Lake identified a physician and nursing shortage in the community, with personnel gaps currently being filled with agency nurses and locums (Stirling-Kattler, 2023). The closest mental health facility is in the City of Kenora.

Table 5-28 identifies all the services available.

**Table 5-28: Red Lake Health Services**

Health Services	Details
Red Lake Margaret Cochenour Memorial Hospital	Serves the areas of Red Lake, Ear Falls and Wabauskang First Nation, with the next hospital located 2.5 hours away. The hospital has 18 beds, 95 full-time, part-time and casual employees, seven physicians, 24-hour emergency care, inpatient acute and chronic care, and low-risk obstetrics, telemedicine program, chemotherapy, endoscopy services and mental health and addictions counselling.  The medical team includes laboratory, diagnostic imaging, ultrasound, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, nutrition counselling, and diabetes education (Red Lake Margaret Cochenour Memorial Hospital, 2018b).
Goldcorp Red Lake Regional Medical Centre	The Red Lake Family Health Team is made up of two nurse practitioners, three nurses, a dietician, and a social worker to provide hospital services, emergency care, and obstetrical services for the community 24 hours a day. This is a teaching practice and has visiting doctors on rotation (Red Lake Family Health Team, n.d.).
Red Lake Dental Clinic	The Red Lake Dental Clinic provides a range of general dentistry services including replacement of natural teeth, dentures and partials, repairment of older dentures, nightguards, mouthguards and bleaching trays, and emergency care. The clinic also has a program for low-income individuals and families to make monthly payments (211 Ontario North – Lakehead Social Planning Council, 2021c).
Northwood Lodge	Northwood Lodge provides nursing supervision and physician coverage for seniors. This is a 32-bed long-term care facility and offers the following services: 24-hour nursing care and supervision, 24-hour on call physician, care conferences, foot care, hairdressing and barber services, laundry services, meals, medication administration, palliative care (end-of-life care), physician visits, social work services and family services coordinator, spiritual programs and pastoral care, and other recreational programs and social events (211 Ontario North – Lakehead Social Planning Council, 2021b).

Health Services	Details
The Northwestern Health Unit	The Northwestern Health Unit serves 13 municipalities and has 12 locations, with Red Lake being one of them. The Health Unit offers the following services: dental health, eating and nutrition, environmental diseases and infections, environmental health hazards, food safety, harm reduction, health equity, inspection disclosures, parenting and new parents, personal safety and injury prevention, personal service settings, physical activity, and sedentary behaviour, pregnancy and expecting parents, safe drinking water, safe recreational water, sewage and land development, sexual health, speech and hearing, tobacco and vapour, vaccines and immunizations, and vision (Northwestern Health Unit, 2024).
Integrated Services for Northern Children	Provides special needs services such as speech, language, occupational therapy, and psychological and psychiatric assessment services (Municipality of Red Lake, 2024).
New Starts for Women	Secure shelter, serving Red Lake and Ear Falls for women and their children who have experienced violence (New Starts for Women, n.d.).
Red Lake Emergency Shelter	Homeless and emergency shelter in Red Lake, with a capacity of twenty people (North West Healthline, n.d.).

Red Lake and Ear Falls adopted a Community Safety and Well-Being Plan in 2020. Table 5-29 summarizes the Community Safety and Well Being Plan which was used to provide leadership, engagement and collaboration while being proactive and providing investments in people while at the same time reducing emergency services resources. The plan indicates key risk categories and gaps in community safety and well-being. These include the non-existence of residential treatment centres for substance abuse and psychiatric and psychological services, wait lists for mental health counselling, a lack of housing for options for youth and low-income individuals, and shortage of housing for seniors (MNP LLP, 2020).

**Table 5-29: Red Lake and Ear Falls Community Safety and Well-Being Plan, Priorities and Potential Opportunities, 2020**

Priority Pillar	Current Environment and Concerns	Objectives
Safe Substance Use	<p>Substance abuse is common in the communities and emergency room visits related to substance abuse are higher than the rest of Ontario.</p>	<p>To Establish Detox Centre and Safe Beds in Red Lake.</p> <p>Establish Managed Alcohol Program to provide individuals a regular dosage to help manage addiction.</p> <p>Develop and implement proactive Situation Table protocols that encourage preventative interventions.</p> <p>Implement evidence-based prevention planning.</p> <p>Develop and implement Standard assessment and referral protocols and resources.</p> <p>Establish shared agency training protocols and resources.</p>
Mental Health	<p>Issues related to mental health including diagnosed problems, grief, self-harm, suicide, and intellectual functioning, are higher when compared to rest of Ontario.</p> <p>Underlying causes include intergenerational trauma, social isolation, and poverty.</p> <p>Many experience a combination of substance abuse and mental health issues.</p> <p>Adverse child and youth mental health outcomes.</p> <p>Emergency Room visits and hospitalizations related to mental health issues higher than rest of Ontario in both the communities in general and in children and youth.</p>	<p>Establish Youth Drop-In Centre.</p> <p>Establish Safe and Stabilization Beds meant to address the needs of individuals in a mental health crisis.</p> <p>Optimize use of telehealth for psychiatric and support services</p> <p>Establish proactive community-based supports for caregivers.</p>
Housing	<p>Lack of housing and housing insecurity.</p> <p>Specialized housing and supports for those experiencing cognitive issues relating to dementia, developmental disabilities, and impaired cognitive functioning lacking.</p> <p>Cost of utilities in Red Lake leading to housing insecurity.</p> <p>No local option between independent living and a long-term care facility for seniors.</p>	<p>Establish affordable, assisted living facility for seniors.</p> <p>Establish Supportive Youth Housing.</p> <p>Establish in-home support services (to enable aging in place).</p>

Priority Pillar	Current Environment and Concerns	Objectives
Family Environment	<p>Intergenerational trauma, substance abuse, poverty and housing influence parenting outcomes.</p> <p>Employment instability due to instability of resource industry may also affect family environment.</p> <p>Limited access to resources to support parenting a child with mental health issues.</p> <p>Increased number of children being placed in the care of other family members other than parents (kin placements).</p> <p>Decreased availability of local foster homes.</p> <p>No foster or agency homes for children with complex needs in Red Lake or Ear Falls</p> <p>Reports of domestic violence increasing.</p>	<p>Develop and implement community recreation programming and promotion strategy that meets needs of diverse community members including children, youth, adults and seniors.</p> <p>Establish coordinated family support services and programs.</p> <p>Promote Early ON programming and offer programs to support positive parenting.</p> <p>Establish inter/intra community transportation.</p> <p>Establish partnerships with local and regional service providers for coordinated delivery of pre-natal support.</p> <p>Develop and provide support community-based and led outreach.</p>
Financial Security	<p>Most employment is in low-paying tourism and service industries.</p> <p>Economic disparity among community members.</p> <p>High cost of living due to geographic remoteness.</p> <p>High paying employment in the local resource industries without do not require post-secondary education and this can reduce demand for higher education.</p> <p>Reliance on Ontario Works increasing in Ear Falls.</p> <p>Far distances to travel for higher education and training.</p> <p>Social factors such as substance abuse influence employment and education and financial security.</p>	<p>Improve internet connectivity, speed, and cost to better facilitate remote work, web-based education and training and access to job searches.</p> <p>Expand access to adult and continuing education including more access to literacy, high school diploma, upgrading, technical and professional development opportunities both in-person and online.</p> <p>Establish food security program that is coordinated with educational institutions, health units and other service providers.</p> <p>Monitor and report on educational achievement by consolidating data from all school completion programs including high school and adult education.</p> <p>Expand local access to Early Childhood Education training, may facilitate expansion of childcare services.</p> <p>Explore how to diversify economic opportunities to support more employment options and stability.</p>

Source: (MNP LLP, 2020).

Research indicates that one in three Canadian women will experience sexual assault in their lifetime, with Indigenous women experiencing a higher rate of sexual assault compared to non-Indigenous women (Sexual Assault Support Centre, n.d.). Sexual assaults (430) were reported in Northwestern Ontario in 2021, representing a 31% increase from 2020 (Levesque, 2022). In Kenora district, there were 211.5 reported sexual assaults per 100,000 of the population in 2020 (Canada Crime Index, 2021). There were no statistics available for Red Lake region. The Community Safety and Well-Being Plan for Red Lake identifies gaps in emotional and sexual violence support in which there is one shelter that focuses on women experiencing domestic and sexual violence in the Red Lake and Ear Falls area. The Plan's survey indicates that the services available in Red Lake are limited in providing the necessary support for women, and specifically Indigenous women that may be coping with sexual and domestic violence.

In Canada, research has shown a linear relationship between industrial camp populations and a rise in crime, sexual violence, and the trafficking of Indigenous women (Keith MacMaster, 2020). The remote locations of project sites and Indigenous communities result in low reporting rates. In addition, local community health centres lack the resources to address incidents of sexual assault (Prospectors and

Developers Association of Canada, 2019). However, this is not specific to Indigenous women on reserves, but rural and urban Indigenous women that live near resource-intensive areas. Given the presence of two mining projects (the Hasaga Project located within Red Lake, and the Springpole Project located approximately 110 km outside of Red Lake), Indigenous women are at a higher risk of increased violence.

Table 5-29 indicates that there are a limited number of psychiatric and psychological services available in Red Lake. The existing wait list for mental health counselling services is also projected to be up to six months as of the 2020 report. Additionally, there is a stigma attached to asking for help with mental health. Given these circumstances, the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan identifies mental health as a high-priority item that needs to be addressed (Municipality of Red Lake and Township of Ear Falls, 2020).

### Burial Services

Red Lake has one funeral home in the area, Red Lake Funeral Chapel Limited (Red Lake Funeral Chapel Limited, n.d.). Crematory services are not available in Red Lake.

### Educational Services

Red Lake has both public and separate school systems that provides a wide range of learning services and programming for both children and adults. There are three school boards in Red Lake: Keewatin Patricia District School Board, Kenora Catholic District School Board, and Conseil Scolaire de District Catholique. Two of the three school boards are of Catholic faith, one of which is French-based. In total, there are eight schools and learning centers in Red Lake (Municipality of Red Lake, 2014b). The French Catholic District School Board has one school in Red Lake: Ecole Catholique Des Etoiles-Du-Nord. Red Lake has the following schools within its boundaries (Ontario Ministry of Education, n.d.). French immersion education is offered up to eighth grade in Red Lake (Tennant, 2023).

Table 5-30 provides a list of all available schools.

**Table 5-30: Schools in the Municipality of Red Lake**

School	Details
<b>Keewatin Patricia District School Board</b>	
Red Lake District High School (Grades 9-12)	Established in 1951, with additions in 1956, 1964 and 1965. Total square footage of 68,283 ft <sup>2</sup> (Keewatin Patricia District School Board, n.d.). The total enrolment for 2019 to 2020 was 220 students. Twenty-five percent of the student population received special education services (Ontario Ministry of Education, 2020).
Golden Learning Centre Public School (Grades JK-8)	Established in 1991 in Balmertown, with a square footage of 35,653 ft <sup>2</sup> and serves the communities of Balmertown, Cochenour, McKenzie Island, and the northern side of the Chukuni River subdivision (Keewatin Patricia District School Board, n.d.). The total enrolment from 2019 to 2020 was 190 students. 0% of student population during this time received special education services (Ontario Ministry of Education, 2021a). Thirty-two students have self-identified as Indigenous (Golden Learning Centre, n.d.)
Red Lake-Madsen Public School (Grades JK-8)	Established in 1996, with a square footage of 35,035 ft <sup>2</sup> (Keewatin Patricia District School Board, n.d.). The total enrolment between 2019 and 2020 was 175 students. Fifteen percent of student during this time population received special education services (Ontario Ministry of Education, 2021b). Thirty percent of the student population has self-identified as Indigenous (Red Lake-Madsen Public School, n.d.).
Adult Education	Keewatin Patricia District School Board offers adult education throughout Northwestern Ontario, in collaboration with Seven Generations Education Institute. The adult education sites in Red Lake include Red Lake District Adult Learning Centre and Red Lake Indian Friendship Centre (Keewatin Patricia District School Board and Seven Generations Education Institute, n.d.). The Red Lake Adult Learning Centre offers literary and basic skills programs (Red Lake District Adult Learning Centre, n.d.) and Red Lake Indian Friendship Centre offers an Alternative Secondary School Program (Red Lake Indian Friendship Centre, 2024).

School	Details
<b>Kenora Catholic District School Board</b>	
St. John's School (Grades JK-8)	The total enrolment between 2019 and 2020 was 142 students. The school has a close relationship with St. John's Roman Catholic Church and teaches Ojibway language instructions. The school offers a North Studies program, which aims to explore traditions and activities of First Nation, Métis and Inuit people. This program is in collaboration with the Red Lake Indian Friendship Centre (Kenora Catholic District School Board, n.d.). Additionally, 15% of student population receive special education services (Ontario Ministry of Education, 2021c).
<b>Conseil Scolaire De District Catholique</b>	
Ecole Catholique Des Etoiles-Du-Nord (Grades JK-8)	The enrolment numbers are suppressed, due to enrollment of fewer than 50 students (Ontario Ministry of Education, n.d.).
<b>Confederation College</b>	
Red Lake Campus	Established in 2011, the Red Lake Campus of Confederation College offers post-secondary programs, full-time and part-time certificate programs, continuing education courses, general interest courses, and other education training opportunities (Confederation College, n.d.).
<b>Indian Friendship Centre</b>	
Alternative Secondary School Program	Indian Friendship Centre offers an alternative secondary school program for Indigenous students with services including one-on-one supports, cultural supports, life skills, services to help students obtain their Ontario Secondary School Diploma, and access to services in the Red Lake District High School (Red Lake Indian Friendship Centre, n.d.-a).

The Community Safety and Well-Being Plan (2020) outlined the correlation between insufficient education to unemployment and financial insecurity in Red Lake, in which employment in Red Lake is predominantly in low-paying sectors where post-secondary diplomas are not a requirement. The Plan states that "...while the resource-based economies in Red Lake and Ear Falls provide many well-paying jobs, most other employment in these communities [are] in low-paying tourism and service industry occupations. The high cost of goods and services in Red Lake is reported to be driven, in part, by prices geared to higher income earners and otherwise by geographic remoteness" (Municipality of Red Lake and Township of Ear Falls, 2020). Additionally, sectors in the area, especially gold mining, have historically been subject to lay-offs as the price of commodities fluctuate with gold mining having a high frequency of lay-offs. These fluctuations have also contributed to labour market instability. The Plan identifies gaps in educational opportunities for the area, which have contributed to financial insecurity and unemployment (Municipality of Red Lake and Township of Ear Falls, 2020). These gaps include:

- Limited availability of subsidized childcare - essential to support "working poor."
- Older adults may be embarrassed to access Adult Ed. Centre for literacy support.
- Limited post-secondary programs available due to remote delivery (e.g. not able to deliver some programs with hands-on training).
- Ability to apprentice limited by the number of journeypersons in community and ratio requirements.
- Lack of public transportation impacts access to post-secondary, impacts participation in after-hours high school activities.
- Cost of internet a barrier to online learning for lower income individuals.

Additional demographic barriers, such as race, ethnicity, gender, age, and the geographic location of individuals impact how individuals experience these gaps. Through addressing barriers, the Plan aims to explore partnerships with Confederation College to train and educate for targeted high-demand jobs, such as health occupations and trades. In addition, the Municipality plans to explore flexible learning and working models, such as co-op programs (Municipality of Red Lake and Township of Ear Falls, 2020).

## **Housing**

As of the 2021 Census, Red Lake had a total of 1,705 occupied private dwellings, and 420 tenant households. Of the occupied private dwellings in Red Lake, 1,560 were in need of regular maintenance or minor repairs; 150 of these dwellings were in need of major repairs (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

Red Lake has several rental housing services, including A&D Rentals, CCK Enterprises Ltd., Dave and Dora Fetterly Rentals, Dexter Apartments, Mainland 125 - Rental, Forest Hill Apartments and Pineridge Townhouses, and Norseman Annex (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, 2021). There are five shelters in Red Lake, including New Starts for Women Shelter, Red Lake Emergency Shelter and Red Lake Homeless Shelter. In addition, there are two short-term rental services, including Paddle Inn Bed and Breakfast and Red Lake Accommodations (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, 2021).

Among their wide range of community services, the Indian Friendship Centre provides a Homelessness Outreach Program that assists people to obtain and maintain housing through a holistic and culturally relevant lens. They help individuals with housing applications, and host workshops, group events, and one-on-one activities with the objective of preventing and reducing homelessness in Red Lake (Red Lake Indian Friendship Centre, 2024).

Housing insecurity was identified as the third highest priority for the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan for Red Lake. Seven of the 141 respondents specifically mentioned seniors in “other” risk factors to be addressed. House insecurity disproportionately impacts low-income households and seniors who pay 30% or more of their income in accommodations. This includes no option for independent or assisted living, or long-term facilities for seniors. The long-term care facility in Red Lake was reported as having a wait list as of the 2020 survey (Municipality of Red Lake and Township of Ear Falls, 2020). The 2016 Census shows that the demand for senior housing is projected to grow by 57% between 2016 and 2025 (Statistics Canada, 2017c). Additionally, as of 2023, the average home price in Red Lake is \$149,000 (Zolo, 2023). Given that the average employment income of Red Lake residents was \$79,000 in 2021 (see Section 0), the average Red Lake resident is spending 53% of their yearly income on housing (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

The KDSB Homeless Enumeration Report found that mental health issues (64.7%) and substance use issues (76.5%) were the leading causes of homelessness within the Red Lake and Kenora area (Kenora District Services Board, 2021). The report indicated that 88.14% of the people experiencing homelessness in Red Lake and Kenora District were Indigenous.

Research indicates that domestic violence is a leading cause of housing instability for women and children in Canadian municipalities (Fustic, Guay, Hossain, and Khalid, 2019). Given that there is only one shelter in the Red Lake and Ear Falls area that focuses on women experiencing domestic violence, there is a lack of support for women in need of alternative housing (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, 2021).

By addressing gaps in affordable housing in Red Lake, the Community Safety and Wellbeing Plan aims to look into the Sioux Lookout homelessness initiative for supportive housing options, as well as the Ontario Aboriginal Housing Services in order to decrease the disproportionate number of Indigenous people experiencing homelessness in Red Lake and the broader Kenora region (Municipality of Red Lake and Township of Ear Falls, 2020).

## **Emergency Services**

By-Law 94-2016 outlines the Emergency Management Program in Red Lake. This Program covers emergencies such as major forest fires, windstorm and snow blizzards, pandemics, power outages, aircraft crashes, and an emergency underground situation within the boundaries of the Municipality. The Program explains, at a high level, the general coordination of services, the emergency alerting system, emergency evaluation plan and the emergency reception plan. The goal of the plan is the implementation of an Emergency Operation Centre, which will serve as the Municipal Office for emergency officials such as the Fire Chief, the Ontario Provincial Police, the transportation officer, the airport manager, and the District manager of the MNR (The Corporation of the Municipality of Red Lake, 2016). Additionally, Red Lake is one of eight mine rescue districts in Ontario, overseen by Ontario Mine Rescue, where volunteer

first responders are trained in mine rescue. These teams handle fires, rescue injured personnel, and respond to various incidents (Red Lake Regional Heritage Centre, n.d.).

Red Lake fire services is served by a volunteer fire department, consisting of a full-time fire chief, approximately 50 firefighters and four fire stations (three mainland stations and one on MacKenzie Island) (Grant, 2023). The department provides HAZMAT awareness but does not have the HAZMAT technicians required to provide HAZMAT response (Grant, 2023). For forest-related emergencies, fire department can rely on the Ministry of Natural Resources for support (Grant, 2023).

Additionally, Red Lake is also home to an Ontario Provincial Police detachment, which includes 51 officers and one staff sergeant. This detachment covers Red Lake District and the Provincial highway (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, 2022d). The Municipality has a mobile crisis team, with an OPP officer and a mobile crisis worker, responding to crisis calls (not including domestic violence calls) (Tennant, 2023). Red Lake’s OPP detachment has a domestic violence specialist (Tennant, 2023).

Red Lake is served by the Northwest Emergency Medical Services by the KDSB, which has approximately 120 primary care paramedics and 10 administrative personnel and a fleet of 26 vehicles. Red Lake houses one of the nine stations in the Kenora region, which consists of two ambulances and 10 paramedics (Kenora District Services Board, 2024).

### 5.2.2.2 TOWNSHIP OF EAR FALLS

#### Recreation and Leisure

The Township of Ear Falls operates a recreation centre, which includes the KinFit Gym for 16-year-olds and older, as well as an arena for ice sports and court space for badminton, floor hockey, shuffleboard, hiking trails, and basketball. Ear Falls is home to a 9-hole golf course with a clubhouse, power car and club rentals. In the winter, cross-country ski trails are available and ski rentals from the Municipal Office are accessible (Township of Ear Falls, 2022m) Ear Falls has a community garden with free plots available for residents (Township of Ear Falls, 2022f). Ear Falls also provides free public access to boat launches to Lac Seul, Wenesaga Lake and the English River, and a community splash pad. In 2024, the Township is planning to undertake accessibility upgrades for existing recreation and leisure facilities (Wigle, 2023). The Township has plentiful recreation and leisure facilities, as existing facilities were designed to serve a larger population (Wigle, 2023).

The Parks and Playgrounds Plan 2019-2022 (Township of Ear Falls, 2020), last updated in March 2020, outlines Ear Falls’ allocated funding to providing play spaces within the community. Table 5-31 outlines the Town’s existing assets and their uses as described in the Plan.

**Table 5-31: Township of Ear Falls, Existing Parks and Playground Assets, 2022**

Asset	Description	Season	Primary Uses and Activities
Waterfront Park	Pavilions and public washrooms Swimming dock Beachfront Horseshoe pits Storage buildings Government docks	Spring-Fall	Public Swimming Tourism Canada Day Festivities Trout Forest Music Festival Picnic Spot
Lions’ Park	Fenced Site One swing set One play structure One covered sandbox	Spring - Fall	Play area for younger children
Calvin Fulford Park	One play structure Two swing sets Two climbers	Spring - Fall	Play area for youth and younger children
Sportsplex	Two baseball fields One set of bleachers Pavilion Public washrooms Tobogganing hill	Year Round	Baseball or T-ball Dog walking or play area Tobogganing

Asset	Description	Season	Primary Uses and Activities
Splash Pad	Splash Pad	Spring-Fall	Splash pad
Recreation Centre	Area with one ice surface KinFit Gym Ancillary spaces	Year Round	Hockey and figure skating rentals Public skating and drop-in hockey Fitness (KinFit Gym) Local events (family safety night, Remembrance Day, Canada Day [rain-date location], Memory in Miles ATV derby and Winterfest)
Golf Course	9-hole golf course Clubhouse Maintenance buildings	Spring - Fall	Golfing and recreation
Hiking and Ski Trails	Trails	Spring - Fall	Cross-country skiing Hiking
Community Garden	Fenced and raised garden beds	Spring - Fall	Gardening Local food security
Boat Launches	Free Public Access Owned or Licenced to Township	Spring - Fall	Launching Boats Use by residents, tourists and tourist resort operators

Source: (Township of Ear Falls, 2020), (Township of Ear Falls, 2022f) (McCarthy, 2020).

## Clubs

Ear Falls has a variety of activities and clubs for residents (Township of Ear Falls, 2022e). Some clubs are offered by non-profit groups, service clubs, youth groups, or municipal endeavours. Membership may have a fee requirement. These include, but are not limited to:

- Canada Day Committee
- Lion’s Club
- Royal Canadian Legion Branch #238
- Royal Canadian Legion Ladies’ Auxiliary Branch #238
- Girl Guides of Canada
- Scouts Canada
- Ear Falls Gun Club
- Ear Falls Golf and Country Club
- Silver Birch Stables
- Ear Falls Skating Club
- Ear Falls and District Minor Hockey Association
- Hospital Auxiliary
- Green Thumbs Club
- Ear Falls Chukuni Christmas Cheer Board
- Lac Seul Walleye Cup
- Memory In Miles

## Seniors Centre

Whispering Pines Seniors Centre offers recreational and educational programs for a membership fee (211 Ontario North – Lakehead Social Planning Council, 2022h) and is located in the Ear Falls Plaza at 30 Spruce Street, P.O. Box 101, Ear Falls, ON, P0V 1T0 (Township of Ear Falls, 2022e).

## Social Services

Most social services for Ear Falls residents are not directly within the Township of Ear Falls and are instead provided in the municipality of Red Lake (Township of Ear Falls, 2022i).

Ear Falls has an Early Learning Centre which is located at 2 Willow Crescent. It is operated by the KDSB and serves toddlers, preschool, junior and senior kindergarten, and school age children (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, 2022c).

Information gathered from desktop research suggests that there is one daycare facility in Ear Falls.

Ear Falls Non-Profit Housing Corporation is another social service organization serving low-income clients (Township of Ear Falls, 2024).

## Health Services

Ear Falls has four Health Service locations - a Community Health Centre, a dental clinic, the Northwestern Health Unit, and a pharmacy as noted in Table 5-32.

**Table 5-32: Health Services in Ear Falls, Ontario**

Health Services	Details
Ear Falls Community Health Centre - Family Health Team	The Ear Falls Community Health Centre and Family Health Team is owned and operated by the Township of Ear Falls. The Community Health Centre has a full-time doctor and two nurses on staff and offers scheduled appointment as well as a walk-in clinic. Other services include blood and lab work, Ministry of Transportation medical reviews, and Northern Ontario Travel Grant Applications for medical related travel to Dryden, Kenora, Thunder Bay and Winnipeg (Township of Ear Falls, 2022j).
Ear Falls Dental Clinic - Ear Falls Community Health Centre	Ear Falls also has a privately run dental office that takes on patients by appointment, accepts emergency patients and arranges for low-income people to make monthly payments (211 Ontario North – Lakehead Social Planning Council, 2023a).
Northwestern Health Unit	The Northwestern Health Unit addresses public health in the region. The Ear Falls Medical Centre (211 Ontario North – Lakehead Social Planning Council, 2023e) is one location of 13 offices.
Guardian Ear Falls Pharmacy	Dispensary and store that provides flu shots (Guardian, 2022)
Red Lake Margaret Cochenour Memorial Hospital	Ear Lake does not have its own hospital but utilizes the services provided in Red Lake. The hospital has 18 beds, 95 full-time, part-time and casual employees, seven physicians, 24-hour emergency care, inpatient acute and chronic care and low-risk obstetrics, telemedicine program, chemotherapy, endoscopy services, and mental health and addictions counselling.  The medical team includes laboratory, diagnostic imaging, ultrasound, physiotherapy, occupational therapy, nutrition counselling and diabetes education (Red Lake Margaret Cochenour Memorial Hospital, 2018b).
New Starts for Women	Secure shelter, serving Red Lake and Ear Falls for women and their children who have experienced violence (New Starts for Women, n.d.).

## Burial Services

The Deputy Clerk handles cemetery requests. The cemetery is located at 45 Highway 804 (Township of Ear Falls, 2022d). Crematory services are not available in Ear Falls.

## Educational Services

Ear Falls has one elementary school named Ear Falls Public School which is part of the Keewatin Patricia District School Board. The closest secondary school is found approximately 70 km from Ear Falls in Red Lake and there are no post-secondary institutions in Ear Falls. Table 5-33 provides a list of all available schools.

**Table 5-33: Schools in the Township of Ear Falls**

School	Details
<b>Keewatin-Patricia District School Board</b>	
Ear Falls Public School	Established in 1970, this school has a square footage 19,377 ft <sup>2</sup> . The grades range from kindergarten to grade eight. Ear Falls Public School Ear Falls Public School is part of Keewatin Patricia District School Board and serves the communities of Ear Falls and Wabauskang First Nation (Township of Ear Falls, 2022g). The school has 115 students, is staffed by 11 teachers, an Early Childhood Educator, six educational assistants, a principal, a librarian and an administrative assistant. Support staff for the school includes two caretakers and a maintenance staff member (Keewatin Patricia District School Board, 2021).
<b>Secondary</b>	
Secondary school students attend high school in the nearby community of Red Lake.	
<b>Post-secondary</b>	

School	Details
	Ear Falls does not have any post-secondary education institutions and students may attend post-secondary education in Red Lake, other communities or virtually (Township of Ear Falls, 2022g).

Ear Falls encounters the same educational and employment barriers as Red Lake, as per the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan. However, distinctions can be made regarding these barriers due to the lack of secondary schools and Employment Ontario offices in Ear Falls (Municipality of Red Lake and Township of Ear Falls, 2020). School boards can provide Supervised Alternative Learning (SAL) Programs (Ontario Ministry of Education, 2022) for youth aged 14-17 years old who are at risk of not graduating, the youth with a SAL are able to attend Employment Ontario youth programming.

### Housing

As of the 2021 Census, Ear Falls had a total of 470 occupied private dwellings, and 110 tenant households. Of the occupied private dwellings in Ear Falls, 435 were in need of regular maintenance or minor repairs; 35 of these dwellings were in need of major repairs (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

Aspen Place Apartments has single bedroom apartments for rent (Aspen Place Apartments, 2011). Driftwood Apartments is listed in the business directory for rental accommodations. Temporary accommodations include the Driftwood Inn and the Trillium Motel. In the summer, there are Kahooter's Kabins and RV Park and Pine Ridge Campground available for recreational stays (Township of Ear Falls, 2022a). RE/MAX also lists residential building lots that are available for development (RE/MAX, 2022).

Ear Falls encounters the same housing barriers as Red Lake. However, distinctions can be made regarding housing insecurity. For one, there are no long-term care facilities in Ear Falls, compared to one being located in Red Lake (Municipality of Red Lake and Township of Ear Falls, 2020). Additionally, the median home price in Ear Falls in \$198,000 as of 2023 (Redfin, 2023). Given that the average employment income of Ear Falls residents in 2020 was \$77,500 (see Section 0), the average Ear Falls resident is spending 39% of their income on housing (Statistics Canada, 2023a). This is similar to the findings from the municipality of Red Lake and Township of Ear Falls 2020 Community Safety and Well-Being Plan, which indicates that 16% of the population of Ear Falls is spending 30% or more of their income on housing, representing a higher proportion of the population compared to Red Lake (13%) (Municipality of Red Lake and Township of Ear Falls, 2020).

### Emergency Services

Ear Falls has an Emergency Plan that is shared with City Council, Municipal Staff, and external agencies regarding roles and responsibilities during an emergency (Township of Ear Falls, 2022h). CodeRED provides emergency notification by text, email or telephone or mobile application.

There is a Volunteer Firefighter Program located at Willow Crescent at the Ear Falls Government Building run by the Fire Chief (211 Ontario North – Lakehead Social Planning Council, 2022c).

There is an Ontario Provincial Police detachment office in Ear Falls located at the south end of the township with the closest intersection at Goldpines Road and Highway 105 (211 Ontario North – Lakehead Social Planning Council, 2022a).

Ear Falls has a list of basic supplies that a 72-hour kit should contain in case of any emergency, or any adverse weather-related event occurs (Township of Ear Falls, 2022h).

#### 5.2.2.3 DISTRICT OF KENORA

The Kenora District Services Board (KDSB) was created in 1999 for the purpose of delivering social services to Kenora District residents. The services include employment and financial support, community housing, early years and emergency medical services. Red Lake and Ear Falls will both be detailed individually below, and the information related to KDSB is inclusive of the wider District of Kenora area.

KDSB offers affordable housing programs and services to Red Lake residents. Programs offered by KDSB include: supportive housing programs, affordable housing units, market rental housing units, rent-geared-to-income programs, and homelessness prevention programs. KDSB also provides rental

assistance to eligible single, non-elderly parents, families, special priority placements, and seniors. This is based on waitlist occupancy with priority to applicants with unique circumstances (Kenora District Services Board, n.d. - a). As of 2020, the waiting list for housing in the Kenora District has increased by 346% since 2011 with single individuals and families making up the majority of people in need of housing (Kenora District Services Board, 2021).

KDSB undertook a Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative where they supported over 22,044 nightly stays for 3,021 individuals at the three emergency shelters available in Kenora District in 2020. Using point-in-time survey methodology, the KDSB found that in October of 2020, there were 15 individuals that classified as homeless in Red Lake. However, it is important to note that this only includes individuals that completed the survey and does not represent the total number of individuals experiencing homelessness in the municipality. An overview of nine municipalities within Kenora found that homeless shelters were the most common area for individuals to stay overnight, followed by unsheltered public spaces, and another person's place. The majority of respondents (41.18%) reported health issues, including hospitalization, treatment programs, or physical or mental issues, as the reason for their homelessness in the past year (2020), followed by addiction or substance use issues (38.66%). The highest reported age among homeless individuals in Kenora was between 36-55 years, followed by 25-35 years. Men+ made up the highest percentage of homeless individuals (54.3%) compared to women+ (42.53%). Indigenous individuals made up the majority of the respondents (88.14%), which is a substantial proportion given that 20.5% of Kenora residents are Indigenous as per the 2016 census data (Kenora District Services Board, 2021) (Statistics Canada, 2017b).

## 5.3 INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORTATION AND SERVICES

### 5.3.1 INDIGENOUS NATIONS

#### 5.3.1.1 LAC SEUL FIRST NATION

The infrastructure, transportation and services in Lac Seul First Nation is presented in Table 5-34.

**Table 5-34: Infrastructure, Transportation and Services in Lac Seul First Nation**

Service	Availability (Yes / No / Unknown)	Information
Transportation - Road	Yes	Frenchman's Head, Kejick Bay, and Whitefish Bay are accessible by all-weather roads from the hamlet of Hudson at the end of Highway 664. Lac Seul First Nation is located 311.2 km from the Project site by road.
Transportation - Winter Road	Yes	N/A
Transportation - Air	No	There are no airports located within Lac Seul First Nation, the closest airport is in Sioux Lookout which serves scheduled passenger services year-round (Sioux Lookout Airport CYXL, 2013).
Transportation - Rail	No	N/A
Transportation - Water Access	No	N/A
Utilities (wastewater, etc.)	Yes	S. Burnett and Associates Limited is currently constructing a new sewage treatment plant as well as upgrading the sewage and collection system in Frenchman's Head (S. Burnett & Associates Limited, 2022c; Government of Canada - Canadian Assessment Agency of Canada, 2022).
Solid Waste Management	Yes	The Lac Seul First Nation Public Works Department organizes residential garbage collection in all three communities on Mondays and

Service	Availability (Yes / No / Unknown)	Information
		Fridays, which is disposed of in an on-reserve landfill (211 Ontario North – Lakehead Social Planning Council, 2023f).
Water Treatment	Yes	The Obishikokaang Water Treatment Plant was constructed in Kejick Bay in 2019 by S. Burnett and Associates Limited. This new water treatment plant lifted an 18 year long boil water advisory for the community (S. Burnett & Associates Limited, 2020b). The facility services approximately 353 residents and has capacity for future expansion. This is subject to validation.
Communications	Yes	Telephone and cellular services are provided by Keewaytinook Okimakanak Mobile (KNET), as well as through other major providers (Keewaytinook Okimakanak Mobile, 2013). High speed wireless internet is available in the communities of Kejick Bay, Frenchman's Head, and Whitefish Bay, provided through Lac Seul First Nation Internet in partnership with KNET (Lac Seul First Nation, 2023f). The Lac Seul First Nation Broadband Upgrade Project is currently under consideration, and would consist of the construction of two new communication towers in Frenchmen's Head, repairs to an existing tower in Whitefish Bay, burying 6.5 km of new fibre cable along existing roadway and water line right of ways, and laying 2 km of new underwater fibre cable between Kejick Bay and Whitefish Bay (Government of Canada - Impact Assessment Agency of Canada, 2022).
Energy Supply	Yes	Electricity to all three communities within Lac Seul First Nation is supplied by Hydro One Networks (CallMePower, n.d.).

### 5.3.1.2 WABAUSKANG FIRST NATION

The infrastructure, transportation and services in Wabauskang First Nation is presented in Table 5-35.

**Table 5-35: Infrastructure, Transportation and Services in Wabauskang First Nation**

Service	Availability (Yes / No / Unknown)	Information
Transportation - Road	Yes	Wabauskang First Nation is accessible by the Wabauskang all-weather road from Highway 105. Wabauskang First Nation is located 89.1 km from the Project site by road.
Transportation - Winter Road	Yes	N/A
Transportation - Air	No	There are no airports located within Wabauskang First Nation, the closest airport is in Ear Falls (211 Ontario North – Lakehead Social Planning Council, 2022e). Additional information to be verified.
Transportation - Rail	No	N/A
Transportation - Water Access	No	N/A
Utilities (wastewater, etc.)	Yes	The Wabauskang First Nation Operations and Maintenance department oversees the maintenance and operation of the sewage plant (211 Ontario North, 2022f).
Solid Waste Management	Yes	The Wabauskang First Nation Operations and Maintenance department oversees the maintenance and operation of the on-reserve landfill site (211 Ontario North, 2022f).
Water Treatment	Yes	The Wabauskang First Nation Operations and Maintenance department oversees the maintenance and operation of the water treatment plant (211 Ontario North, 2022f).

Service	Availability (Yes / No / Unknown)	Information
Communications	Yes	Communications providers and availability to Wabauskang First Nation was unable to be identified during the desktop study.
Energy Supply	Yes	The energy supplier to Wabauskang First Nation was unable to be identified during the desktop study; assumed to be Hydro One.

### 5.3.1.3 ASUBPEESCHOSEEWAGONG NETUM ANISHINABEK FIRST NATION

The infrastructure, transportation and services in Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek is presented in Table 5-36.

**Table 5-36: Infrastructure, Transportation and Services in Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek**

Service	Availability (Yes / No / Unknown)	Information
Transportation - Road	Yes	Accessible by an all-weather paved road known as Highway 671, also known as Jones Road (Sakatcheway Anishinabe School, n.d. - a). Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation is located 308.9 km from the Project site by road.
Transportation - Winter Road	Yes	N/A
Transportation - Air	No	N/A
Transportation - Rail	No	N/A
Transportation - Water Access	No	N/A
Utilities (wastewater, etc.)	Yes	S. Burnett and Associates Limited has been working to upgrade the water treatment plant in Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek. Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek retained this company in response to the Boil Water Advisory put in place in June 2014. Upgrades were scheduled to be completed in 2020 (S. Burnett & Associates Limited, 2020a).
Solid Waste Management	Yes	N/A
Water Treatment	Yes	Includes mercury
Communications	Yes	Telephone and cellular services are provided by Bell Canada and Telus (Sakatcheway Anishinabe School, n.d. - a).
Energy Supply	Yes	Electricity is supplied by Hydro One Networks, located in Kenora (CanPages, n.d.).

### 5.3.1.4 NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO MÉTIS COMMUNITY (MÉTIS NATION OF ONTARIO - REGION 1)

Members of the Northwestern Ontario Métis community have access to infrastructure, transportation, and services in the municipalities in which they live.

## 5.3.2 MUNICIPALITIES

### 5.3.2.1 MUNICIPALITY OF RED LAKE

Red Lake is accessible by road via Highway 105, with air transportation serviced by several airlines operating from the Red Lake Municipal Airport. A ferry connects Cochenour and Mackenzie Island. Utilities, including wastewater management and solid waste disposal, are overseen by Northern Waterworks and private contractors respectively. Telecommunications are provided by Bell Canada,

Shaw Mobile, and TbayTel, with internet services available through Bell Canada, Shaw Cable, Starlink, and TbayTel. Energy needs are met by a 6 Megawatt Distribution Station, complemented by natural gas services from Union Gas. The Municipality conducts annual Drinking Water System and Waste and Recycling Management Reports. Additionally, the Municipality has an Accessibility Plan, 2021-2026, outlining policies and plans to make the community more accessible, and an Asset Management Plan, 2022, providing a snapshot of the inventory, condition, and lifecycle activities of water and wastewater assets, stormwater management assets, bridges and structural culverts, and paved and gravel roads (Municipality of Red Lake, 2022).

The infrastructure, transportation and services in Red Lake is presented in Table 5-37.

**Table 5-37: Infrastructure, Transportation and Services in the Municipality of Red Lake**

Service	Availability (Yes / No / Unknown)	Information
Transportation - Road	Yes	Accessible by road and located at the end of Highway 105 (Ontario Ministry of Education, n.d.). Bus transportation is available through Hutchison Bus Lines Limited and truck transportation is provided by Gardewine North, Purolator Courier, and Manitoulin Transportation (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, n.d. - c). The Municipality of Red Lake is located 30.8 km from the Project site by road.
Transportation - Winter Road	Yes	The Northern Ontario Resource Trail (NORT) travels north from Red Lake, linking winter roads to northern Indigenous communities, including Pikangikum, Poplar Hill, North Spirit Lake, and Deer Lake (Northern Ontario Winter Roads Map, n.d.).
Transportation - Air	Yes	Accessible by air via Bearskin Airlines, Excellent Adventures Air Services, Lac Seul Airways/Amik Outposts, North Star Air, Superior Airways, Viking Outpost Airways, Wasaya Airways, and Red Lake Seaplane 2017. Air services are provided through the Red Lake Municipal Airport. Passenger services have been provided year-round (Municipality of Red Lake, n.d. - f).
Transportation - Rail	No	N/A. Closest rail lines are near Dryden and run east west.
Transportation - Water Access	Yes	Accessible by water via ferry, access between the communities of Cochenour and Mackenzie Island on Red Lake from May to November (Municipality of Red Lake, n.d. - b).
Utilities (wastewater, etc.)	Yes	Municipal drinking water and sewage treatment facilities in Red Lake, Balmertown, Cochenour, McKenzie Island and Madsen are contracted out to Northern Waterworks. The McKenzie Island water treatment facility was recently upgraded (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, 2022d). Upgrades to the facilities in Cochenour are near completion (Stirling-Kattler, 2023).

Service	Availability (Yes / No / Unknown)	Information
Solid Waste Management	Yes	Solid waste management in Red Lake is provided by private contractors under license from the Municipality and the landfill is located between Balmertown and Red Lake on Highway 125 (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, 2022d). This is called the Municipal Transfer Station. They accept clean wood, metal, e-waste, brush, tires, recyclables, general waste disposal and household hazardous waste program. Curb side waste collection for recycling and waste is also provided by the Municipality (Municipality of Red Lake, n.d. - d). Waste is transported to Ear Falls by Chukuni Sanitation.
Water Treatment	Yes	See utilities above.
Communications	Yes	Telephone services are provided by Bell Canada and Shaw Mobile. Cellular phone services are provided by TbayTel. Internet services in the area include Bell Canada, Shaw Cable Internet Services, Starlink, and TbayTel Radio stations available in the area include Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) which broadcasts on FM 90.5 and the regional radio station, CKDR, which broadcasts on FM 97.1. Newspapers in circulation include the Dryden Observer, Kenora Enterprise, Thunder Bay Times-News, Winnipeg Free Press, and Toronto Globe and Mail (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, n.d. - a).
Energy Supply	Yes	6 Megawatt Distribution Station at a volume of 12.4 / 7.2KV. Secondary voltages are 120 / 240-volt single phase and 120 / 208 and 34 7 / 600 volt three phase. Residents of Red Lake are supplied at a 1R1 rate (high density rate). Natural Gas is provided through Union Gas (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, 2022d).

**5.3.2.2 TOWNSHIP OF EAR FALLS**

**Infrastructure, Transportation and Services Summary**

The Ear Falls public airport has been permanently closed. Currently, the property was leased in 2021 to Space Media Ltd. to provide an Emergency Response Support Centre to support 33 First Nation Communities with medical supplies, search and rescue, aid for disaster relief and fire detection through drones. This project is partnering with Transport Canada (3POINTS, 2022). The Township of Ear Falls has identified the need for asphalt resurfacing on town roads, but has noted that resurfacing will likely be timed to coincide with water and sewer infrastructure repairs (Wigle, 2023). The Township’s Asset Management Plan, 2024, provides a snapshot of the inventory, condition, and lifecycle activities of the Township’s road network, buildings, wastewater and stormwater network, fleet, machinery and equipment, and land improvements. The plan determined that the condition of the road network was “very poor,” stormwater network was “very poor,” buildings was “good,” land improvements was “poor,” fleet was “good,” machinery and equipment was “fair,” water network was “very poor,” wastewater network was “very poor,” and overall asset condition was “poor” (Township of Ear Falls, 2024).

Table 5-38 identifies all infrastructure, transportation and services in Ear Falls.

**Table 5-38: Ear Falls Infrastructure, Transportation and Services Summary**

Service	Availability (Yes / No / Unknown)	Information
Transportation - Road	Yes	The urban portion of Ear Falls is situated at the crossing of two lanes: Highway 105 and Tertiary Highway 804 (CBC News, 2022). Tertiary Highway 804 is a forest access road (Township of Ear Falls 2016b). Highway 105 cuts through Ear Falls and continues through the Township of Ear Falls passing along Pakwash Provincial Park at the north end of the Township. It is 70 km to Red Lake (Township of Ear Falls 2016). Highway 657 extends from Ear Falls north to join Wenasaga Road. The Township of Ear Falls is located 49.4 km from the Project site by road.
Transportation - Winter Road	No	N/A
Transportation - Air	Yes	Ear Falls has a Water Aerodrome operated by Kay Air Service (Airports-Worldwide.com, 2022).
Transportation - Rail	No	N/A
Transportation - Water Access	Yes	There are four boat launches in Ear Falls. The first boat launch is in the north end of the urban portion of Ear Falls on Lac Seul, Goldpines Landing, end of Highway 657. The second boat launch is called Duchie's Landing, off of Chestnut Street on English River in the south end of the urban portion of Ear Falls. The third boat launch is called Wenasaga Landing, located 12 km down South Bay Road east of Ear Falls. The fourth boat launch is called Pakwash Provincial Park Landing, located 19 km north of Ear Falls (Township of Ear Falls, 2022b).
Utilities (wastewater, etc.)	Yes	Municipal sewage and drinking water facilities are contracted to the Ontario Clean Water Agency and provides water treatment for 5,000 Ear Falls residents (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, 2022d) (Township of Ear Falls, 2022k). The water supply originates from the English River. Ear Falls has a water tower with a useable volume of 500,000 imperial gallons (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, 2022d).
Solid Waste Management	Yes	Waste Collection for the urban area of Ear Falls is Thursdays, and commercial bins are picked up on Thursdays and Mondays. The rural area outside of Ear Falls has waste pick up on Mondays with commercial bins being attended to on Mondays and Thursdays. The hours of operation for the Waste Disposal Site are 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Tuesdays, and 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturdays (Township of Ear Falls, 2022n). Waste from Red Lake is transported to Ear Falls by Chukuni Sanitation. Landfill capacity and utilization is to be reviewed by the Township in 2024-2025 (Wigle, 2023). There are currently no recycling facilities in the Township (Wigle, 2023).
Water Treatment	Yes	See Utilities above
Municipal Office	Yes	The Municipal Office in Ear Falls is located at 2 Willow Crescent; P.O. Box 309 (Township of Ear Falls, 2022k).
Communications	Yes	Telephone services in Ear Falls are provided by Bell Canada (Township of Ear Falls, 2021a). Cellular phone services are provided by TbayTel (Township of Ear Falls, 2024). Internet services include Bell Canada, Shaw Cable, and TbayTel (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, n.d. - a). Radio stations in the area include the CBC, which broadcasts on the CBC channel, and the regional radio station, CKDR, which broadcasts on FM 97.5 (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, n.d. - a).

Service	Availability (Yes / No / Unknown)	Information
		Newspapers in circulation include the Dryden Observer, Kenora Enterprise, Thunder Bay Times-News, Winnipeg Free Press and Toronto Globe, and Mail (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, n.d. - a).
Energy Supply	Yes	Hydroelectricity is provided through Ontario Power Generation, Manitou Hydroelectric Generating Station with a capacity of 73MW (Ontario Power Generation, 2022a) (Ontario Power Generation, 2022b). Natural Gas is provided through Union Gas (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, 2022d).
Energy Supply	Yes	Hydro generating station and several water systems for power generation (Ontario Power Generation, 2022b)
Energy Supply	Yes	Ontario Power Generation Lac Seul generating station next to Ear Falls Generating Station (Ontario Power Generation, 2022b)
Energy Supply	Yes	Red Lake is supplied by a 6 MW Distribution Station
Energy Supply	Yes	Union Gas provides natural gas to the area
Energy Supply	Yes	Propane is supplied by Northern Gas Installers and Red Lake Marine Products in Red Lake
Energy Supply	Yes	Solar options are provided by Northern Gas Installers who are associated with Try Smith Propane in Dryden and Kenora (Yellow Pages, 2022)
Energy Supply	Yes	The Pit Stop for Propane Ear Falls
Energy Supply	Yes	Firewood cutting permits are available from the Municipality of Red Lake (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, 2022d).

## 5.4 NON-TRADITIONAL LAND AND RESOURCE USE

The following sections describe the non-traditional land and resource uses within the Socio-economic Local and Regional Investigation Areas depicted in Figure 3-1, and the Land Use Investigation Area (LUIA) depicted in Figure 3-2.

### 5.4.1 PLANS AND POLICIES

The Project is not located within any municipal planning area, and as such is not subject to any municipal policies and plans.

The municipal plans focus on areas zoned in their respective territories which results in the exclusion of the non-traditional land use as well as resources associated with it.

### 5.4.2 MUNICIPAL LAND USE PLANS GENERAL OVERVIEW

The Ontario Planning Act, R.S.O. 1990, c. P.13 requires local municipalities to plan and develop objectives that should guide the physical development of the communities. The adopted Plan includes the vision, guiding principles, to manage the physical development in the respective areas. It is required that decisions made by the municipalities align with the overall Ontario Provincial Policy Statement. Refer to Section 4.2 that provides a more specific insight into the topics covered by the Plans.

According to the Red Lake Municipal Plan (The Municipality of Red Lake, 2022) most of the land is situated on Crown Land and provides limited opportunities for residential development. Crown land is managed by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) with the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines (MNDM). MNDM has the responsibility to oversee mining lands under the mining act. Lands

situated outside of the townsites, and Crown land areas may require protection because of the occurrences of natural or cultural resources (The Municipality of Red Lake, 2022).

The areas covered by the Plans include Townsites, Commercial Areas, Open Spaces, Industrial Areas, Rural Residential and Commercial Areas. In addition to these sites, the Municipal Plans make provision for Natural Resources Areas inclusive of mining, forestry, recreational, wildlife conservation, wayside pits and quarries, communication infrastructure and dormitories associated with mining as well as forestry.

In addition to this, the Plan covers waste management, environmental protection and hazard land. The Plan emphasises they have no control over Crown Land which is managed by the Ministry of Natural Resources.

The Municipality of Red Lake’s Strategic Plan, 2024-2027, outlines the Municipality’s strategic objectives, including but not limited to the continued development of outdoor recreation cluster, the beautification of outdoor spaces, and the increased utilization of the Community Improvement Plan (Municipality of Red Lake, 2024). The Municipality’s Community Improvement Plan notes the Municipality’s intent to improve the competitiveness of the tourism industry and enhance the visitor experience, and revitalize and beautify the waterfront (Municipality of Red Lake, 2017).

The Township of Ear Falls, Perrault Falls & Red Lake Tourism Sector and Marketing Strategic Plan notes that tourism assets in the region skew heavily towards nature and adventure. There are at least 15 categories of nature and adventure assets in the region: fishing, hunting, lakes and rivers, beaches, parks, wildlife, trails, golfing, winter sports, camping, and scenic nature, including waterfalls and vistas. The Plan outlines goals to improve the tourism readiness of the region’s nature and adventure assets (Forrest and STEM Consulting, 2021).

The Township of Ear Falls Strategic Plan, 2023-2026, called for updates to the Township’s Parks and Playground Plan, Recreation and Community programming, Official Plan, and Zoning By-Law, and the development of cottage lots within the municipal boundary, among other updates (Township of Ear Falls, 2024). The Township’s Parks and Playgrounds Plan, 2023-2025, forecasts improvements to the Township’s Waterfront Park, ski trails, and boat launches (Township of Ear Falls, 2023).

### 5.4.3 ONTARIO’S LIVING LEGACY LAND USE STRATEGY

Ontario’s Living Legacy Land Use Strategy (1999) governs land uses on Crown land in the LUJA. Land use policies are taken from a number of different sources and are applied to lands managed by the MNRF. The land use policy area that the Project falls within is outlined in the Crown Land Use Policy Atlas is General Use Area (G2514: Red Lake - General Use Area) with overlaps the LUJA by 433.5 km<sup>2</sup>. Pakwash Provincial Park (Natural Environment Class) has a primary land use code of P2528 and overlaps with the LUJA by 4.4 km<sup>2</sup>. Figure 5-7 presents the Crown land use. The land use codes encourage mineral exploration and development with some limitations. The LUJA is entirely within the Red Lake District, which is an area encompassing approximately 14,176.21 km<sup>2</sup>.

There is no approved District Land Use Guidelines. The land use direction is provided via provincial policies and all new activities in the region are subject to a review and evaluation. Table 5-39 identifies the permitted uses in the area (Ontario Ministry of the Environment, 2024).

**Table 5-39: Land Use Management Direction for G2514: Red Lake**

Activities	Permitted Activities
<b>Commercial Activities</b>	
Aggregate Extraction	Yes
Bait Fishing	Yes
Commercial Fishing	Yes
Commercial Fur Harvesting	Yes
Commercial Hydro Development	Yes
Commercial Power Generation Development	Yes
Commercial Timber Harvest	Yes

Activities	Permitted Activities
Commercial Tourism (Services and Facilities), New	Yes
Mineral Exploration and Development	Yes
Peat Extraction	Yes
Wild Rice Harvesting	Yes
<b>Land and Resource Management Activities</b>	
Crown Land Disposition	No - for private individuals; Maybe - for commercial use under the authority of a land use permit or lease, provided they are consistent with park policy and wilderness objectives
Crown Land Disposition, Agriculture	No
Crown Land Disposition, Cottaging	Yes
Crown Land Disposition, Rural Residential	No
Crown Land Disposition, Urban Development	No
Road Development and Maintenance, Existing	Yes
Road Development and Maintenance, New	Yes
<b>Recreation Activities and Facilities</b>	
Crown Land Recreation	Yes
Hunting	Yes
Road Use (public), Existing	Yes
Road Use (public), New	Yes
Sport Fishing	Yes

Source: (Ministry of Natural Resources, 2018); 1 (Ontario Parks, 2007).

Within G2514, the primary uses include mining, forestry, cottaging, tourism, Crown land recreation, fishing, hunting, and fur harvesting. The major communities within the region include Red Lake, Balmertown, Cochenour and Ear Falls and the prevalent industries are mining, forestry and resource-based tourism. The tourism industry is serviced by lodges accessed via road, as well as remote outpost camps. The Ministry of Natural Resources is responsible to manage Ontario's natural resources, and this includes lakes designated for tourism purposes. Ontario's communities live in the watersheds of the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River system that provides support to the manufacturing, power generation and agricultural industries of the area (The Government of Ontario, 2024). The Great Lakes Protection Act delegates authority to the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks in consultation with other Great Lakes authorities to set targets for the conservation of these areas. Ontario takes the protection and conservation of the Great Lakes seriously. The implementation of this activity is completed *via* the use of the Ontario's Great Lakes Strategy that was introduced in 2012 (Government of Ontario, 2024).

The Great Lakes Strategy identified the following key areas:

- Engaging and empowering communities;
- Protecting water for human and ecological health;
- Improving wetlands, beaches and coastal areas;
- Protecting habitats and species;
- Enhancing understanding and adaptation; and
- Ensuring environmentally sustainable economic opportunities and innovation.

The Great Lakes in Ontario falls within the jurisdiction of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and the Government of Ontario developed a strategy to manage the lakes in association with other government parties. The following lakes have been designated by the Ministry as tourism lakes:

- Aerofoil Lake
- Allison Lake
- Bear Paw Lake
- Bertha Lake
- Betty Lake
- Birch Lake
- Bluffy Lake
- Bug Lake
- Coli Lake
- Confederation Lake
- Confusion Lake
- Cook Lake
- Copilot Lake
- Cristene Lake
- Deaddog Lake
- Detour Lake
- Grace Lake
- Gullrock Lake
- Hailstone Lake
- Jeanette Lake
- Joyce Lake
- Jubilee Lake
- Keg Lake
- Latrielle Lake
- Little Shabumeni Lake
- Little Vermillion Lake
- Longlegged Lake
- Margaret Lake
- Medicine Stone Lake
- Nungessor Lake
- Okanse Lake
- Papaonga Lake
- Parker Lake
- Perrigo Lake
- Pilot Lake
- Pineneedle Lake
- Red Lake
- Ruddy Lake
- Seagrave Lake
- Sesikinaga Lake
- Shabu Lake
- Shabumeni Lake
- Slate Lake
- Springpole Lake
- Stone Lake
- Swain Lake
- Two Island Lake
- Uchi Lake
- Una Lake
- Underbrush Lake
- Upper Medicine Stone Lake
- Wakeman Lake\
- Wenasaga Lake
- Woman Lake
- Women River Lake.

None of these lakes are subject to the *Canadian Navigable Waters Act* (Senate Canada, 1985). Some of these lakes are designated for Lake Trout management.

The lakes that are found in the LUIA are listed here:

- Bruce Lake
- Dixie Lake
- East Lake
- Genesse Lake
- Gullrock Lake
- Hiewall Lake
- Pakwash Lake
- Rice Lake
- Snail Lake
- Stone Lake.
- Tear Drop Lake
- Tote Road Lake
- Two Island Lake

The tributaries that are listed in the LUIA are:

- Bug River
- Caribou Creek
- Chukuni River
- Dixie Creek.

None of these tributaries are subject to the *Canadian Navigable Waters Act* (Senate Canada, 1985).

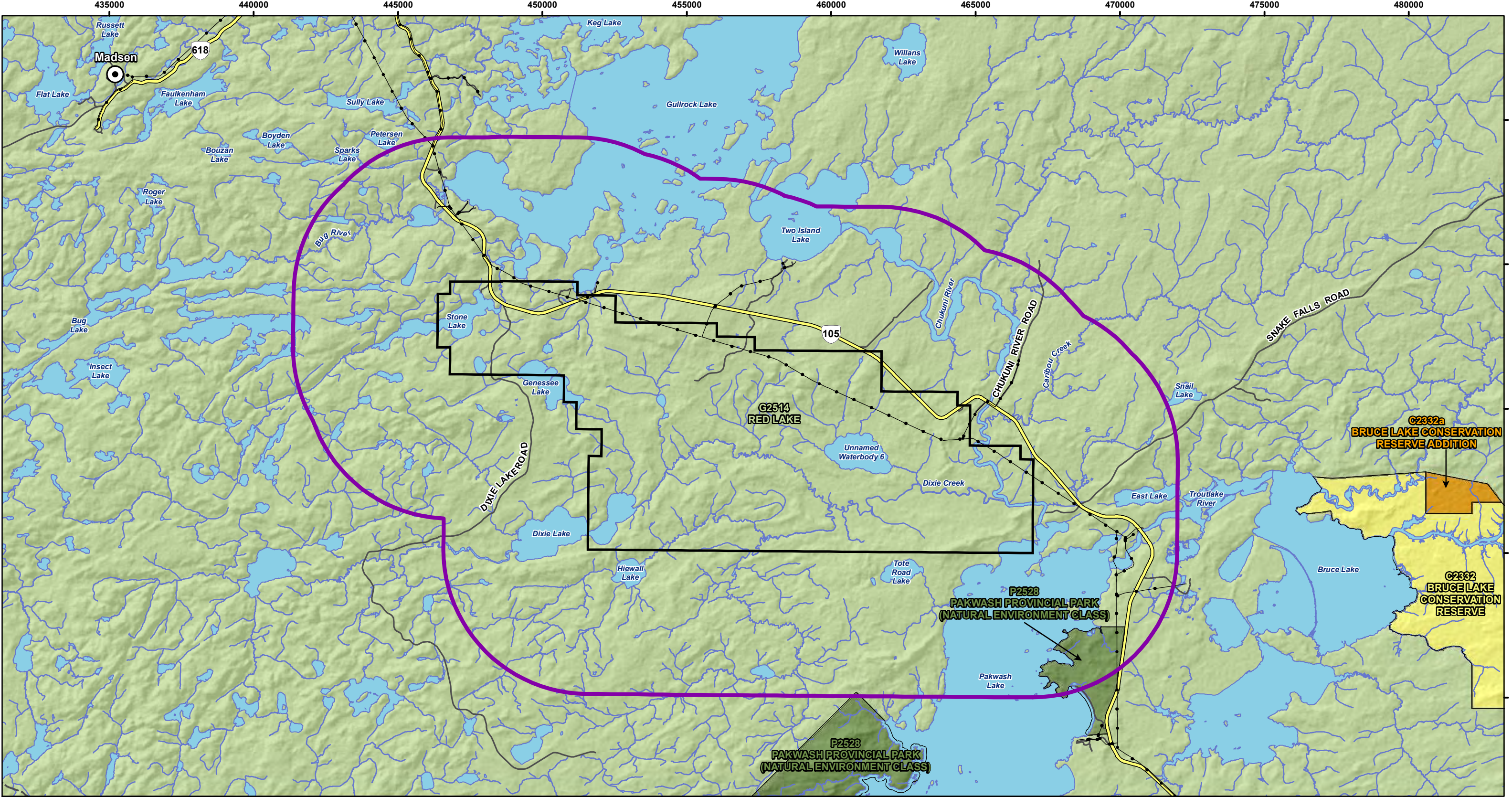
Furthermore, G2514 is located adjacent to the Woodland Caribou Signature Site which is 544,160 hectares in size and is comprised of Woodland Caribou Provincial Park, four recommended wilderness park extensions, a conservation reserve, a management reserve and forest reserve. The Woodland Caribou Signature Site is located approximately 72 km east of the Project Site and 90 km west of the City of Kenora (Ontario Parks, 2007). Woodland Caribou Provincial Park is known for its natural and recreational importance and ability to contribute to future recreation and tourism. The Woodland Caribou Park - Johnson Lake Access is approximately 37 km from the Project. This area is also subject to the Range Management Policy in Support of Woodland Caribou Conservation and Recovery (2014) (Ministry of Natural Resources, 2018).

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#### **5.4.4 LAND OWNERSHIP AND TENURE**

Figure 5-8 illustrates the land use designation. The Municipality of Red Lake intersects the northwestern part of the LUIA. The Township of Ear Lake may also intersect with the LUIA.

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- LEGEND**
- Land Use Investigation Area
  - Property Boundary
  - Town
  - Highway
  - Local Road
  - Resource / Recreation Road
  - Power Line
  - Watercourse
  - Waterbody

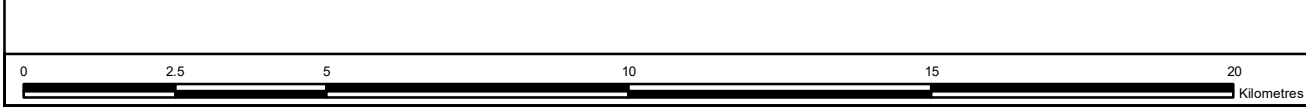
- Crown Land Use Policy Atlas (Labelled with ID and Name)**
- General Use Area
  - Provincial Park
  - Conservation Reserve
  - Recommended Conservation Reserve

**NOTES:**  
 - Base data acquired from Land Information Ontario (MNR), 2022.  
 - Property boundary provided by Kinross, March 2023.

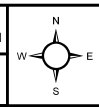


**GREAT BEAR PROJECT**

Ontario Crown Land Use Policy Atlas



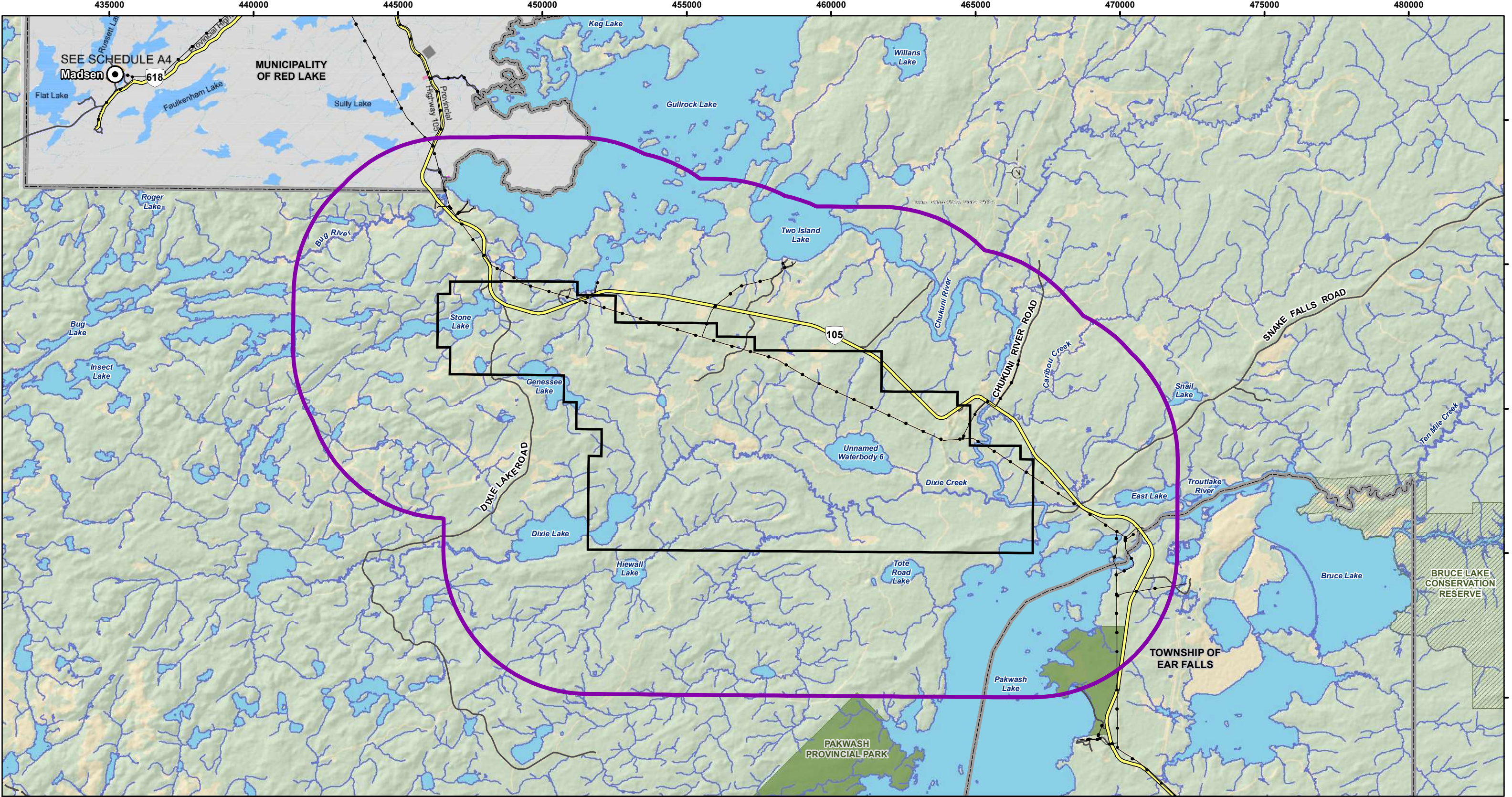
Datum: NAD83  
 Projection: UTM Zone 15N



PROJECT N°: OMEMA2303 **FIGURE: 5-7**

SCALE: 1:125,000 **DATE: April 2024**

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**LEGEND**

- Land Use Investigation Area
- Property Boundary
- Town
- Conservation Reserve
- Provincial Park
- Highway
- Local Road
- Resource / Recreation Road
- Power Line
- Lower Tier Municipal Boundary
- Watercourse
- Waterbody

**Municipality of Red Lake Land Use Designations**

- Natural Resources
- Crown Overlay
- Waste Disposal Area
- Rural Residential
- Rural Commercial
- Highway Commercial

**NOTES:**

- Base data acquired from Land Information Ontario (MNRFP), 2022.
- Property boundary provided by Kinross, March 2023.
- Municipality of Red Lake land use designations acquired from "Municipality of Red Lake Official Plan," October 22, 2015.
- Schedule A4 can view in the "Municipality of Red Lake Official Plan," October 22, 2015.

Datum: NAD83  
Projection: UTM Zone 15N

**KINROSS**

**GREAT BEAR PROJECT**

**Land Use Designations**

PROJECT N°: OMEMA2303 **FIGURE: 5-8**

SCALE: 1:125,000 **DATE: April 2024**

**WSP**

#### 5.4.4.1 WATER SOURCE PROTECTION

The LUIA is not located within a Source Protection Area, as per the *Clean Water Act* and the Ontario Drinking Water Protection Framework (Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks, 2021).

#### 5.4.4.2 AGGREGATE RESOURCES

Aggregate resources, such as sand, gravel, clay and bedrock are required for construction of infrastructure. The *Aggregate Resources Act*, administers permits for operation and extraction in designated areas (MNRF, 2022a). Private companies, municipalities, and provincial agencies can apply for licenses for extraction activities within designated areas per Ontario Regulation 244/97.

The license requirements differ based on amount extracted and whether the pit or quarry is located on private or Crown land. The requirements on private land include the following:

- Class A licenses: Extraction of more than 20,000 tonnes of aggregate annually.
- Class B licenses: removal of 20,000 tonnes or less of aggregate annually.

There is also another option to obtain wayside permits, however this is only limited to provincial agencies and municipalities (MNRF, 2022a).

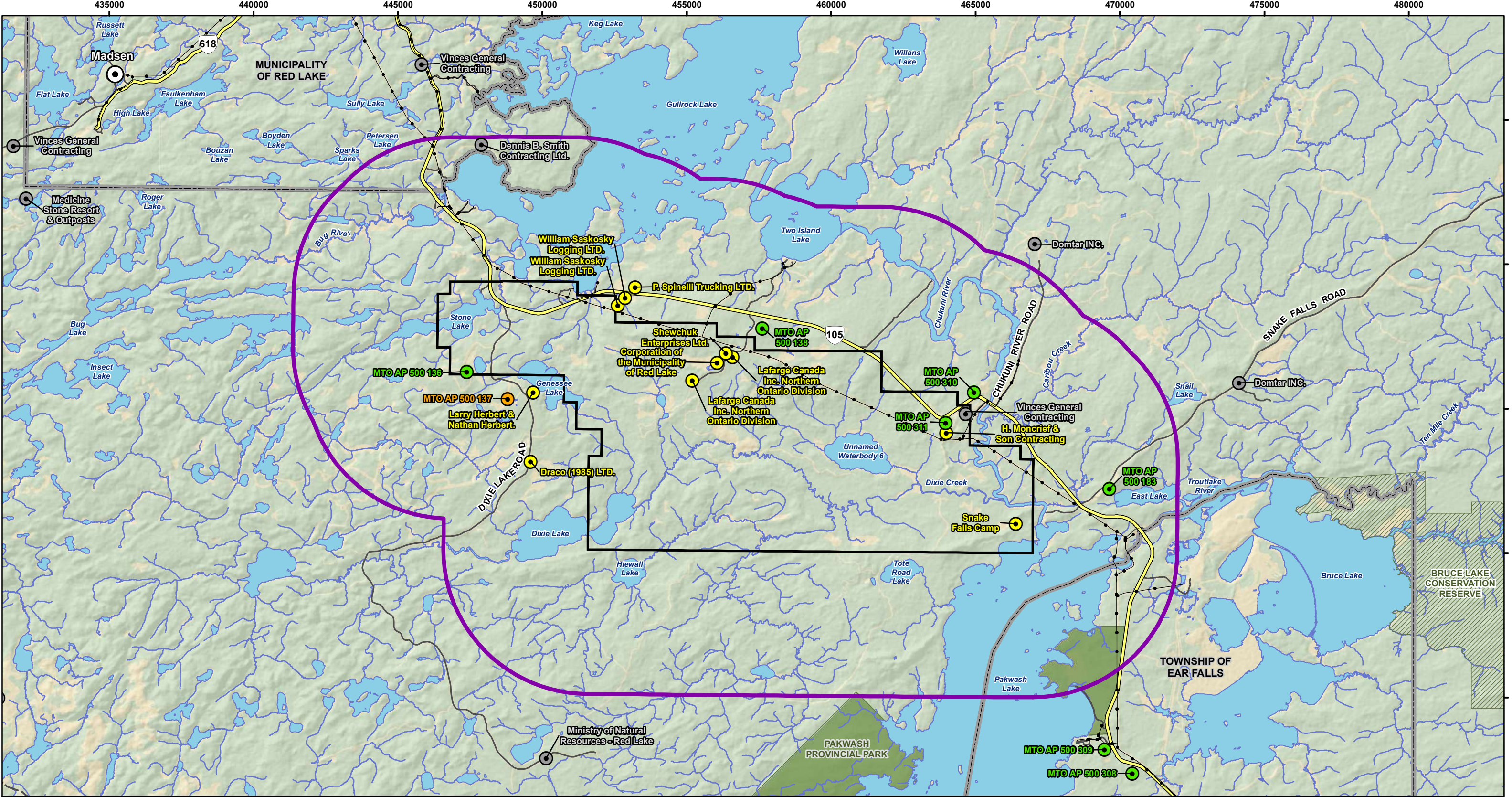
The Ontario Aggregate Resources Corporation, founded in 1997 acts as a trustee to the Aggregate Resources Trust and assists MNRF in managing the aggregate industry (Ontario Aggregate Resources Corporation, 2022). There are currently several authorized aggregate sites within the LUIA and they are displayed in Figure 5-9 (Land Information Ontario, 2021).

Figure 5-9 presents the locations of active and surrendered aggregate operations within and around the LUIA. Table 5-40 describes the distance from the Project to the 13 aggregate sites in the LUIA.

**Table 5-40: Distance from Project Site to Aggregate Operations in LUIA**

Aggregate Operations in LUIA	Type	Distance from Project Site (km)
Vinces General Contracting	Surrendered	7.7
Dennis B. Smith Contracting Ltd.	Surrendered	13.5
P. Spinelli Trucking Ltd.	Active	6.3
Lafarge Canada Inc. Northern Ontario Division	Active	2.7
Corporation Of The Municipality Of Red Lake	Active	2.6
Draco (1985) Ltd.	Active	7.5
H. Moncrief and Son Contracting	Active	7.0
Lafarge Canada Inc. Northern Ontario Division	Active	2.6
Shewchuk Enterprises Ltd.	Active	2.8
Larry Herbert and Nathan Herbert.	Active	7.5
Snake Falls Camp	Active	9.9
William Saskosky Logging Ltd.	Active	6.2
William Saskosky Logging Ltd.	Active	6.3
MTO AP 500 136	MTO Pit	9.9
MTO AP 500 137	MTO Pit / Quarry	8.3
MTO AP 500 311	MTO Pit	7.0
MTO AP 500 183	MTO Pit	12.8
MTO AP 500 310	MTO Pit	8.1
MTO AP 500 138	MTO Pit	3.7

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**LEGEND**

- Land Use Investigation Area
- Property Boundary
- Town
- Conservation Reserve
- Provincial Park
- Highway
- Local Road
- Resource / Recreation Road
- Power Line
- Lower Tier Municipal Boundary
- Watercourse
- Waterbody

**Aggregate Operations**

- Active Aggregate Pit
- MTO Aggregate Pit
- MTO Aggregate Pit / Quarry
- Surrendered Aggregate Pit

**NOTES:**

- Base data acquired from Land Information Ontario (MNR), 2022.
- Property boundary provided by Kinross, March 2023.

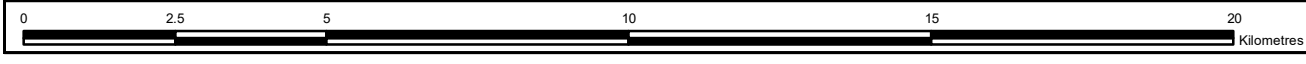
**GREAT BEAR PROJECT**

**Aggregate Operations**

Datum: NAD83  
Projection: UTM Zone 15N

PROJECT N°: OMEMA2303 **FIGURE: 5-9**

SCALE: 1:125,000 **DATE: April 2024**



### 5.4.4.3 AGRICULTURE

There are no agricultural land uses within the LUIA.

### 5.4.4.4 FORESTRY

Most managed forests in Ontario are on Crown land and their long-term health is the responsibility of MNRF in accordance with the *Crown Forest Sustainability Act* (1994). However, this obligation is shared with forest product companies and communities through forest management planning (MNRF, 2021d). The MNRF forest management divides the forests across Ontario into Forest Management Units (FMU). The FMU are managed by individual forest companies under a five-year renewable Sustainable Forest License (SFL) (MNRF, 2021g). The Project falls within the Red Lake Forest Management Unit and is subject to the Red Lake Forestry Management Plan, as per the Crown Forest Sustainability Act (MNRF, 2021e).

The LUIA falls within the Red Lake Forest, FMU 840 and the Trout Lake FMU 120 which are located in northwestern Ontario boreal forest (MNRF, 2019b). These FMU are administered through Red Lake District Office. The work office of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) is located in Red Lake. The total managed Crown productive forest land area for Red Lake FMU is 249,492 hectares and is managed under a SFL#542548 while Trout Lake FMU 120 has 928,265 ha of Crown productive forest and the SFL#542461 (MNRF, 2019a). The managing agent for FMU 840 is Red Lake Forest Management Company Ltd. who entered into a ten-year contract (2020-2030) with MNRF. The Red Lake Forest Management Company Ltd is responsible for all renewal and maintenance activities to maintain a sustainable forest (Red Lake Forest Management Company Ltd., 2020). FMU 120 is managed by Domtar Forestlands (Domtar, 2022) who entered into a ten-year contract (2021-2031) with MNRF.

The Red Lake Forest, FMU 840 and Trout Lake FMU 120 are presented in Figure 5-10. Table 5-41 describes the total area of the FMU.

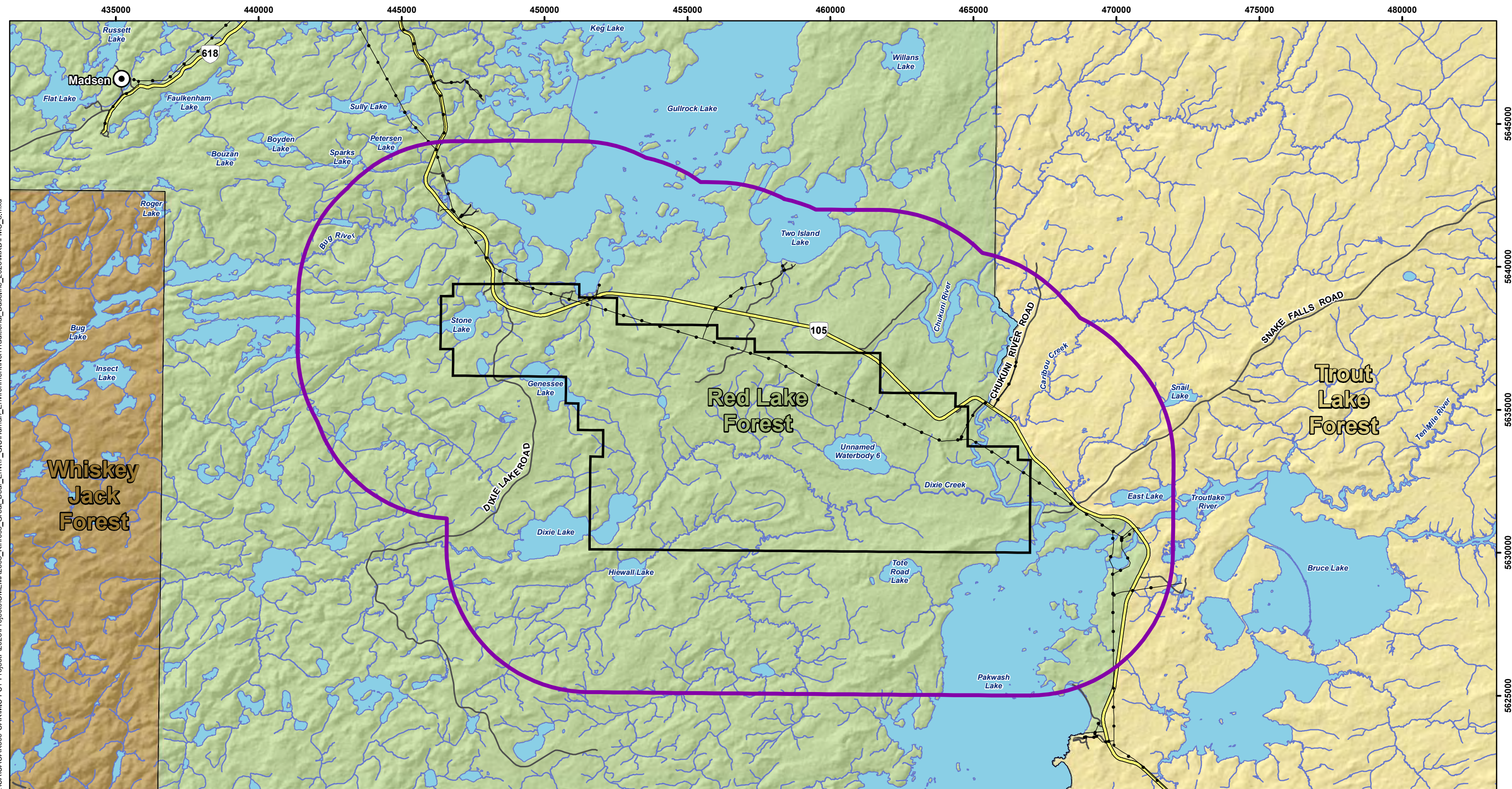
**Table 5-41: Forest Management Unit Area and Overlap with LUIA**

Forest Management Unit	FMU Total Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Overlap w/ LUIA (km <sup>2</sup> )
Trout Lake Forest	10,320.2	40.3
Red Lake Forest	31,55.3	429.1

Seven First Nations are located in FMU 840 and FMU 120, Beren's River First Nation, McDowell Lake First Nation, Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek (Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek), Wabauskang First Nation, Slate Falls First Nation, Lac Seul First Nation, and Cat Lake First Nation.

### 5.4.4.5 ENERGY

Electricity demand in the south-west of Ontario reached a level of critical demand. Hydro One is planning to grow the supply of energy with the projected development of two new single-circuit 500 kilovolt (kV) transmission lines from Longwood Transformer Station (TS) located in the Municipality of Strathroy-Caradoc to Lakeshore TS in the Municipality of Lakeshore (Energizing life for communities, hydroone.com, 2024). Table 5-38 provides a summary of existing energy infrastructure located in the area and Figure 8-11 provides a map overview of transmission lines in the project vicinity.

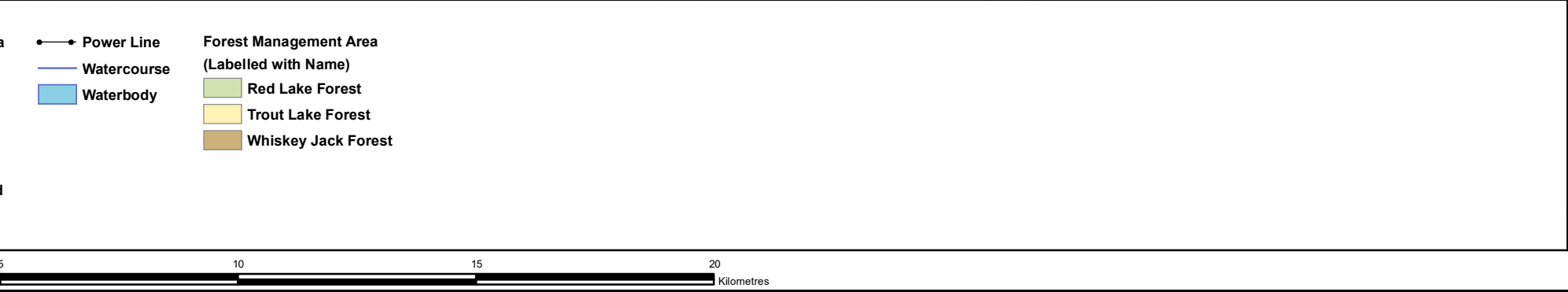


**LEGEND**

- Land Use Investigation Area
- Property Boundary
- Town
- Highway
- Local Road
- Resource / Recreation Road
- Power Line
- Watercourse
- Waterbody

**Forest Management Area (Labelled with Name)**

- Red Lake Forest
- Trout Lake Forest
- Whiskey Jack Forest



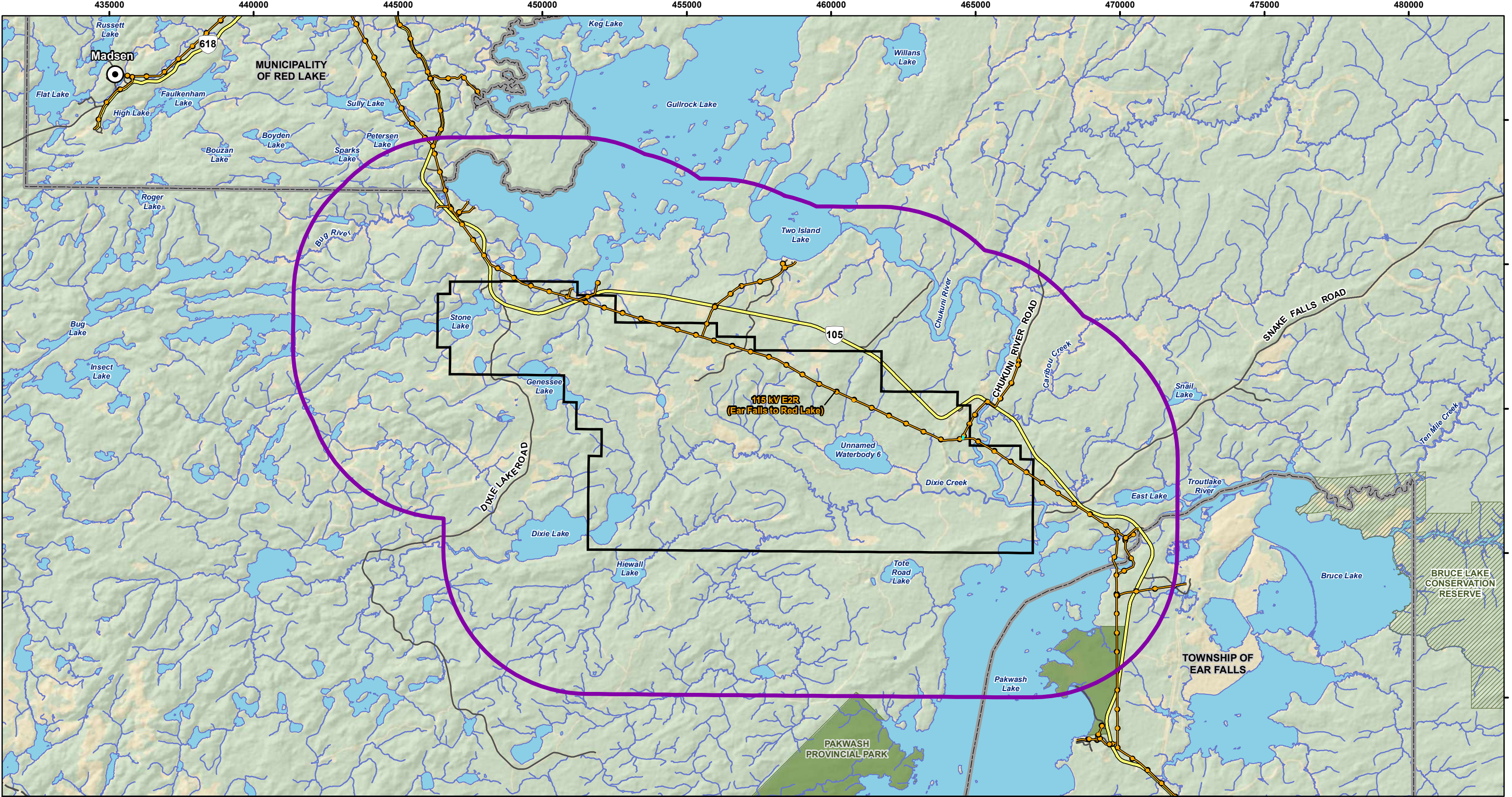
**NOTES:**  
 - Base data acquired from Land Information Ontario (MNR), 2022.  
 - Property boundary provided by Kinross, March 2023.

Datum: NAD83  
 Projection: UTM Zone 15N

GREAT BEAR PROJECT				
Forest Management Area				
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">PROJECT N°: OMEMA2303</td> <td style="width: 50%;">FIGURE: 5-10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>SCALE: 1:125,000</td> <td>DATE: April 2024</td> </tr> </table>	PROJECT N°: OMEMA2303	FIGURE: 5-10	SCALE: 1:125,000	DATE: April 2024
PROJECT N°: OMEMA2303	FIGURE: 5-10			
SCALE: 1:125,000	DATE: April 2024			

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**LEGEND**

- Land Use Investigation Area
- Property Boundary
- Lower Tier Municipal Boundary
- Watercourse
- Waterbody
- Town
- Conservation Reserve
- Provincial Park
- Highway
- Local Road
- Resource / Recreation Road
- Transmission Line

**NOTES:**  
 - Base data acquired from Land Information Ontario (MNR), 2022.  
 - Property boundary provided by Kinross, March 2023.

**KINROSS**

**GREAT BEAR PROJECT**

**Transmission Line Connections**



Datum: NAD83  
 Projection: UTM Zone 15N



PROJECT N°: OMEMA2303 **FIGURE: 5-11**

SCALE: 1:125,000 DATE: April 2024

#### 5.4.4.6 MINING

In Ontario, the *Mining Act* governs mineral prospecting and exploration, mine development and mine closure and rehabilitation. The Act encourages minimizing effects on human health and environment, while recognizing and affirming Indigenous and treaty rights protected under Section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982* (Ministry of Mines, 2021). The *Aggregate Resources and Mining Modernization Act, 2017, S.O. 2017, c. 6 - Bill 39*, was implemented in 2017 and allows for an online registration system of mining claims and a Mining Lands Administration System.

Crown land belongs to the Province of Ontario (McGuire and Pak, 2005). A mining claim is an area of land that is owned by a person or company for mining exploration (Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, 2004). Surface rights are rights that are not mining related land rights, but can be obtained by leasing, owning or granted (McGuire and Pak, 2005). A mining patent gives the licensee all the mines and mineral rights that the Crown would have held with its title (Blake, Cassels & Graydon LLP, 2012).

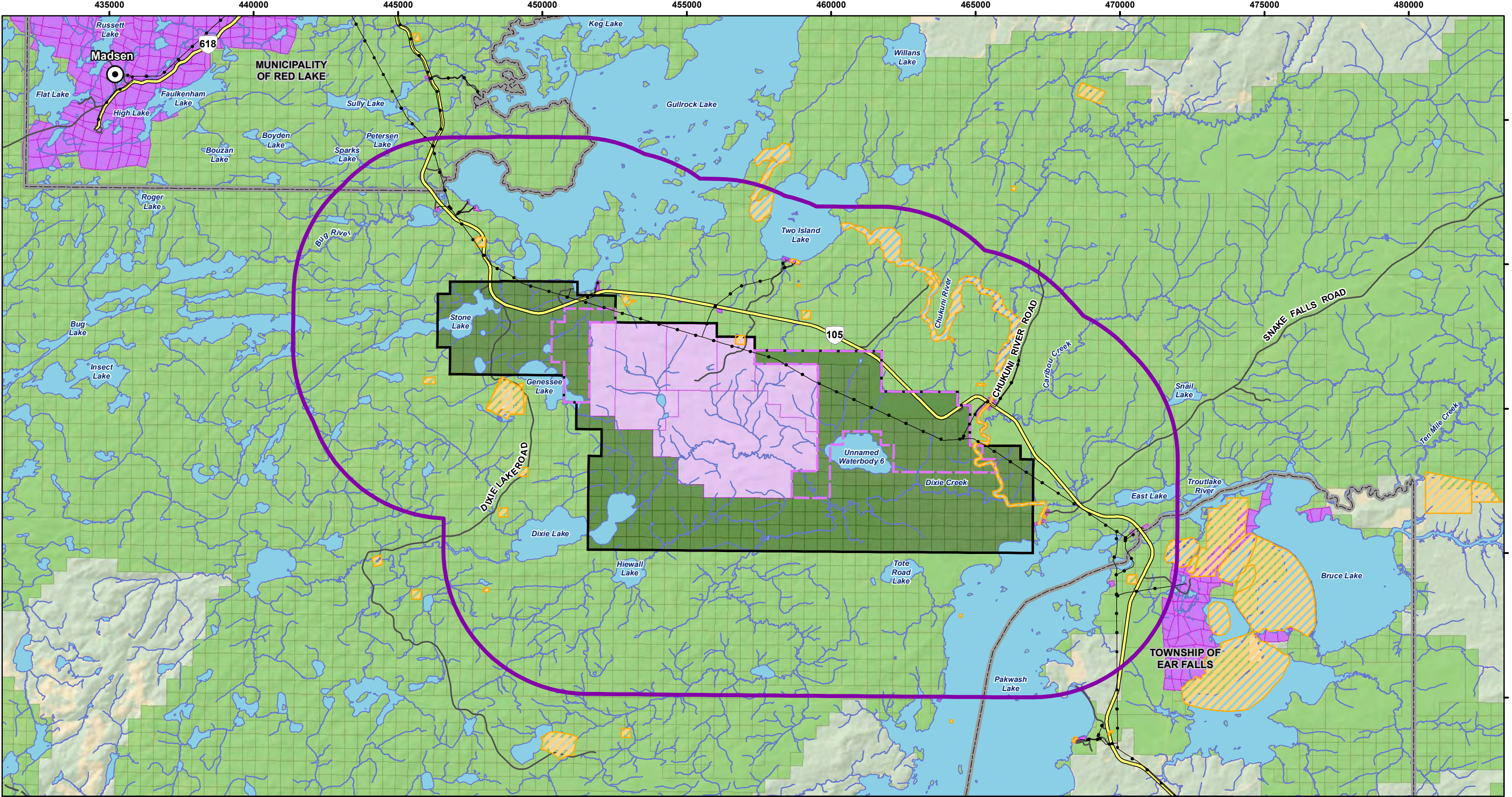
A boundary claim is the part or parts of a legacy claim or claims that is and are located within a cell on the Provincial Grid which is a digital representation of the land for the Province of Ontario) and is and are converted to a boundary claim. Boundary claims are a result of conversion and cannot be registered in the electronic Mining Lands Administrative System, only cell claims can be registered. A cell claim is a mining claim for a whole cell or representative area in the provincial mining grid. A multi-cell claim is made up of up to 25 abutting cell claims for the mining lands holder/s (Ministry of Northern Development and Mines, 2022).

There are 12 Boundary Cell Mining Claims held by BTU Metals Corp. There are 12 multi-cell mining claims, and 2,144 single cell mining claims in the LUJA held by various companies. There are 31 mining and surface right patents in the LUJA and 19 surface rights only patents in the LUJA. The Summer Resort Loc. owns 19 mining and surface rights patents. The Active Tenure holders within the LUJA include the following:

- BTU Metals Corp.
- Great Bear Resources Ltd.
- Pacton Gold Inc.
- EMX Properties (Canada) Inc.
- Goldon Resources Ltd.
- D2 Gold Inc.
- Dixie Gold Inc.
- EMX Properties (Canada) Inc.
- LP Gold Corp.
- Red Lake Gold Inc.

Figure 5-12 illustrates the mining claims for the Project, while Table 5-42 identifies the mines or mining developments near or in the RIA. Figure 1-2 in the report gives an overview of existing and potential mining sites in the area. The figure also provides an insight into the location of the First Nations in relation to the mining sites identified.

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**LEGEND**

- Land Use Investigation Area
- Property Boundary
- Town
- Highway
- Local Road
- Resource / Recreation Road
- Power Line
- Lower Tier Municipal Boundary
- Watercourse
- Waterbody

**Great Bear Resources Land Tenure**

- Great Bear Resources Active Lease
- Great Bear Resources Active Claims
- Great Bear Resources Requested Lease Area

**Crown Land Tenure**

- Disposition Area of Crown Land (Active Patent, Lease or License of Occupation)
- Active Claim Area of Crown Land (Active Staked Land)
- Alienation Area of Crown Land (Active Withdrawals and Notifications)

**NOTES:**

- Base data acquired from Land Information Ontario (MNR), 2022.
- Land tenure extracted from MLAS (MNR), May 2022.
- Property boundaries and GBR land tenure provided by Kinross, February 2024.

Datum: NAD83  
Projection: UTM Zone 15N

**KINROSS**

**GREAT BEAR PROJECT**

**Land Tenure**

PROJECT N°: OMEMA2303 **FIGURE: 5-12**

SCALE: 1:125,000 **DATE: April 2024**



**Table 5-42: Mines in RIA**

Mine, Owner	Description	Distance from Project Site (Property Boundary Centroid) (km)	Status of Development
Red Lake Mine, Evolution	Located in Northwestern Ontario, on traditional lands of Wabauskang and Lac Seul First Nations, the Red Lake mine is an underground mine operation consisting of three different historical gold mine complexes including Red Lake, Campbell and Cochenour and two processing facilities (Evolution Mining, 2022a). The Bateman Gold Project and the Battle North Gold sites were acquired last year (Evolution Mining, 2022b). The Red Lake mine is in its production stage and has a mine life of 18 years which is anticipated to be extended (Evolution Mining, 2022a).	23.3	Operational  Future development planned
Madsen Gold Mine, West Red Lake Gold Mines Ltd.	Located in the Red Lake District of Northwestern Ontario, the Madsen Gold Project is an underground mine operation proposed to run for 12 years in production (JDS Energy and Mining Inc., n.d. - a). The first gold produced was anticipated in 2020 (JDS Energy and Mining Inc., n.d. - b).	25.1	Operational
Musselwhite Mine, Newmont Corporation	The Musselwhite Gold mine is located in Northwestern Ontario at Opapamiskan Lake and is a fly-in, fly-out operation. Ore is processed onsite and gold recoveries are noted to be 96% (Thunder Bay Community Economic Development Commission, 2018).	296.7	Operational

Figure 5-12 shows the land tenure related to active mining claims, disposition land, and alienation land. The Municipality of Red Lake and the Township of Ear Falls have portions of disposition of land and occupation in purple. There are active withdrawals throughout the area with some concentration in Ear Falls and along the Chukuni River. Tenure number PAT-8606 gives mining rights only to the Patent holder, Great Bear Resources Inc.

#### 5.4.5 OUTDOOR RECREATION AND TOURISM

Various lakes have been identified and play a key role in the promotion of tourism in the area. In addition, there are fly-in cabins and outfitter lodges that provide recreational fishing opportunities and boats are rented at such facilities. There are two portages on the Chukuni River in the LUIA by the Chukuni Access Point going north.

Recreational and snowmobile trails have been identified by Ear Falls and Red Lake. Ear Falls and Red Lake have trails used for walking, hiking, ATVing and snowshoeing and are presented in Table 5-43 (Township of Ear Falls, 2022m).

**Table 5-43: Recreation Trails in Red Lake and Ear Falls**

Name of Trail	Location	Distance	Activities
Cross Country Ski Trails <sup>1</sup>	Ear Falls	6 km	Hiking, walking, cross country skiing
Griffith Mine Interpretive Trails <sup>2</sup>	Ear Falls	20 km	Hiking, walking, cycling-off road, snowshoeing and backcountry
Pakwash Provincial Park Nature Trail <sup>3</sup>	Ear Falls	5.1 km	Hiking, walking, canoeing, kayaking, backpacking and camping
Red Lake Golf and Country Club <sup>4</sup>	Red Lake	4 km	Hiking, walking, cross country skiing
Centennial Park <sup>5</sup>	Red Lake	1 km	Hiking, walking, cross country skiing
McKenzie Island <sup>6</sup>	Red Lake	>25 km	Hiking, walking, cross country skiing
Red Lake Millennium Trail <sup>7</sup>	Red Lake	3.4 km	Hiking, walking, snowshoeing, backcountry and ATV access
Woodland Caribou Provincial Park Water Routes <sup>8</sup>	Kenora/ Rainy River	1600 km	Canoeing, kayaking, backpacking and camping

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> (Township of Ear Falls, 2022m).

<sup>2</sup> (Ontario Trails, 2022a).

<sup>3</sup> (Ontario Trails, 2022b).

<sup>4</sup> (Ontario Trails, 2022b).

<sup>5</sup> (Red Lake District Cross Country Ski Club, 2019a).

<sup>6</sup> (Red Lake District Cross Country Ski Club, 2019b).

<sup>7</sup> (Ontario Trails, 2022c); <sup>8</sup> (Ontario Trails, 2022d).

Figure 5-13 illustrates the location of trapper cabins and trapline areas. There are four trapper cabins in the LUIA listed in Table 5-44.

**Table 5-44: Trapline Areas in LUIA, Including Total Area and Area of Overlap with the LUIA**

Trapline Areas	Trapline Total Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Overlap w/ LUIA (km <sup>2</sup> )
RL061	215.3	72.4
RL073	360.8	4.6
RL068	789.2	295.5
RL059	650.8	96.9

No outfitters, lodges or wilderness resorts are found in the LUIA, however, many outpost cabins are available for rent by anglers and hunters. Table 5-45 lists lodges and wilderness resorts in the RIA and presented in Figure 5-14.

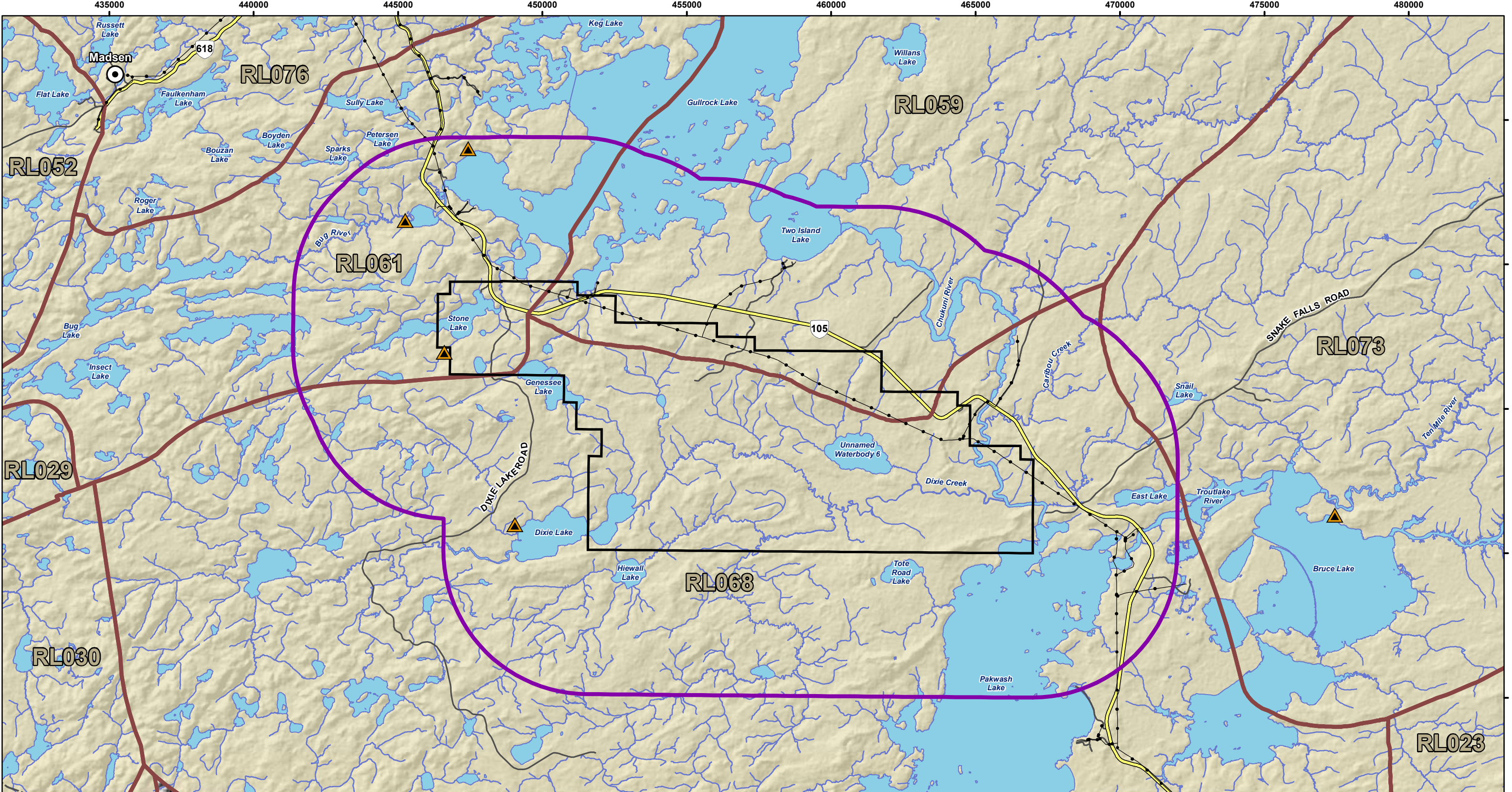
**Table 5-45: Campgrounds, Lodges, Resorts and other Wilderness Establishments**

Establishment	Description	Capacity
1561250 Ontario Inc.	No information available online,	N/A
Bluffy Lake Lodge (Bluffy Lake Lodge, 2022)	Located outside of Ear Falls on Bluffy Lake.	28 people, five rental cabins
Chukuni River Campground (Chukuni Campground and Greenhouses 2022b)	Located in Red Lake, there are facilities for campers, trailers as well as tenting. Fish cleaning services, shower and laundry houses and a greenhouse on site. Docks and bunkies are also available for rent.	N/A
Deschamp Resort	No information available online.	N/A
Five Lakes Lodge, Inc. (Five Lakes Lodge, n.d.)	There are nine cabins in this complex. A fishing house, a bait house, a water trampoline, and kayaking are featured.	9 cabins
Franklin's On Stone Lake (Mullen, 2012)	Guided fishing available. No more information available online.	N/A

Establishment	Description	Capacity
Gawley's Little Beaver Lodge (Gawley's Little Beaver Lodge, 2022)	Located 8 km south of Ear Falls.	3 cottages
Golden Hook Camps (Golden Hook Camp, 2022)	10 cabins and a campground available.	10 cabins
Gullrock Lake Lodge (Gullrock Lake Lodge, 2023)	Offers cabins, RV and camp sites, and fishing boats.	N/A
Jette's Adventures	No information available online.	N/A
Kabeelo Lodge (Kabeelo Lodge, 2022)	Seven guest cabins located at main base on Confederation Lake in Northwestern Ontario with 13 outposts.	7 cabins and 13 outposts
Lac Seul Evergreen Lodge (Lac Seul Evergreen Lodge, 2022)	Hunting and fishing lodge located in Ear Falls with eight cabin rentals.	8 cabin rentals
Lac Seul Whitewing Lodge (Lac Seul Whitewing Lodge, 2022)	Located in Ear Falls, with a lodge.	7 cabins and houseboat rentals
Lac Seul Wilderness Resort (Lac Seul Wilderness Resort, 2022)	Fishing resort found in Ear Falls with four cabins, fifth wheel camper and boat rentals.	4 cabins
Lac Seul's Scout Lake Resort (Lac Seul's Scout Lake Resort, 2022)	This camp has 10 cabins and is close to Perrault Falls.	10 cabins
Little Canada Camp (Little Canada Camp, 2021)	Located 2 km south of Ear Falls on English River, with five cabins each accommodating five to six adults.	5 cabins
Pakuni Lodge (Pakuni Lodge, 2022)	Four cabins in Ear Falls with ATV access and boating options.	4 cabins
Pakwash Lake Camp (Pakwash Lake Camp, 2022)	Ear Falls Camp with eight rental cabins, RV hookups and Fish House, boat ramp and docks. The facilities available maybe restricted during certain times of the year because of the weather. Some areas may also be ecologically dependent. The Pakwash Lake Camp provides access to swimming, fishing and canoeing activities (ontarioparks.ca).	8 cabins
Pickerel Creek Camp (Pickerel Creek Camp, 2022)	Located in Perrault Falls, with six cabins and an outpost.	6 cabins
Pine Ridge Campground (Township of Ear Falls, 2022)	Situated in Ear Falls, with an RV Park and campground.	N/A
Poplar Point Resort (Poplar Point Resort, n.d.)	Offers cabins (for two to 12 people), RV and camp sites, and fishing boats	Refer to description
Procyk's Anglers Paradise Lodge (Procyk's Anglers Paradise Lodge, 2022)	Modern and semi-modern cabins available with tent, trailer and park.	N/A
Skyline Lodge (Skyline Lodge, 2022)	The only lodge on the north shore of Florence Lake in Perrault Falls. Composed of seven cottages.	7 cottages
Snake Falls Camp (Snake Falls Camp, 2015)	There are nine cabins, a Lodge and store, and fishing boat rentals at this facility near Red Lake.	9 cabins

<b>Establishment</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Capacity</b>
Snoeshoe Dam Campground	No information available online.	N/A
Stormer Lake Lodge (Stormer Lake Lodge, 2021)	A fishing and hunting resort located on Stormer and Kirkness Lakes, one hour north of Red Lake.	N/A
Sunset Lodge (Sunset Lodge on Red Lake, 2016)	There are six cabins, four RVs or camp sites with full hook-up, water, sewer and electrical. There is a separate shower house and fish cleaning house available.	6 cabins
Sydney Lake Lodge (Tripadvisor, 2022a)	Fly in lodge with eight pine cottages, sauna and game room with kitchens located in Woodland Caribou Wilderness Park.	8 pine cottages
Timberlane Lodge (Timberlane Lodge, 2022)	In the Ear Falls area, the establishment has nine cabins with single beds.	9 cabins
Viking Island (Tripadvisor, 2022b)	Viking Island is a small fly-in fishing lodge on an island in Woodland Caribou Park.	N/A
Wabaskang Camp (Wabaskang Camp, 2022)	Located in Perrault Falls on Wabaskang Lake.	N/A
Wenasaga Lodge (Wenasaga Lodge, 2022)	Located in Ear Falls, the establishment has nine cabins, a lodge and outposts for hunting and fishing.	9 cabins
Wright's Wilderness Camp (Wright's Camp, 2022)	This camp consists of 12 housekeeping cabins, a fish cleaning house, free laundry facilities, a central drinking station with sterilized and tested water and kayaks.	12 cabins

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**LEGEND**

- Land Use Investigation Area
- Property Boundary
- Town
- Highway
- Local Road
- Resource / Recreation Road
- Power Line
- Watercourse
- Waterbody
- ▲ Trapper Cabin
- Trapline Areas (Labelled with ID)

**NOTES:**

- Base data acquired from Land Information Ontario (MNR), 2022.
- Trapline areas provided by Kinross.
- Trapper cabins digitized from Forest Management Plans.
- Property boundary provided by Kinross, March 2023.



**GREAT BEAR PROJECT**

**Trapline Areas and Trapper Cabins**

Datum: NAD83  
Projection: UTM Zone 15N

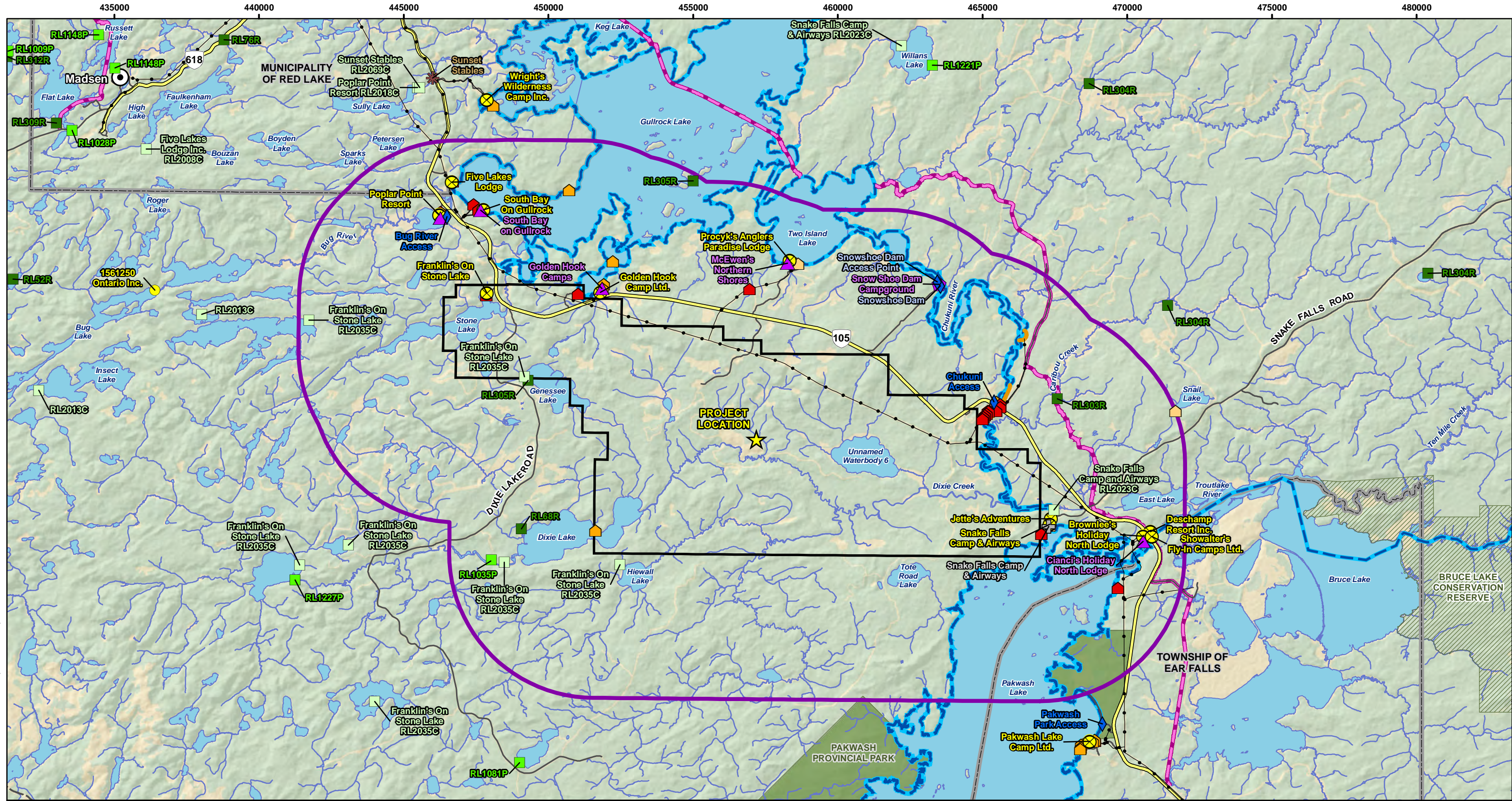


PROJECT N°: OMEMA2303 **FIGURE: 5-13**

SCALE: 1:125,000 **DATE: April 2024**



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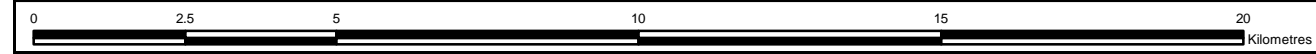
**LEGEND**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Project Location</li> <li> Land Use Investigation Area</li> <li> Property Boundary</li> <li> Town</li> <li> Conservation Reserve</li> <li> Provincial Park</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Highway</li> <li> Local Road</li> <li> Resource / Recreation Road</li> <li> Power Line</li> <li> Lower Tier Municipal Boundary</li> <li> Watercourse</li> <li> Waterbody</li> </ul>	<p><b>Tourism Establishment Areas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Commercial Campground</li> <li> Commercial Parking Lot</li> <li> Horse Riding Stable</li> <li> Main Base Lodge</li> <li> Outpost Camp</li> </ul>	<p><b>Recreational Sites</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Access Point</li> <li> Boat Cache, Commercial</li> <li> Boat Cache, Private</li> <li> Boat Cache, Resource Harvest</li> <li> Designated Camping Site</li> </ul>	<p><b>Cottage / Residential Areas</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Cottage Site (Not Remote)</li> <li> Cottage Site (Remote)</li> <li> Residential Site (Not Remote)</li> </ul>	<p><b>Trails</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> Canoe Route</li> <li> Portage</li> <li> Snowmobile Route</li> </ul>
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**NOTES:**  
 - Base data acquired from Land Information Ontario (MNR), 2022.  
 - Property boundary provided by Kinross, March 2023.

Datum: NAD83  
 Projection: UTM Zone 15N

<p><b>GREAT BEAR PROJECT</b></p> <p>Recreational Sites, Trails, Tourist Establishment Areas and Cottage / Residential Areas</p>	
<p>PROJECT N°: OMEMA2303</p> <p>SCALE: 1:125,000</p>	<p>FIGURE: 5-14</p> <p>DATE: April 2024</p>



### 5.4.5.1 RECREATION AND COMMERCIAL FISHING

The LUJA is located in Fisheries Management Zone (FMZ) 4 and is presented in Figure 5-15. FMZ4 has a total area of 60,440.8 km<sup>2</sup>. There are 27 commercial fisheries in FMZ 4 and 19 of these licenses are active (MNR, 2022d). There is 469.4 km<sup>2</sup> overlap between FMZ 4 and the LUJA. The MNR manages anglers by issuing sport fishing (S) and conservation (C) fishing licenses and is presented in Table 5-46. Twenty FMZ have been created to make fishing regulations easier to understand (MNR, 2021c). According to Ontario Regulation 664/98, under the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997* (Government of Ontario, 2022c), a person must obtain an Outdoors Card (an identification card valid for a one- or three-year period needed for the purchase of licenses and hunting seals) to fish or hunt in Ontario and must have a validation tag for sport or conservation fishing. The locational outline of FMZ 4 includes the following areas (Government of Ontario, 2024):

- Is bordered to the west by Woodland Caribou Provincial Park and the Manitoba border;
- Its eastern edge borders Brightsand River Provincial Park and Wabikimi Provincial Park;
- Its northern border is marked by the Berens River and Cat River systems;
- Its southern border follows Highway 17 and the Canadian National Railway line; and
- Cities include Red Lake, Ear Falls, Sioux Lookout and Ignace.

More information about the FMZ 4 advisory council can be collected from use of the following toll-free number: 1-800-667-1940 (Government of Ontario, 2024).

**Table 5-46: Sport Fish Species in FMZ 4**

Common Name	Latin Name	Anishinaabemowin Name
Walleye	<i>Sander vireus</i>	Oogas
Northern Pike	<i>Esox lucius</i>	Ginoozhe(g) or ki no je
Lake Trout	<i>Salvelinus namaycush</i>	Nmego or na me goss
Yellow Perch	<i>Perca flavescens</i>	Asaawens(ag) or Saa we
Smallmouth bass	<i>Micropterus dolomieu</i>	Shi gan
Muskellunge	<i>Esox masquinongy</i>	Maashkinoozhe(g) or Maashkinoozag
Lake Whitefish	<i>Coregonus clupeaformis</i>	Adikmeg or a tik a meq
Walleye	<i>Sander vireus</i>	Oogas
Northern Pike	<i>Esox lucius</i>	Ginoozhe(g) or ki no je
Lake Trout	<i>Salvelinus namaycush</i>	Nmego or na me goss
Yellow Perch	<i>Perca flavescens</i>	Asaawens(ag) or Saa we
Smallmouth bass	<i>Micropterus dolomieu</i>	Shi gan
Muskellunge	<i>Esox masquinongy</i>	Maashkinoozhe(g) or Maashkinoozag
Lake Whitefish	<i>Coregonus clupeaformis</i>	Adikmeg or a tik a meq

Source: (Sunset County, 2019) (Pond Informer, 2022) (MNR, 2021f).

Seven First Nations are located in FMZ 4: Wabeseemoong Independent Nation, Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek (Grassy Narrows), Wabauskang First Nation, Pikangikum First Nation, Lac Seul First Nation, Saugeen First Nation and Mishkeegugamang First Nation (Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, 2022c).

Table 5-47 lists the zone-wide seasons and limits for FMZ 4 for all species. The Walleye (*Sander vireus*) or Oogas in Ojibwe (Sunset County, 2019) or Okas in Cree (Berkes and MacKenzie, 1978) are the most popular sport fish in FMZ 4 and is limited to being fished from January 1 to April 14 and the third Saturday in May to December 31 (MNR, 2022c). Walleye abundance is highest in FMZ 4 compared to the rest of Ontario. FMZ 2 is adjacent to FMZ 4 and has the second most abundance of Walleye. For a sport fishing license, a total of four fish not larger than 45 cm can be harvested per person in FMZ 4. A conservation fishing license allows two fish no larger than 46 cm in length for FMZ 4 (MNR, 2022c).

**Table 5-47: Zone-Wide Seasons and Limits**

Species	Open Season Dates	Limits <sup>2</sup>
Brook Trout <sup>1,2</sup>	January 1 to Labour Day	Sport (S) license: 5 Conservation (C) license: 2; not more than 1 greater than 30 cm
Black Crappie	Open all year	S: 15 C: 10
Lake Sturgeon	Closed all year	0
Lake Trout <sup>1,2</sup>	January 1 to September 30	S: 2; not more than 1 greater than 56 cm C: 1; no size limit
Lake Whitefish	Open all year	S: 12 C: 6
Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass, or any combination	Open all year	S: 2 and C: 1; must be less than 35 cm from January 1 to June 30 and December 1 to December 31 S: 4 and C: 2; no size limit from July 1 to November 30
Muskellunge <sup>2</sup>	Third Saturday in June to December 15	S: 1; must be greater than 102 cm C: 0
Northern Pike	Open all year	S: 4; none between 70-90 cm, not more than 1 greater than 90 cm C: 2; none between 70-90 cm, not more than 1 greater than 90 cm
Rainbow Trout <sup>1</sup>	Open all year	S: 5 C: 2
Splake <sup>1</sup>	Open all year	S: 5 C: 2
Sunfish	Open all year	S: 50 C: 25
Walleye <sup>2</sup> and Sauger, or any combination	January 1 to April 14, Third Saturday in May to December 31	S: 4; not more than one greater than 46 cm C: 2; not more than one greater than 46 cm
Yellow Perch	Open all year	S: 50 C: 25

Source: (MNRF, 2022d).

Notes:

Aggregate limits apply to these species.

<sup>1</sup> Additional Species Exceptions and Limits may apply. See source for more information.

There are some Specially Designated Waters (SDWs) that have been identified in FMZ 4 for more intensive management. The SDWs are: Red Lake/Gullrock Lake, Lac Seul, Big Vermilion Lake, Pelican Lake, Botsford Lake, Abram Lake, and Minnitaki Lake (MNRF, 2022d). Regulations are in place to protect the water bodies and fishery in the area. These SDWs are large bodies of water that are important socially and economically, therefore, these waters are given more flexibility in tailoring specific objectives and action. In addition, there are several non-SDW lakes with exceptions or more regulations. Another exception is that non-residents in Canada camping on Crown land in FMZ 4 may only use conservation catch and possession limits, even though they may have purchased a sport fishing license.

The “Baitfish Primer: A Guide to Identifying and Protecting Ontario’s Baitfishes” identifies Federal and Provincial regulations and includes a fish identification guide to help anglers distinguish between legal and illegal baitfish species (Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, 2018). In Ontario, harvesting or selling baitfish or leeches for commercial purposes requires a license and anglers are only allowed to harvest baitfish and leeches in the Bait Management Zone (BMZ) where their primary residence is located. The MNRF restricts the harvest and sale to 48 species to reduce the risk to the fisheries due to invasive species and diseases (MNRF, 2022h). There are six Bait Harvest Zones that overlap the LUJA (MNRF, 2022g) as shown on Figure 5-16 and they are: RL0040, RL0041, RL0042, RL0027, RL0028, RI0029.

FMZ 4 is part of the Northwest BMZ where dead or alive bait fishes or leeches are not to be transported into or out of a BMZ (MNRF, 2022g).

#### 5.4.5.2 HUNTING

The MNRF manages hunting and fishing activities with respect to the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997*. Other laws to be aware of regarding hunting in Ontario are the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*, *Endangered Species Act, 2007* and the *Species at Risk Act (Canada)* (MNRF, 2022e). In Ontario, 95 Wildlife Management Units (WMU), are areas to manage human interactions with wildlife to ensure ecosystem sustainability. The focus of the WMUs is aimed at specific species. The RIA and LUJA overlaps with WMU 3 as seen in Figure 5-17. WMU 3 has a total area of 12492.0 km<sup>2</sup>. The amount of overlap between WMU 3 and the LUJA is 469.4 km<sup>2</sup>.

WMU 3 falls within Cervid Ecological Zone B (MNRF, 2009). The goal of the Cervid Ecological Framework is to ensure a sustainable Cervid population, which includes caribou, white-tailed deer, moose, and elk. Cervid Ecological Zone A places emphasis on minimizing impacts to caribou population, maintaining low density moose and deer populations while emphasizing caribou and moose habitat. The intent of Cervid Ecological Zone B is to maintain low to moderate populations with an emphasis on caribou and moose habitat. Aspects covered under the Cervid Ecological Framework include social, cultural and economic benefits, population management, habitat management, climate change, disease, and human-cervid conflicts management (MNRF, 2009).

MNRF issues outdoor cards, hunting licenses, validation tags, and game seals (valid until the end of the season within the WMU issued). The number of validation tags, which allow the tag holder to harvest a specific species and sex in hunting season, issued for the WMU in a year is determined by MNRF and considers the number of animals of each species that can be harvested in a sustainable manner in the WMU (MNRF, 2022f). Table 5-48 presents the 2021 Hunting Tag Limits for WMU 3 and possessions and daily limits for species in WMU 3 is presented in Table 5-49. If there is more demand for hunting tags than available tags, then the tags are issued by draw.

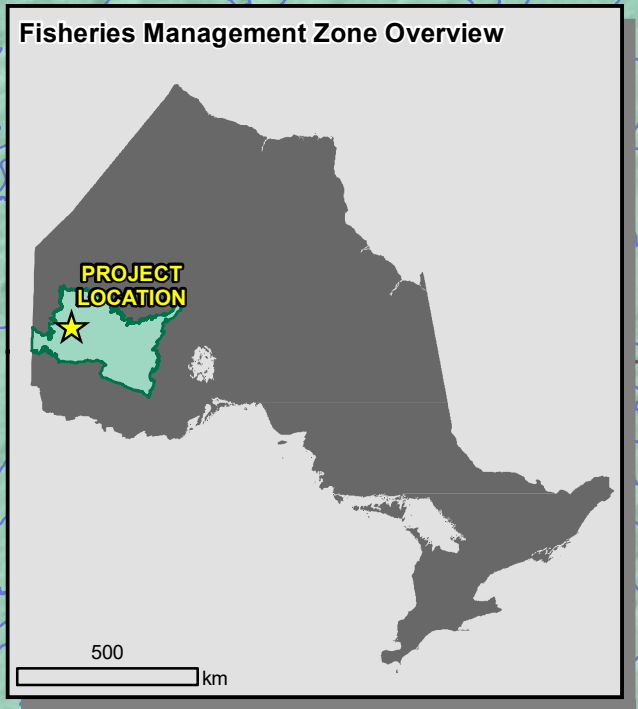
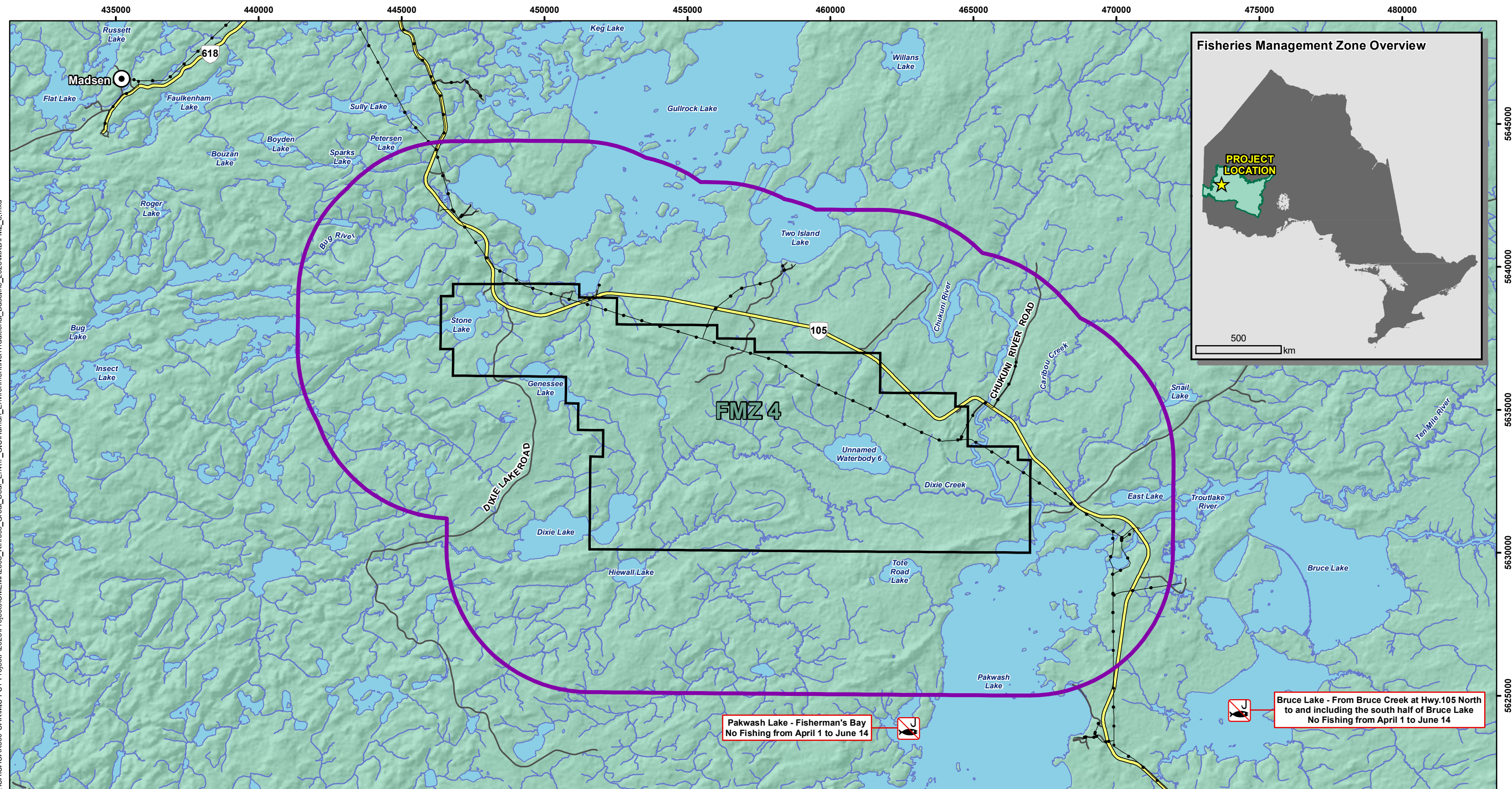
**Table 5-48: Hunting Tag Limits, WMU 3, 2021**

Game		WMU 3	
		(Gun Tags)	(Bow Tags)
Moose	Bull	414	415
	Cow or Calf	415	417
	Calf	416	418
Deer	Antlered	Not applicable	
	Antlerless <sup>1</sup>	200	
Bear	Non-residents require a Non-Resident Black Bear Hunting License Validation Certificate, which is obtained from an outfitter licensed in Ontario to provide black bear hunting services to non-residents, unless hunting with an immediate relative or the individual owns property where that WMU has an open season for non-residents. An open-season pilot program was underway until the end of the 2020 season to gather more information about the effect of the harvest on human-bear conflicts and to support economic growth and tourism.		
Wolf and Coyote	A wolf and coyote game seal is required. There are no major concerns for wolves farther north, outside of the management areas.		

Source: (MNRF, 2022b).

Notes:

<sup>1</sup> Antlerless deer (where the deer has no antlers or antlers less than 7.5 cm (3 inches in length) can only be harvested if the hunter or hunting party holds a valid antlerless deer tag.



**FMZ 4**

**Pakwash Lake - Fisherman's Bay**  
No Fishing from April 1 to June 14

**Bruce Lake - From Bruce Creek at Hwy.105 North to and including the south half of Bruce Lake**  
No Fishing from April 1 to June 14

- LEGEND**
- Land Use Investigation Area
  - Property Boundary
  - Town
  - Highway
  - Local Road
  - Resource / Recreation Road
  - Power Line
  - Watercourse
  - Waterbody
  - Fish Sanctuary
  - Fisheries Management Zones**
  - FMZ 4

**NOTES:**  
- Base data acquired from Land Information Ontario (MNR), 2022.  
- Property boundary provided by Kinross, March 2023.



**GREAT BEAR PROJECT**

**Fisheries Management Zone**

Datum: NAD83  
Projection: UTM Zone 15N



PROJECT N°: OMEMA2303

FIGURE: 5-15

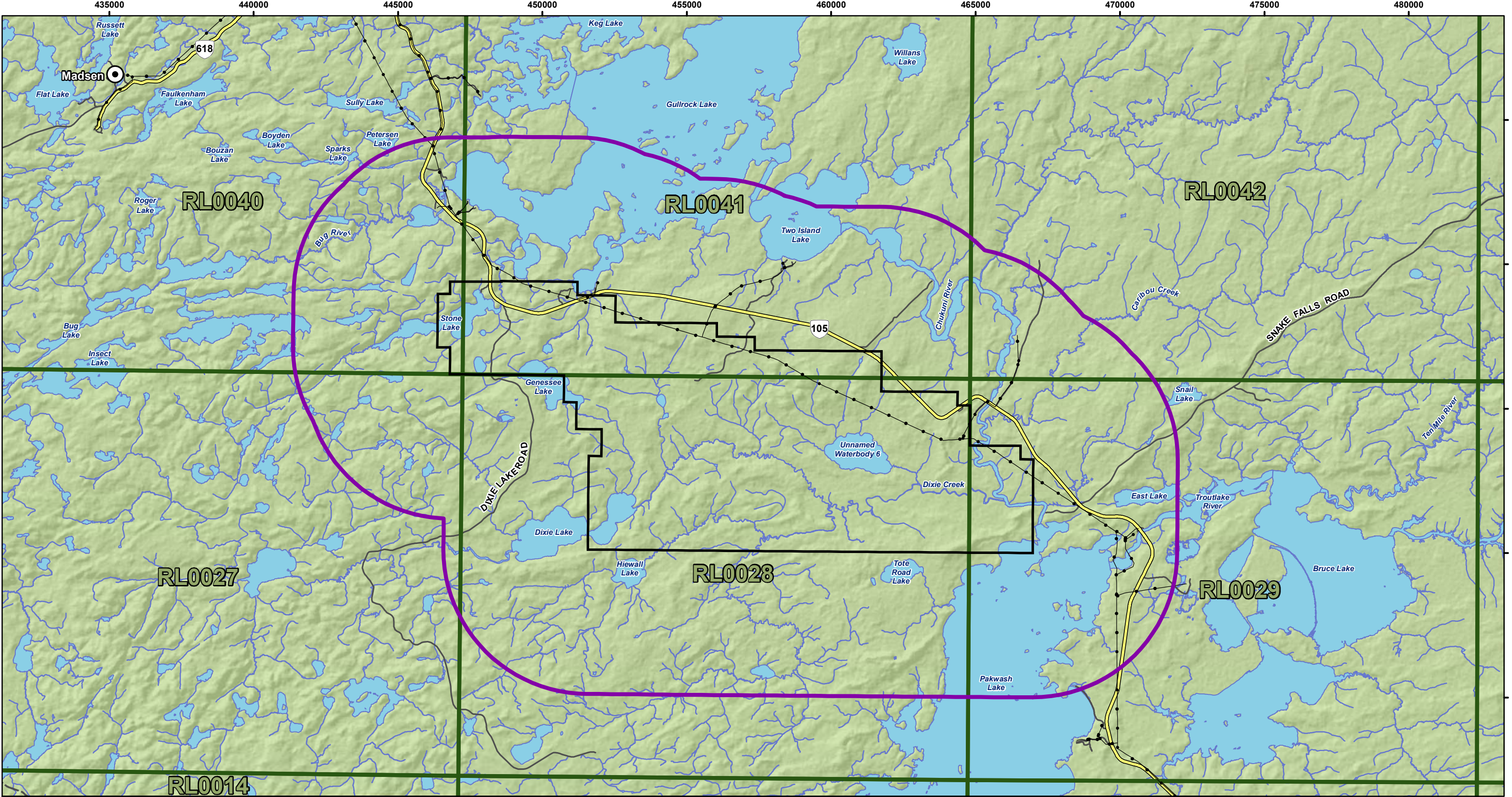
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DATE: April 2024













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**LEGEND**



-  Land Use Investigation Area
-  Property Boundary
-  Town
-  Highway
-  Local Road
-  Resource / Recreation Road
-  Power Line
-  Watercourse
-  Waterbody
-  Bait Harvesting Area (Labelled with ID)



**NOTES:**  
 - Base data acquired from Land Information Ontario (MNR), 2022.  
 - Property boundary provided by Kinross, March 2023.

Datum: NAD83  
 Projection: UTM Zone 15N



			
<b>GREAT BEAR PROJECT</b>			
<b>Bait Harvesting Areas</b>			
PROJECT N°: OMEMA2303	FIGURE: 5-16		
SCALE: 1:125,000	DATE: April 2024		

For WMU 3 the resident and non-resident open season for black bear hunting occurs from May 1 to June 15. The shooting of cubs or female bears accompanied by a cub is not allowed during the bear hunting season in WMU 3.

**Table 5-49: Possession and Daily Limits for Species in WMU 3**

Species	Daily and Possession Limit
Ruffed Grouse, Spruce Grouse, Sharp-tailed Grouse	Combined daily limit of three and possession limit of 15
Snowshoe (Varying) Hare	Combined daily limit of three and possession limit of 15
Bullfrog	Daily and possession limit 10
Ptarmigan	Combined daily limit of three and possession limit of 15
Ring-necked Pheasant	Daily limit of two and possession limit of 10

Source: (MNRF, 2022e).

## Moose

The 2022 moose hunting season in WMU 3 is from October 8 to December 15 for residents and from October 10 to November 15 for non-residents. In WMUs 16A and 16B, the moose hunting season is September 17 to December 15 for residents and September 19 to November 15 for non-residents (MNRF, 2022f). Ontario licenses tourist outfitters to provide moose hunting opportunities to non-residents (e.g., hunters not residing in Ontario); the regulations consider wildlife management as well as tourism and its economic role and impact (MNRF, 2022f). Table 5-50 presents the moose harvest details between 2016 and 2021 for resident moose hunting only.

Between 2006 – 2017 an estimated annual average of approximately 160 calf moose were harvested across the province. This activity was executed by an estimate number of 6400 active resident hunters without an adult validation tag (The Government of Ontario, 2024).

**Table 5-50: Moose Harvest in WMU 3**

WMU	Year	Estimated Active Hunters	Estimated Bull Harvest	Estimated Cow Harvest	Estimated Calf Harvest	Total
3	2016	1082	60	42	10	112
3	2017	1072	42	44	19	105
3	2018	1114	39	28	12	79
3	2019	1095	72	50	7	129
3	2020	1123	62	39	2	103
3	2021	881	67	43	16	126

Source: (MNRF, 2022).

## White-Tailed Deer

The 2021 deer hunting season in WMU 3 is from October 8 to December 15 for residents. The bow only season is from September 1 to October 7. There is no deer season for non-residents in WMU 3 (MNRF, 2022j). Resident hunters wishing to hunt an antlerless deer should apply to the antlerless deer draw (MNRF, 2021a). Only farmers (or an immediate relative) whose primary occupation is farming who live upon and till land which they own are eligible for a Farmer's Deer License. Also, use of dogs is not permitted during the Bows Only seasons in WMU 3. Hunters are encouraged to report their harvests and may receive a randomly issued questionnaire (MNRF, 2021a). Harvest and estimates statistics are based on sample information received from the resident hunters and maybe subject to errors (The Government of Ontario, 2024)). White-tailed deer hunting is the most regular activity in North America. The white-tailed deer is the most numerous of the four deer species inclusive of the white-tailed, moose, woodland caribou and American elk (Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, 2022k).

According to the 2022 Mandatory Deer Hunter report, total harvest numbers of 52, 352 were reflected in 2021 and 55, 950 in 2022 (Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, 2022i).

Table 5-51 presents white-tailed deer harvest data for WMU 3 (MNRF, 2022i).

**Table 5-51: WMU 3 White-Tailed Deer Harvesting**

WMU	Year	Estimated Active Hunters	Estimated Antler Harvest	Estimated Antlerless Harvest	Estimated Total Harvest by Residents
3	2016	345	5	3	8
3	2017	335	13	6	19
3	2018	305	2	0	2
3	2019	165	13	0	13
3	2020	166	10	5	15
3	2021	151	10	7	17

Source: (MNRF, 2022i).

Estimated harvest numbers are based on questionnaire responses from a sample of hunters and are therefore subject to statistical error. As well, the estimated number of active hunters may vary from licenced sales, as it only includes hunters who applied for an adult validation tag and some hunters may hunt in more than one WMU, while others may have purchased a licence but decided not to hunt (MNRF, 2022k).

### Black Bear

Bears play a key part of the Province’s ecosystem and are highly valued part of the Province’s wildlife heritage (MNRF, 2021b). Ontario has a framework for managing the current black bear population estimated at 85,000-105,000 (MNRF, 2020).

Bear Management Areas (BMAs) are areas of Crown land licensed to a tourist outfitter for providing black bear hunting opportunities to non-residents (Land Information Ontario, 2013). The regulations consider wildlife management as well as tourism and its economic role and impact (MNRF, 2021b). Ontario’s regulations allow black bears, like other big game, to be hunted by those with a valid Outdoors Card and the appropriate tag with firearm, and a category for either a bow or trapper’s license on their respective trapline (MNRF, 2022b). Licensed trappers can harvest bear in the trapline areas and do not require a black bear license, as this is covered under the authority of the Trapping Licence (MNRF, 2022b). There are six BMAs (Table 5-52) that are overlapped by the LUIA, as shown on Figure 5-18.

According to a 2022 Black Bear Hunter report the spring harvest displayed a number of 1,650 in the year 2021 and 1, 759 in 2022. During the fall, 139 harvesting numbers were reflected and 2, 602 in the year 2022 (The Government of Ontario, 2024).

**Table 5-52: Bear Management Area, Total Area and Amount of Overlap with LUIA**

Bear Management Area	BMA Total Area (km <sup>2</sup> )	Overlap w/ LUIA (km <sup>2</sup> )
RL-03-026	309.0	16.4
RL-03-024	199.2	59.9
RL-03-057	27.0	7.0
RL-03-031	467.2	240.9
RL-03-032	127.1	4.9
RL-03-025	410.1	104.0

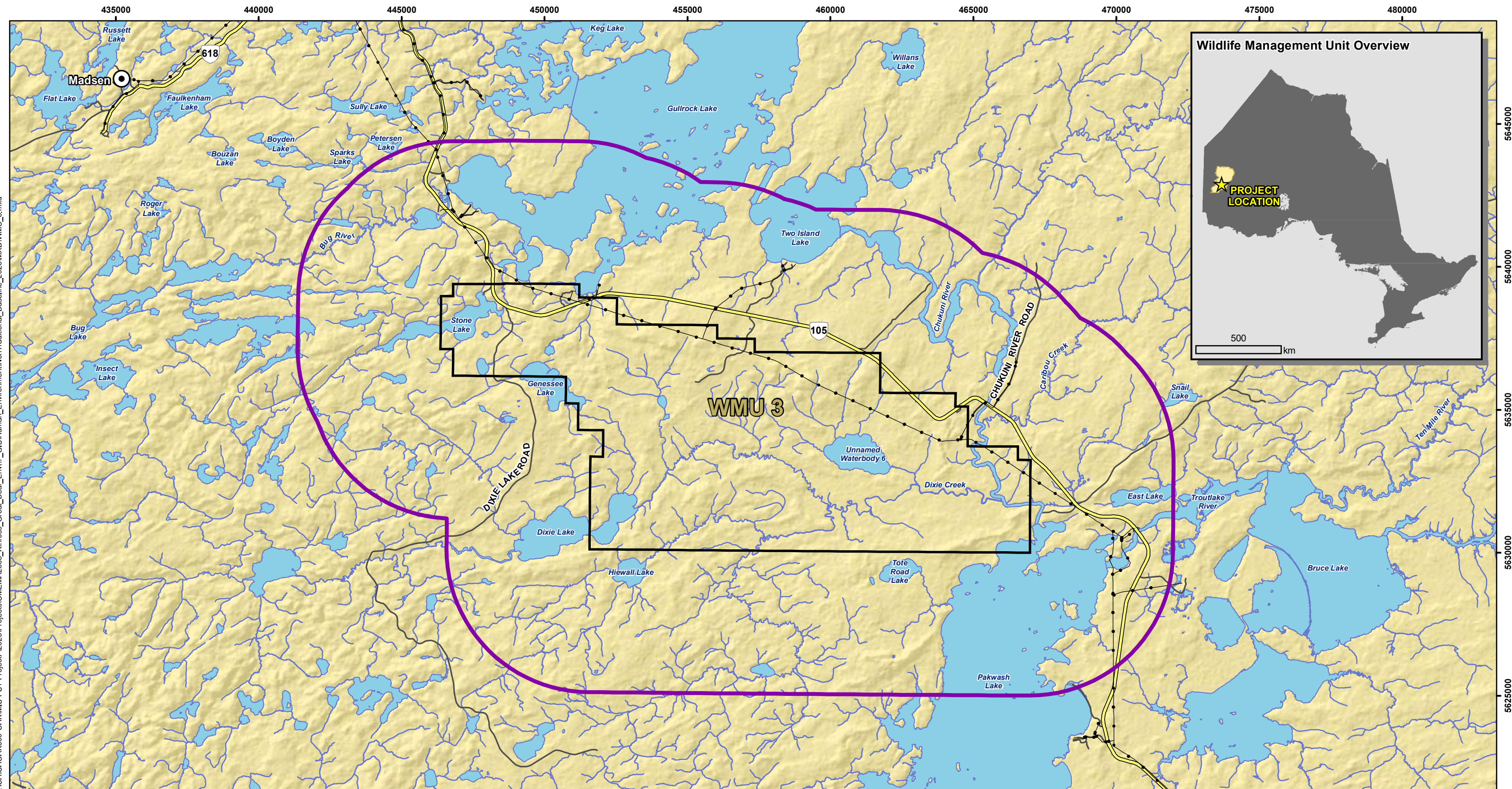
## 5.4.6 PROTECTED ENVIRONMENTAL AREAS

Parks, conservation, and other protected areas are critical to maintain and conserve ecological integrity, cultural resources and sustainable outdoor recreation and tourism values. There are no Federal Protected Areas in close proximity of the project site. Pakwash Provincial Park is located in the LUIA. However, outside of the LUIA, the following protected areas can be found at the specified distance from the Project Site in Table 5-53 and can be seen on Figure 5-19. The park offers the opportunity to take part in boating, camping, canoeing, fishing, hiking and swimming activities. In addition, washrooms and playgrounds are

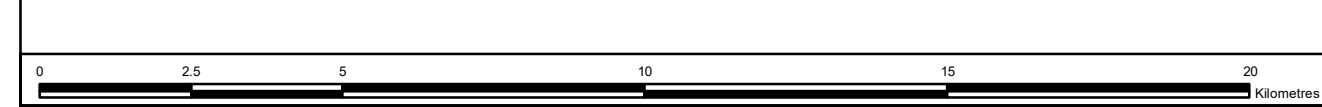
available. Under the Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act, 2006, the registered permit holder is responsible for the conduct of all occupants at the site. The legislation addresses issues for example the use of alcohol, noise levels, wildlife attractants, refuse, vehicles, pets, environmental protection, fireworks, campfires, camping equipment and permitting (Ontario Parks, 2024).

**Table 5-53: Conservation Reserve Distance from Project Site**

<b>Conservation Reserve</b>	<b>Approximate Distance from Project Site (Open Pit Centroid) (km)</b>
Hammell Lake Conservation Reserve	38
Trout Lake Conservation Reserve	29
Lac Seul Islands Conservation Reserve	37
Bruce Lake Conservation Reserve	19



- LEGEND**
- Land Use Investigation Area
  - Property Boundary
  - Town
  - Highway
  - Local Road
  - Resource / Recreation Road
  - Power Line
  - Watercourse
  - Waterbody
  - Wildlife Management Unit**
  - WMU 3



**NOTES:**  
 - Base data acquired from Land Information Ontario (MNR), 2022.  
 - Property boundary provided by Kinross, March 2023.

Datum: NAD83  
 Projection: UTM Zone 15N

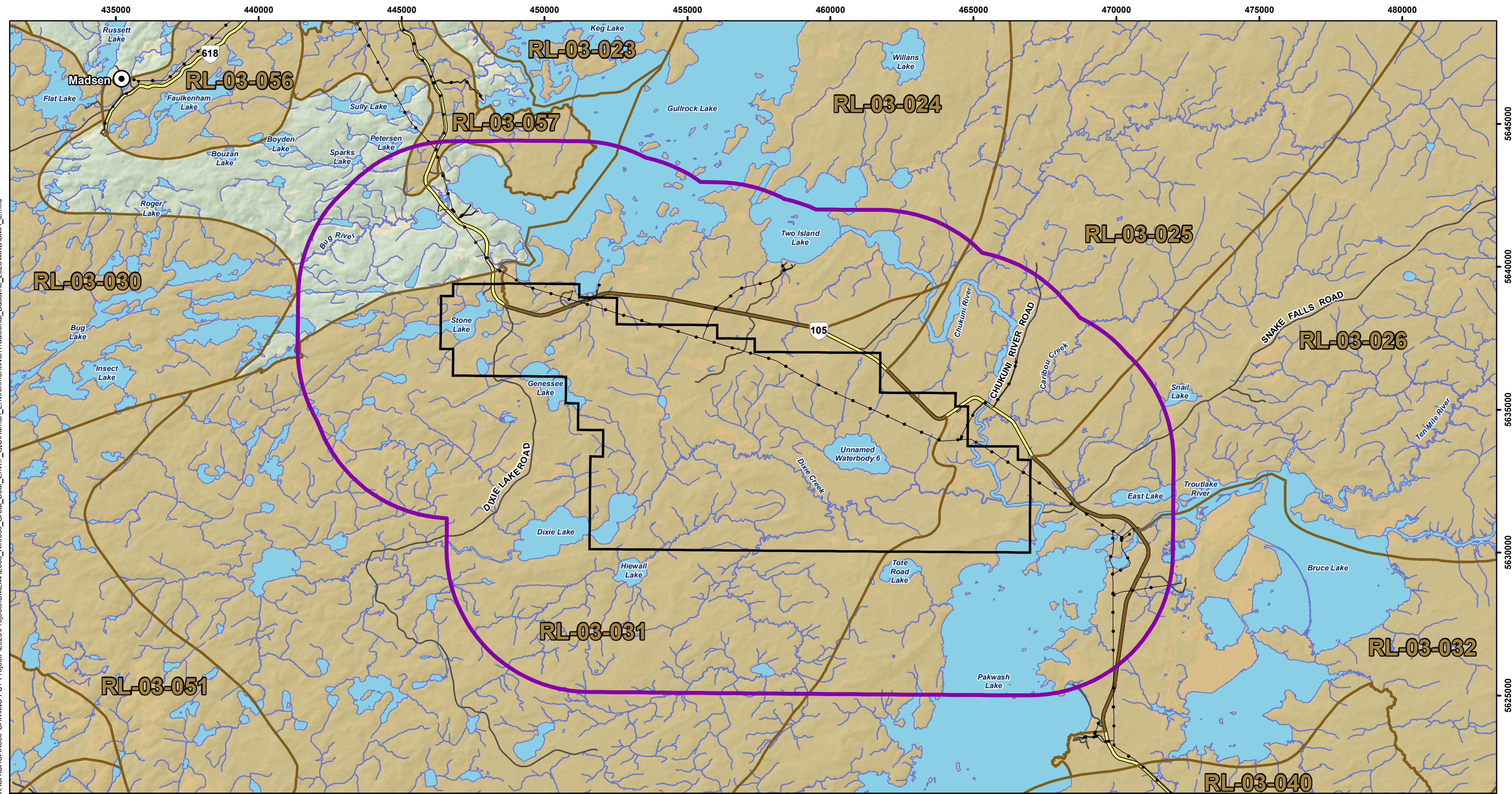


**KINROSS**

**GREAT BEAR PROJECT**

**Wildlife Management Units**

PROJECT N°: OMEMA2303	FIGURE: 5-17
SCALE: 1:125,000	DATE: April 2024



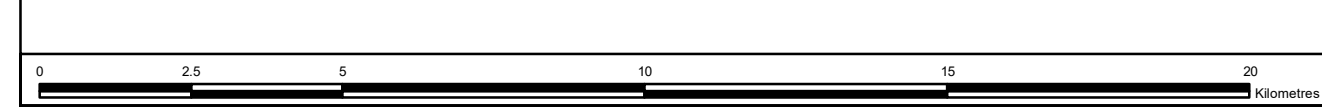
- LEGEND**
- Land Use Investigation Area
  - Property Boundary
  - Town
  - Highway
  - Local Road
  - Resource / Recreation Road
  - Power Line
  - Watercourse
  - Waterbody
  - Bear Management Area (Labelled with ID)

**NOTES:**  
 - Base data acquired from Land Information Ontario (MNR), 2022.  
 - Property boundary provided by Kinross, March 2023.

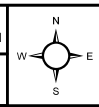


**GREAT BEAR PROJECT**

**Bear Management Areas**



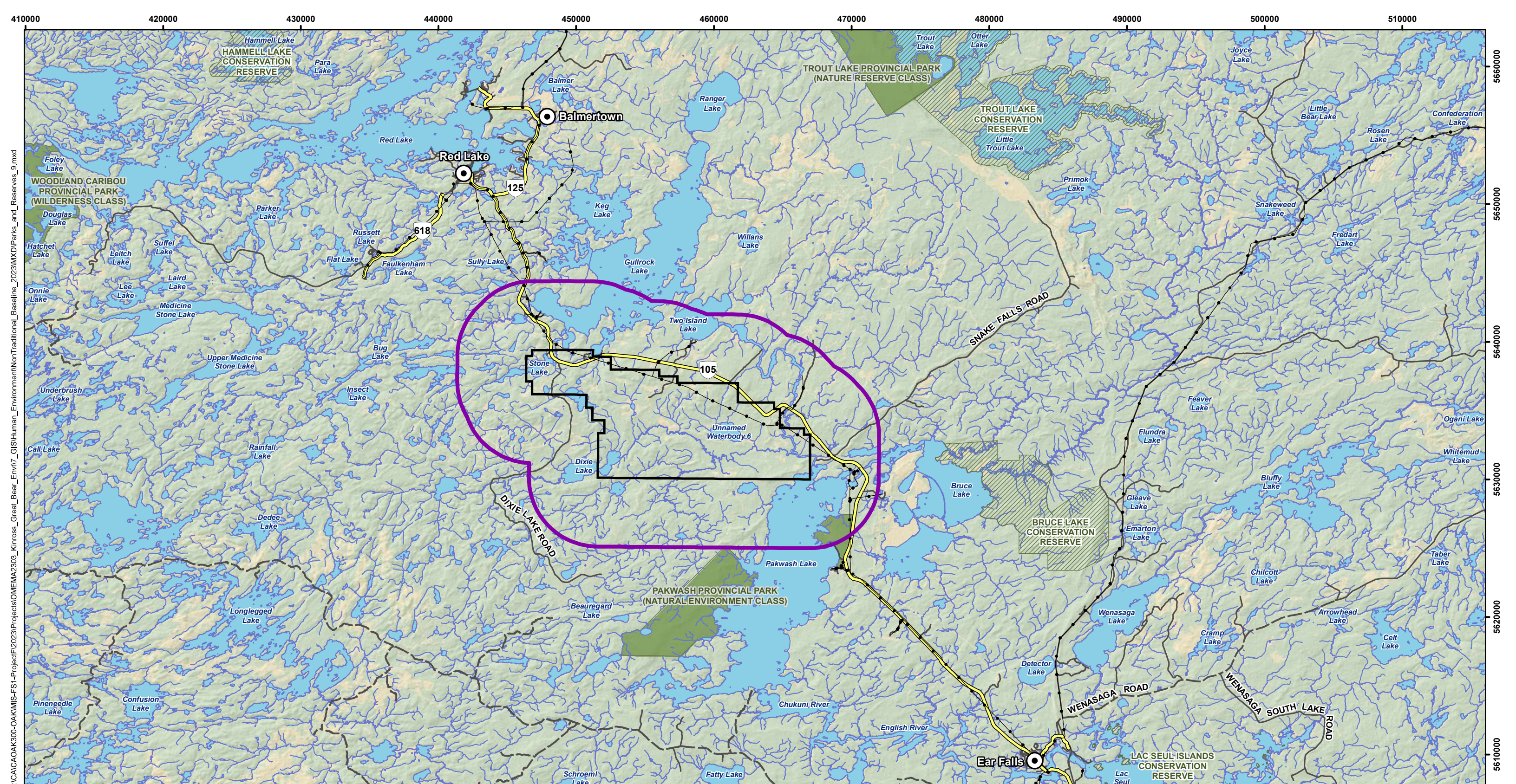
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PROJECT N°: OMEMA2303 **FIGURE: 5-18**

SCALE: 1:125,000 DATE: April 2024

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**LEGEND**

Land Use Investigation Area	Power Line	Conservation Reserve
Property Boundary	Watercourse	Provincial Park
Town	Waterbody	
Highway		
Local Road		
Resource / Recreation Road		

NOTES:  
 - Base data acquired from Land Information Ontario (MNR), 2022.  
 - Property boundary provided by Kinross, March 2023.



**GREAT BEAR PROJECT**

**Parks and Reserves**



Datum: NAD83  
 Projection: UTM Zone 15N



PROJECT N°: OMEMA2303 **FIGURE: 5-19**

SCALE: 1:255,000 DATE: April 2024

# 6 ECONOMIC CONDITIONS

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## 6.1 LABOUR FORCE CHARACTERISTICS

The following sections provide an overview of the labour force characteristics for the communities within the LIA. All gender-related language in this section follows Statistics Canada 2022 categories of men+ and women+. According to (Statistics Canada, 2022c), the category men+ includes men as well as some non-binary persons, and the category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons. In the 2021 Census, Statistics Canada utilizes the North American Industry Classification System to gather data on workforce by industry, which includes the following categories (Statistics Canada, 2021):

- Agriculture, forestry, fishing and hunting
- Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction
- Utilities
- Construction
- Manufacturing
- Wholesale trade
- Retail trade
- Transportation and warehousing
- Information and cultural industries
- Finance and insurance
- Real estate and rental and leasing
- Professional, scientific and technical services
- Management of companies and enterprises
- Administrative and support, waste management and remediation services
- Educational services
- Health care and social assistance
- Arts, entertainment and recreation
- Accommodation and food services
- Other services (except public administration)
- Public administration

In the 2021 Census, Statistics Canada utilizes the National Occupation Classification to gather data on workforce by occupation, which includes the following categories (Statistics Canada, 2021):

- Legislative and senior management occupations
- Business, finance and administration occupations
- Natural and applied sciences and related occupations
- Health occupations
- Occupations in education, law and social, community and government services
- Occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport

- Sales and service occupations
- Trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations
- Natural resources, agriculture and related production occupations
- Occupations in manufacturing and utilities

## 6.1.1 INDIGENOUS NATIONS

### 6.1.1.1 LAC SEUL FIRST NATION

#### Participation and Employment

The labour force indicators for Lac Seul First Nation's on-reserve population and the Province of Ontario are presented in Table 6-1. Census data indicates that in 2021 participation rates were at 50.0%, employment rates were at 44.0%, and the unemployment rate was 11.9% in Lac Seul First Nation. All three of these are lower compared to the broader Ontario province. Regarding gender differences, women+ reported a higher employment rate, but lower participation and unemployment rates compared to men+ on reserve in Lac Seul First Nation. However, in Ontario, men+ reported higher participation and employment rates and lower unemployment rates compared to women+ (Statistics Canada, 2023d; Statistics Canada, 2023e).

**Table 6-1: Labour Force Indicators for Lac Seul First Nation and Ontario, 2021**

Labour Force Indicator	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Lac Seul First Nation</b>			
Population 15+ Years	670	350	320
In the labour force (%)	50.0	50.0	48.4
Employed (%)	44.1	42.9	45.3
Unemployed (%)	6.0	7.1	4.7
Not in the labour force (%)	50.8	50.0	50.0
Participation rate (%)	50.0	50.0	48.4
Employment rate (%)	44.0	42.9	45.3
Unemployment rate (%)	11.9	14.3	9.7
<b>Ontario</b>			
Population 15+ Years	11,782,820	5,733,360	6,049,460
In the labour force (%)	62.8	67.1	58.7
Employed (%)	55.1	59.6	50.8
Unemployed (%)	7.7	7.5	7.9
Not in the labour force (%)	37.2	32.9	41.3
Participation rate (%)	62.8	67.1	58.7
Employment rate (%)	55.1	59.6	50.8
Unemployment rate (%)	12.2	11.2	13.4

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023d) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

Note:

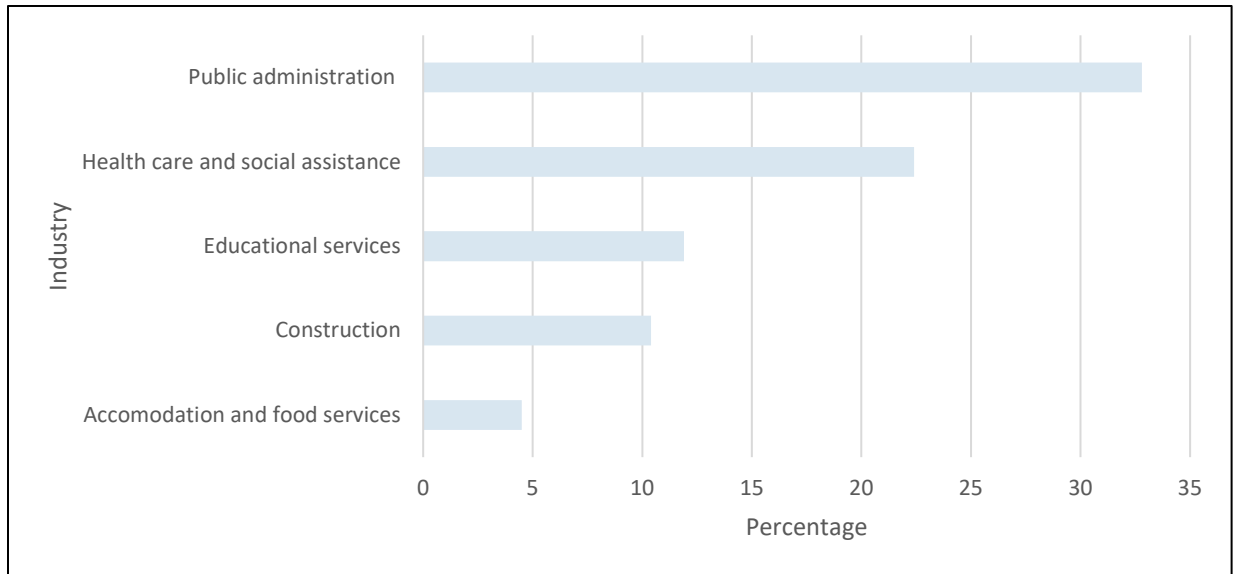
The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

#### Labour Supply

Figure 6-1 presents the workforce of Lac Seul First Nation's on-reserve population by industry according to 2021 Census data. Approximately 35% of individuals in the workforce were in the public administration industry, 24% in health care and social assistance, 13% in educational services, 11% in construction, 5% in accommodation and food services, with the rest of the industries represented at a percentage of less than 5%. Women+ comprised a higher proportion of the labour force in health care and social assistance, education services, and accommodation and food services, while men+ comprised a higher

proportion of the remaining Industries, including the entire labour force employed in construction (Statistics Canada, 2023d).

**Figure 6-1: Lac Seul Workforce by Industry, 2021**

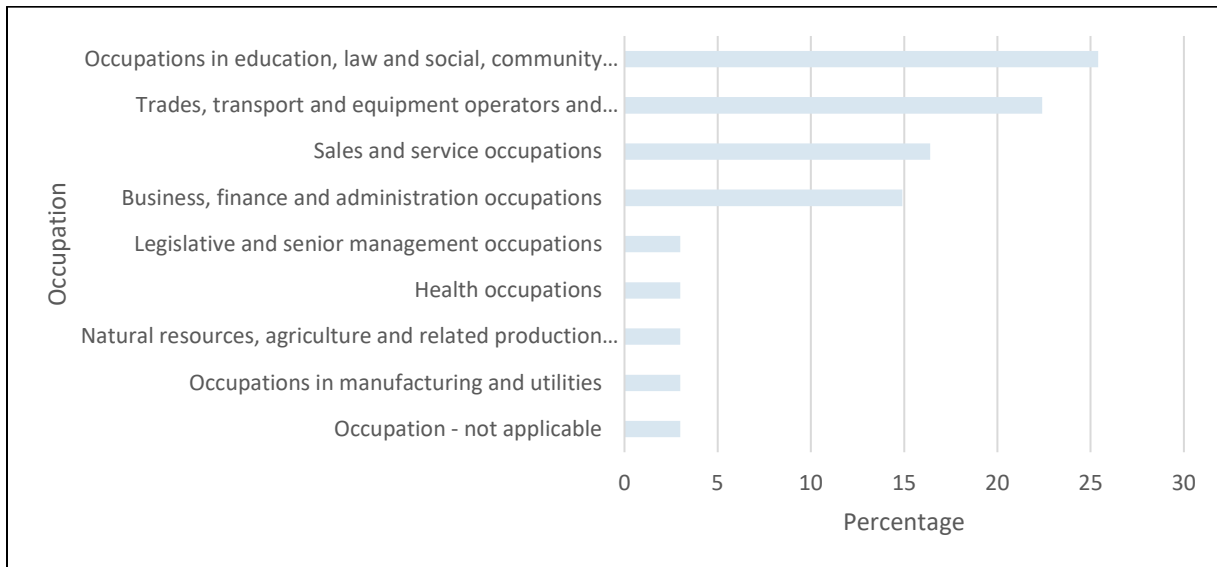


Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023b).

Note - The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

Figure 6-2 shows the types of occupations held by Lac Seul First Nation's on-reserve residents for those employed at the time of the 2021 Census. The most common occupations were those in education, law and social, community and government services (25%), trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations (22%), sales and service occupations (16%), business, financial and administration occupations (15%), legislative and senior management occupations (3%), health occupations (3%), natural resources, agriculture and related production occupations (3%), occupations in manufacturing and utilities (3%), and occupations that were not specified in the Census (3%) (Statistics Canada, 2023d).

**Figure 6-2: Lac Seul Workforce by Occupation, 2021**



Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023b).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Sources of Income

The income composition for Lac Seul First Nation's on-reserve population and the Province of Ontario is presented in Table 6-2. The total population of Lac Seul First Nation had a lower percentage of market income (65%) and employment income (61.6%) compared to Ontario. Men+ made up a higher proportion of the market income and employment income compared to women+ in both Lac Seul First Nation and Ontario. Lac Seul First Nation's on-reserve population had a higher percentage of government transfers (35.2%) compared to Ontario (17.1%), with women+ receiving a higher amount of government transfers compared to men+ in both Lac Seul First Nation and Ontario (Statistics Canada, 2023d) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

**Table 6-2: Income Composition for Lac Seul First Nation and Ontario, 2021**

Income Composition	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Lac Seul First Nation</b>			
Market Income (%)	65.0	73.0	59.0
Employment Income (%)	61.6	69.0	56.0
Government Transfers (%)	35.2	27.2	42.0
<b>Ontario</b>			
Market Income (%)	82.8	87.0	77.8
Employment Income (%)	67.4	71.4	62.3
Government Transfers (%)	17.1	13.0	22.3

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023d) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

Note - The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Employment Income

As indicated in Table 6-3, the median income in 2020 for Lac Seul First Nation's on-reserve population was \$24,200 lower than that of Ontario. Similarly, the average employment income in 2020 among Lac Seul First Nation recipients was \$36,000 lower than that of Ontario. Contrary to Ontario, women+ on reserve in Lac Seul First Nation had a higher median and average employment income compared to men+ (Statistics Canada, 2023d) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

**Table 6-3: Lac Seul First Nation and Ontario Employment Income Statistics, 2021**

Income Statistics	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Lac Seul First Nation</b>			
Number of employment income recipients (aged 15 years and over in private households who worked full year full time in 2020)	210	105	105
Median employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$42,800	\$41,600	\$43,200
Average employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$46,400	\$44,000	\$49,000
<b>Ontario</b>			
Number of employment income recipients (aged 15 years and over in private households who worked full year full time in 2020)	3,865,695	2,145,810	1,719,885
Median employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$67,000	\$72,000	\$61,600
Average employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$82,400	\$90,700	\$72,000

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023d) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Employment Income: Participation Barriers

Given that the average cost of childcare in Ontario as of 2018 was \$11,500 per child per year, the average income earner on reserve in would spend 24.8% of their income on childcare (Statistics Canada, 2018). This is similar to residents of Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation. There are no childcare services available in Lac Seul First Nation outside of schools (see Section 5.2.1.3).

#### 6.1.1.2 WABAUSKANG FIRST NATION

### Participation and Employment

The labour force indicators for Wabauskang First Nation's on-reserve population and the Province of Ontario are presented in Table 6-4. Census data indicates that in 2021 participation rates were at 77.8%, employment rates were at 66.7%, and the unemployment rate was 28.6% on reserve in Wabauskang First Nation. All three of these are higher compared to the broader province of Ontario. Regarding gender differences, women+ reported a higher participation rate and employment rate when compared to men+ in Wabauskang First Nation, in addition to having an unemployment rate of 0%. However, in Ontario, men+ reported higher participation and employment rates and lower unemployment rates compared to women+ (Statistics Canada, 2023g; Statistics Canada, 2023e).

**Table 6-4: Labour Force Indicators for Wabauskang First Nation and Ontario, 2021**

Labour Force Indicator	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Wabauskang First Nation</b>			
Population 15+ Years	45	20	25
In the labour force (%)	77.8	75.0	80.0
Employed (%)	66.7	50.0	80.0
Unemployed (%)	22.2	50.0	0.0
Not in the labour force (%)	22.2	0.0	40.0
Participation rate (%)	77.8	75.0	80.0
Employment rate (%)	66.7	50.0	80.0
Unemployment rate (%)	28.6	66.7	0.0
<b>Ontario</b>			
Population 15+ Years	11,782,820	5,733,360	6,049,460
In the labour force (%)	62.8	67.1	58.7

Labour Force Indicator	Total	Men+	Women+
Employed (%)	55.1	59.6	50.8
Unemployed (%)	7.7	7.5	7.9
Not in the labour force (%)	37.2	32.9	41.3
Participation rate (%)	62.8	67.1	58.7
Employment rate (%)	55.1	59.6	50.8
Unemployment rate (%)	12.2	11.2	13.4

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023g) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

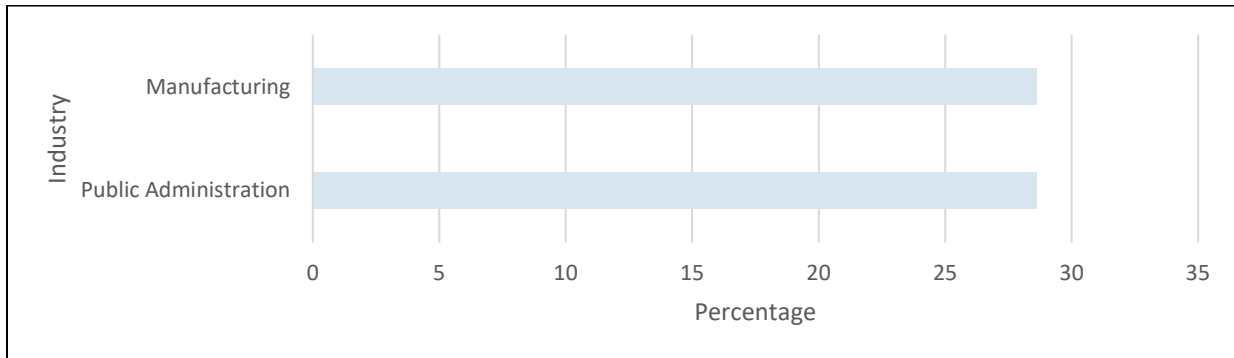
Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## Labour Supply

Figure 6-3 presents the workforce of Wabauskang First Nation's on-reserve population by industry according to 2021 Census data. Approximately 28.6% of individuals in the workforce were in the manufacturing industry, and 28.6% were involved in the public administration industry. Men+ and women+ were equally represented in these industries (Statistics Canada, 2023g).

**Figure 6-3: Wabauskang Workforce by Industry, 2021**



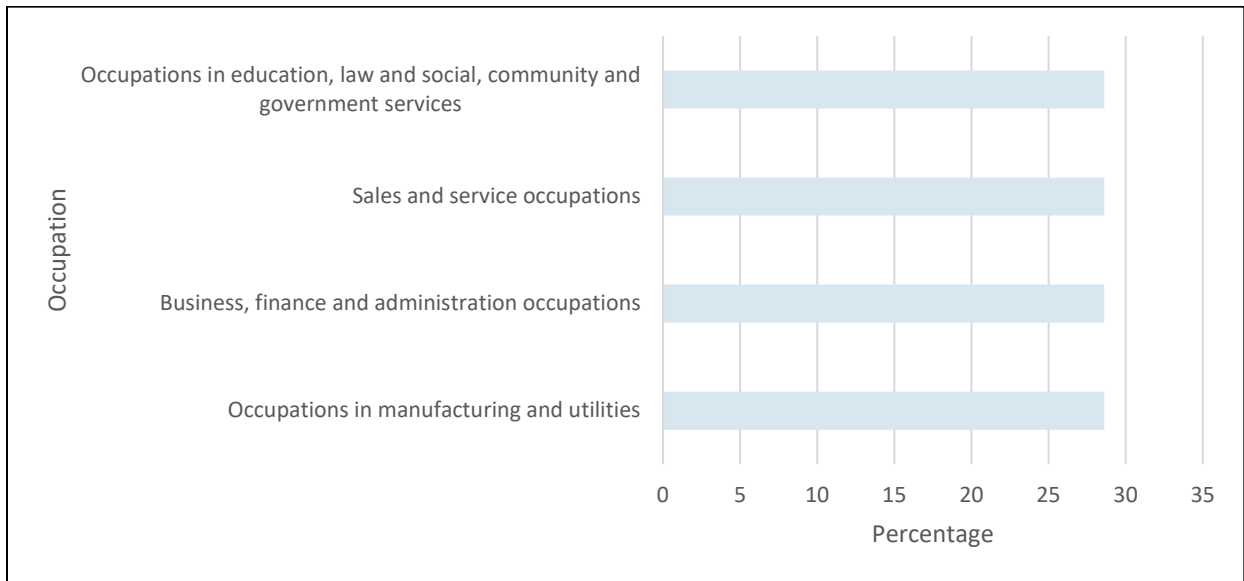
Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023b).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

Figure 6-4 shows the types of occupations held by Wabauskang First Nation's on-reserve residents for those employed at the time of the 2021 Census. The most common occupations were those in business, financial and administration occupations (28.6%), education, law and social, community and government services (28.6%), sales and service occupations (28.6%), and occupations in manufacturing and utilities (28.6%) (Statistics Canada, 2023g).

**Figure 6-4: Wabauskang Workforce by Occupation, 2021**



Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023b).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Sources of Income

Information regarding income composition within Wabauskang First Nation has been suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act* (Statistics Canada, 2023g).

### Employment Income

Information regarding employment income within Wabauskang First Nation have been suppressed to meet the confidentiality requirements of the *Statistics Act* (Statistics Canada, 2023g).

#### 6.1.1.3 ASUBPEESCHOSEEWAGONG NETUM ANISHINABEK FIRST NATION

### Participation and Employment

The labour force indicators for Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation's on-reserve population and the Province of Ontario are presented in Table 6-5. Census data indicates that in 2021 participation rates were at 44.6% and employment rates were at 34.9% on reserve in Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek. This is lower compared to the broader Ontario population. The unemployment rate was 18.9%, which was higher than Ontario (12.2%). Regarding gender differences, women+ reported higher participation and employment rates, and lower unemployment rates than men+ on reserve in Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek. However, in Ontario, men+ reported higher participation and employment rates and lower unemployment rates compared to women+ (Statistics Canada, 2023b) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

**Table 6-5: Labour Force Indicators for Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek and Ontario, 2021**

Labour Force Indicator	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek</b>			
Population 15+ Years	415	200	210
In the labour force (%)	44.6	40.0	47.6
Employed (%)	34.9	30.0	42.9
Unemployed (%)	8.4	10.0	7.1
Not in the labour force (%)	54.2	60.0	50.0
Participation rate (%)	44.6	40.0	47.6
Employment rate (%)	34.9	30.0	42.9
Unemployment rate (%)	18.9	25.0	15.0
<b>Ontario</b>			
Population 15+ Years	11,782,820	5,733,360	6,049,460
In the labour force (%)	62.8	67.1	58.7
Employed (%)	55.1	59.6	50.8
Unemployed (%)	7.7	7.5	7.9
Not in the labour force (%)	37.2	32.9	41.3
Participation rate (%)	62.8	67.1	58.7
Employment rate (%)	55.1	59.6	50.8
Unemployment rate (%)	12.2	11.2	13.4

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023b) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

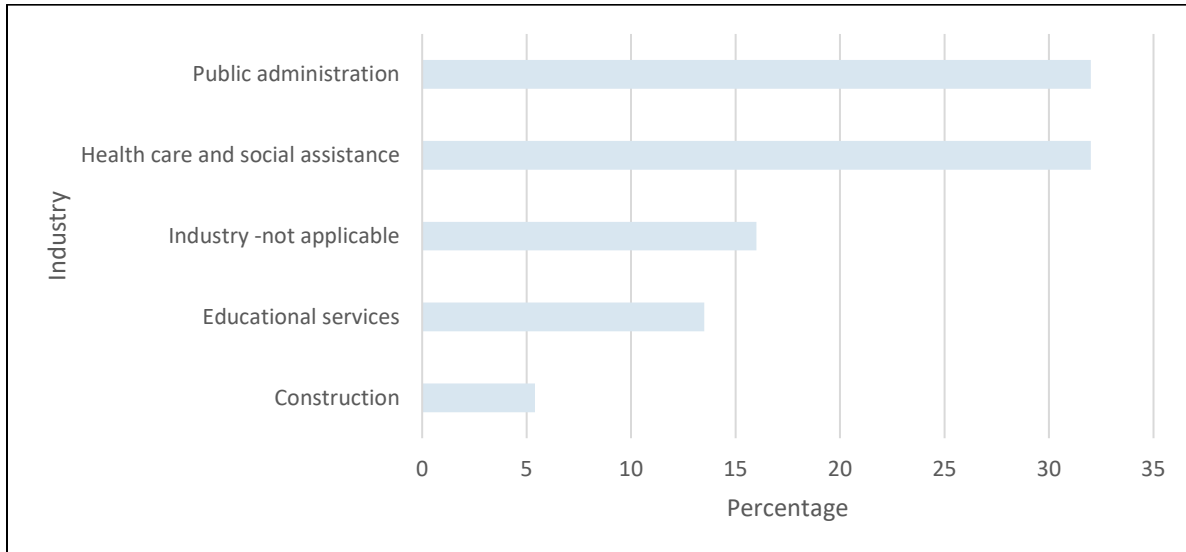
Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Labour Supply

Figure 6-5 presents the workforce of Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek's on-reserve population by industry according to 2021 Census data. Data shows that approximately 32% of those in the workforce were in the health care and social assistance industry, 32% were in public administration, 16% were in an industry that was not specified in the Census, 13% were in educational services, and 5% were in construction. Women+ made up a higher proportion of the labour force under all of the industries specified above. For example, women+ made up 40% of the health care and social assistance labour force, while men+ made up 25%. Women+ made up the entire labour force working in construction (Statistics Canada, 2023b).

**Figure 6-5: Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek Workforce by Industry, 2021**



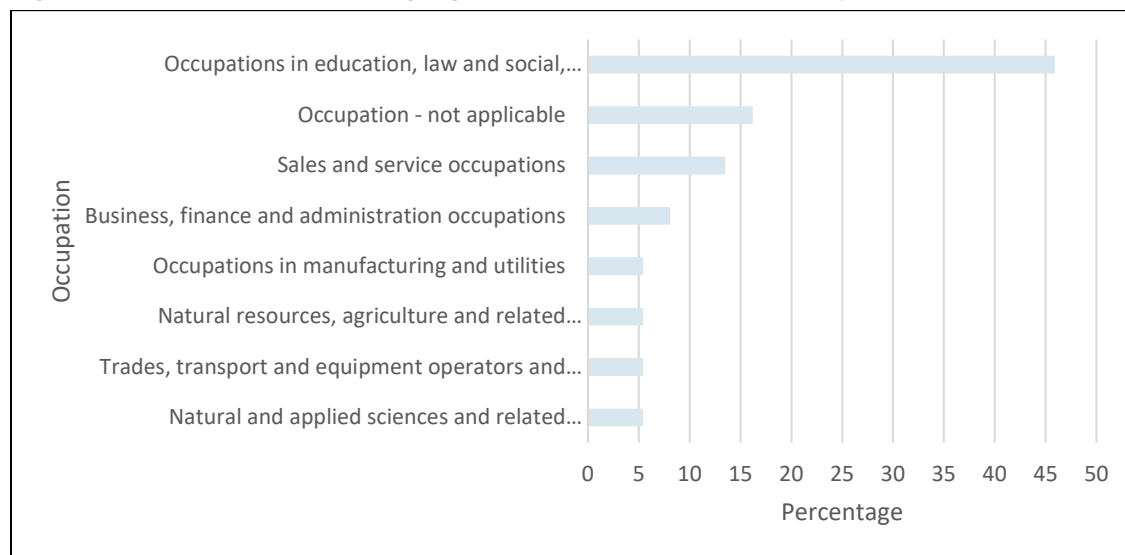
Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023b).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

Figure 6-6 shows the types of occupations held by Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek on-reserve residents for those employed at the time of the 2021 Census. The most common occupations were those in education, law and social, community and government services (46%), occupations that were not specified in the Census (16%), sales and service occupations (13%), business, financial and administration occupations (8%), occupations in manufacturing and utilities (5%), natural resources, agriculture and related production occupations (5%), trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations (5%), and natural and applied sciences and related occupations (5%) (Statistics Canada, 2023b).

**Figure 6-6: Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek Workforce by Occupation, 2021**



Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023b).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Sources of Income

The income composition for Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek' on-reserve population and the Province of Ontario is presented in Table 6-6. The on-reserve population of Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek had a lower percentage of market income (65%) and employment income (63%) compared to Ontario. Men+ made up a higher proportion of the market income and employment income compared to women+ in both Red Lake and Ontario. Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek' on-reserve population had a higher percentage of government transfers (35%) compared to Ontario (17%), with women+ receiving a higher amount of government transfers compared to men+ in both Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek and Ontario (Statistics Canada, 2023b) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

**Table 6-6: Income Composition for Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek and Ontario, 2021**

Income Composition	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek</b>			
Market Income (%)	65.0	72.0	62.0
Employment Income (%)	63.0	68.0	58.0
Government Transfers (%)	35.0	29.0	38.0
<b>Ontario</b>			
Market Income (%)	82.8	87.0	77.8
Employment Income (%)	67.4	71.4	62.3
Government Transfers (%)	17.1	13.0	22.3

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023b) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Employment Income

As indicated in Table 6-7, the median income in 2020 for Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek' on-reserve population was \$31,400 lower than that of Ontario. Similarly, the average employment income in 2020 among Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek recipients was \$40,400 lower than that of Ontario. In both Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek and Ontario, women+ had a lower median and average employment income compared to men+ (Statistics Canada, 2023b).

**Table 6-7: Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek and Ontario Employment Income Statistics, 2021**

Income Statistics	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek</b>			
Number of employment income recipients (aged 15 years and over in private households who worked full year full time in 2020)	95	40	50
Median employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$35,600	\$36,800	\$33,600
Average employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$42,000	\$44,000	\$39,000
<b>Ontario</b>			
Number of employment income recipients (aged 15 years and over in private households who worked full year full time in 2020)	3,865,695	2,145,810	1,719,885
Median employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$67,000	\$72,000	\$61,600
Average employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$82,400	\$90,700	\$72,000

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023b) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Employment Income: Participation Barriers

Given that the average cost of childcare in Ontario as of 2018 was \$11,500 per child per year, the average income earner on reserve in Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek would spend 27% of their income on childcare (Statistics Canada, 2018). There are two childcare services in Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek (see Section 0), with a limited supply of available subsidies. The combination of affordability issues and accessibility have disproportionately negative effects on women, whose work hours decrease more than men with the presence of a child in the household (Moysler, 2017).

### 6.1.1.4 NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO MÉTIS COMMUNITY (MÉTIS NATION OF ONTARIO - REGION 1)

#### Participation and Employment

The labour force indicators for self-identified Métis people in Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls are presented in Table 6-8. In Kenora District, the labour force participation rate for self-identified Métis people was 68.4% (69.4% for men+ and 67.4% for women+), and the unemployment rate was 8.8% (10.0% for men+ and 7.1% for women+) (Statistics Canada, 2023h). In Red Lake, the labour force participation rate for self-identified Métis people was 70.4% (76.9% for men+ and 64.3% for women+), and the unemployment rate was 7.9% (0.0% for men+ and 11.1% for women+) (Statistics Canada, 2023i). In Ear Falls, the labour force participation rate for self-identified Métis people was 62.5% (88.9% for men+ and 28.6% for women+), and the unemployment rate was 0.0% (0.0% for men+ and 0.0% for women+) (Statistics Canada, 2023j).

**Table 6-8: Labour Force Indicators for Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls (Métis Identity), 2021**

Labour Force Indicator	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Kenora District (Métis identity)</b>			
Population 15+ Years	3,215	1,650	1,565
In the labour force	2,205	1,145	1,055
Employed	2,010	1,030	980
Unemployed	195	115	75
Not in the labour force	1,015	505	505
Participation rate (%)	68.6	69.4	67.4
Employment rate (%)	62.5	62.4	62.6
Unemployment rate (%)	8.8	10.0	7.1
<b>Red Lake (Métis identity)</b>			
Population 15+ Years	270	130	140
In the labour force	190	100	90
Employed	175	95	80
Unemployed	15	0	10
Not in the labour force	80	30	50
Participation rate (%)	70.4	76.9	64.3
Employment rate (%)	64.8	73.1	57.1
Unemployment rate (%)	7.9	0.0	11.1
<b>Ear Falls (Métis identity)</b>			
Population 15+ Years	80	45	35
In the labour force	50	40	10
Employed	40	40	0
Unemployed	0	0	0
Not in the labour force	35	10	25
Participation rate (%)	62.5	88.9	28.6
Employment rate (%)	50.0	88.9	0.0
Unemployment rate (%)	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Ontario</b>			
Population 15+ Years	11,782,820	5,733,360	6,049,460
In the labour force	7,399,200	3,847,325	3,551,880
Employed	6,492,895	3,416,955	3,075,940
Unemployed	906,310	430,365	475,940
Not in the labour force	4,383,620	1,886,035	2,497,580
Participation rate (%)	62.8	67.1	58.7
Employment rate (%)	55.1	59.6	50.8
Unemployment rate (%)	12.2	11.2	13.4

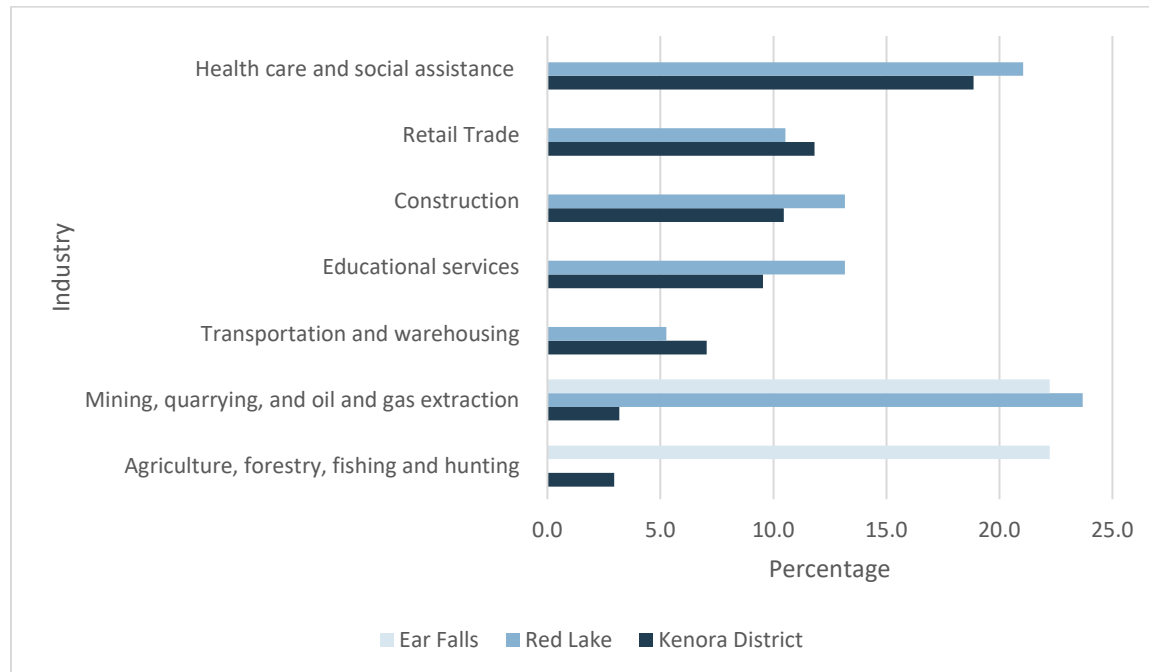
Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023h) (Statistics Canada, 2023i) (Statistics Canada, 2023j) (Statistics Canada, 2023e)  
Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## Labour Supply

The workforce by industry for self-identified Métis people in Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls is presented in Figure 6-9. This figure demonstrates the top industries for self-identified Métis people in the District and municipalities. Health care and social assistance, followed by retail trade, represent the largest industry in the Kenora District (Statistics Canada, 2023h). Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction, followed by health care and social assistance, was the largest industry for self-identified Métis people in Red Lake (Statistics Canada, 2023i). In Ear Falls, the largest industries for self-identified Métis people were mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction, and agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting (Statistics Canada, 2023j).

**Figure 6-7: Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls (Métis Identity) Workforce by Industry, 2021**



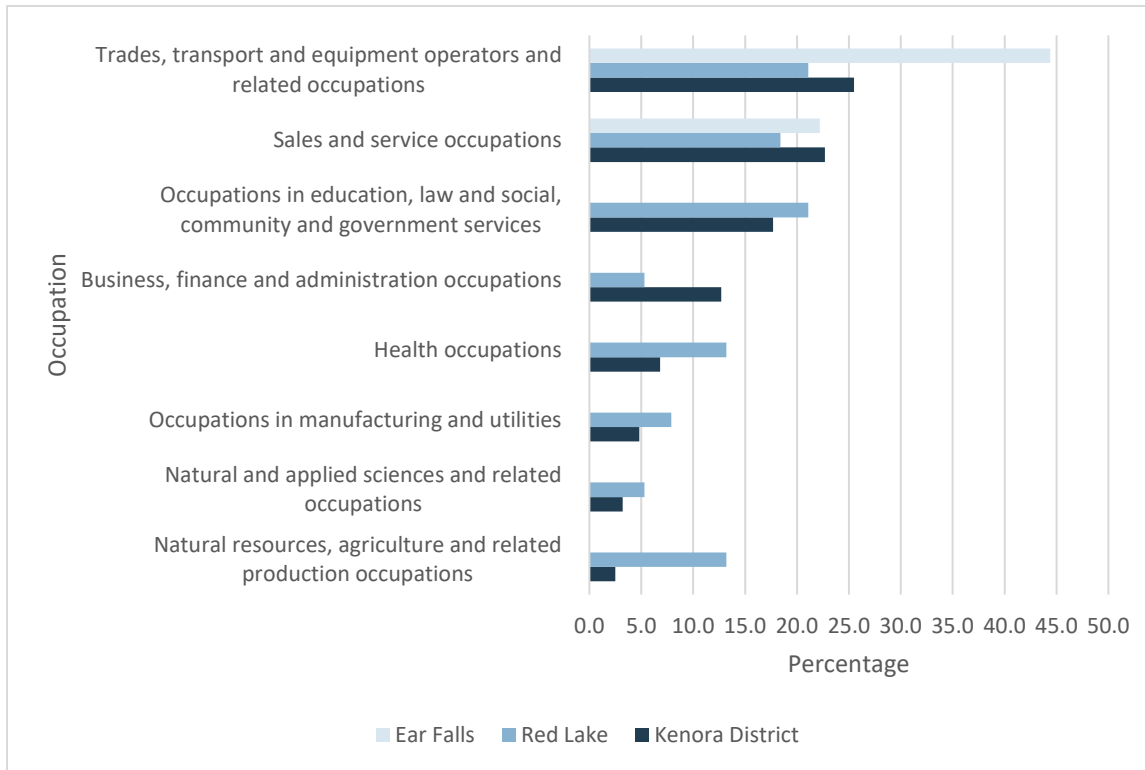
Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023h) (Statistics Canada, 2023i) (Statistics Canada, 2023j)

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

Figure 6-10 shows the types of occupations held by self-identified Métis people in Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls employed at the time of the 2021 Census. The most common occupations held by self-identified Métis people in Kenora District and Ear Falls were trades, transport and equipment operators, and related occupations, followed by sales and service occupations (Statistics Canada, 2023h) (Statistics Canada, 2023j). In Red Lake, the most common occupations held by self-identified Métis people were trades, transport and equipment operators, and related occupations, and occupations in education, law, and social, community and government services (Statistics Canada, 2023i).

**Figure 6-8: Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls (Métis Identity) Workforce by Occupation, 2021**



Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023h) (Statistics Canada, 2023i) (Statistics Canada, 2023j)

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Sources of Income

The income composition for self-identified Métis people in Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls is presented in Table 6-9. Market income accounted for 84.4% of income for self-identified Métis people in Kenora District (86.8% for men+ and 81.4% for women+), 88.0% in Red Lake (92.0% for men+ and 84.0% for women+), and 76.0% in Ear Falls (85.0% for men+ and 45.0% for women+) (Statistics Canada, 2023h) (Statistics Canada, 2023i) (Statistics Canada, 2023j). Government transfers accounted for 15.5% of income for self-identified Métis people in Kenora District (13.3% for men+ and 18.6% for women+), 11.6% in Red Lake (6.2% for men+ and 18.0% for women+), and 24.0% in Ear Falls (13.0% for men+ and 50.0% for women+) (Statistics Canada, 2023h) (Statistics Canada, 2023i) (Statistics Canada, 2023j).

**Table 6-9: Income Composition Statistics for Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls (Métis Identity), 2021**

Income Composition Kenora District	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Kenora District (Métis Identity)</b>			
Market Income (%)	84.4	86.8	81.4
Employment Income (%)	74.4	76.0	72.4
Government Transfers (%)	15.5	13.3	18.6
<b>Red Lake (Métis Identity)</b>			
Market Income (%)	88.0	92.0	84.0
Employment Income (%)	77.0	84.0	68.0
Government Transfers (%)	11.6	6.2	18.0
<b>Ear Falls (Métis Identity)</b>			
Market Income (%)	76.0	85.0	45.0
Employment Income (%)	68.0	90.0	30.0
Government Transfers (%)	24.0	13.0	50.0
<b>Ontario</b>			
Market Income (%)	82.8	87.0	77.8
Employment Income (%)	67.4	71.4	62.3
Government Transfers (%)	17.1	13.0	22.3

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023h) (Statistics Canada, 2023i) (Statistics Canada, 2023j) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).  
Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Employment Income

As indicated in Table 6-10, the median employment income in 2020 among self-identified Métis income recipients was \$64,000 in Kenora District (\$72,000 for men+ and \$57,200 for women+), \$83,000 in Red Lake (\$96,000 for men+ and \$54,600 for women+), and \$0 in Ear Falls (Statistics Canada, 2023h) (Statistics Canada, 2023i) (Statistics Canada, 2023j). The average employment income in 2020 among self-identified Métis income recipients was \$69,600 in Kenora District (\$78,000 for men+ and \$58,600 for women+), \$82,000 in Red Lake (\$104,000 for men+ and \$62,000 for women+), and \$80,000 in Ear Falls (\$85,000 for men+ and \$0 for women+) (Statistics Canada, 2023h) (Statistics Canada, 2023i) (Statistics Canada, 2023j).

**Table 6-10: Employment Income Statistics for Kenora District, Red Lake, and Ear Falls (Métis Identity), 2021**

Income Statistics	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Kenora District (Métis Identity)</b>			
Number of employment income recipients (aged 15 years and over in private households who worked full year full time in 2020)	1,165	635	530
Median employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$64,000	\$72,000	\$57,200
Average employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$69,600	\$78,800	\$58,600
<b>Red Lake (Métis Identity)</b>			
Number of employment income recipients (aged 15 years and over in private households who worked full year full time in 2020)	95	45	55
Median employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$83,000	\$96,000	\$54,400
Average employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$82,000	\$104,000	\$62,000

Income Statistics	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Ear Falls (Métis Identity)</b>			
Number of employment income recipients (aged 15 years and over in private households who worked full year full time in 2020)	25	25	0
Median employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Average employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$80,000	\$85,000	\$0
<b>Ontario</b>			
Number of employment income recipients (aged 15 years and over in private households who worked full year full time in 2020)	3,865,695	2,145,810	1,719,885
Median employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$67,000	\$72,000	\$61,600
Average employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$82,400	\$90,700	\$72,000

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023h) (Statistics Canada, 2023i) (Statistics Canada, 2023j) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).  
Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## 6.1.2 MUNICIPALITIES

### 6.1.2.1 MUNICIPALITY OF RED LAKE

#### Participation and Employment

The labour force indicators for Red Lake and Ontario are presented in Table 6-14. According to Move to NW Ontario, Goldcorp Red Lake Gold Mines is the largest employer in the area (Move to NW Ontario, 2024). Census data indicates that in 2021 participation rates were at 66.6% and employment rates were at 63.2% in Red Lake. This is higher compared to the broader Ontario province. The unemployment rate was 5.1%, which was lower than Ontario (12.2%). Regarding gender differences, men+ reported higher participation and employment rates than women+ in both Red Lake and Ontario. Women+ on the other hand, reported higher unemployment rates in both Red Lake and Ontario (Statistics Canada, 2023f) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

**Table 6-11: Labour Force Indicators for Red Lake and Ontario, 2021**

Labour Force Indicator	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Red Lake</b>			
Population 15+ Years	3,260	1,670	1,590
In the labour force	2,170	1,180	995
Employed	2,060	1,120	940
Unemployed	110	55	55
Not in the labour force	1,090	490	595
Participation rate (%)	66.6	70.7	62.6
Employment rate (%)	63.2	67.1	59.1
Unemployment rate (%)	5.1	4.7	5.5
<b>Ontario</b>			
Population 15+ Years	11,782,820	5,733,360	6,049,460
In the labour force	7,399,200	3,847,325	3,551,880
Employed	6,492,895	3,416,955	3,075,940

Labour Force Indicator	Total	Men+	Women+
Unemployed	906,310	430,365	475,940
Not in the labour force	4,383,620	1,886,035	2,497,580
Participation rate (%)	62.8	67.1	58.7
Employment rate (%)	55.1	59.6	50.8
Unemployment rate (%)	12.2	11.2	13.4

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023e) (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

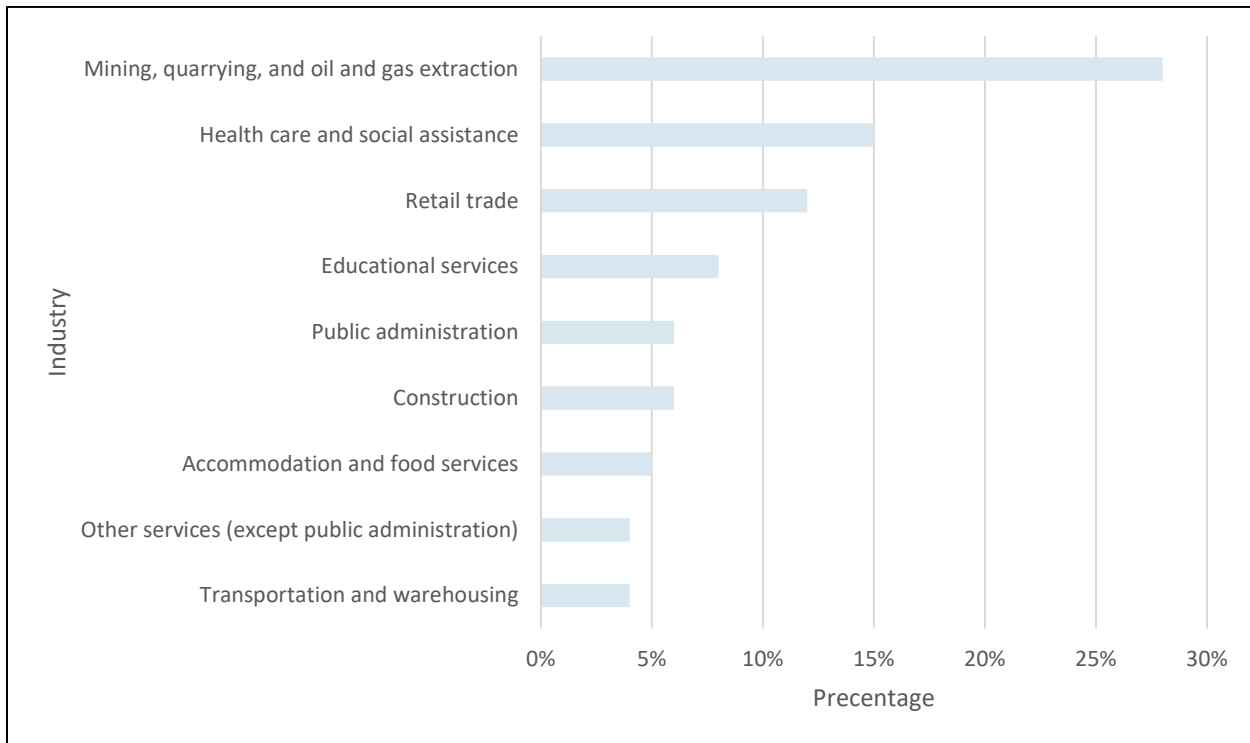
Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Labour Supply

Figure 6-11 represents the workforce of Red Lake by industry according to 2021 Census data. Data shows that approximately 28% of those in the workforce were in the mining, quarrying and oil extraction industry, 15% were in health care and social assistance, and 12% were in retail trade. Industries with a percentage point below 4%, such as finance and insurance, professional, scientific, and technical services, administrative support, and wholesale trade, were not included in Figure 6-11. Men+ made up a higher proportion of the labour force for mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction (42%) compared to women+ (11%). Men+ also made up a higher proportion of the labour force for construction (89%) compared to women+ (1.5%). However, women+ made up a higher proportion of the labour force in health care and social assistance (29%) compared to men+ (3%). Similarly, women+ made up a higher proportion of the labour force for educational services (16%) compared to men+ (3%). Retail trade, public administration, and accommodation and food services had relatively equal proportion of men+ and women+ in the labour force (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

**Figure 6-9: Red Lake Workforce by Industry, 2021**



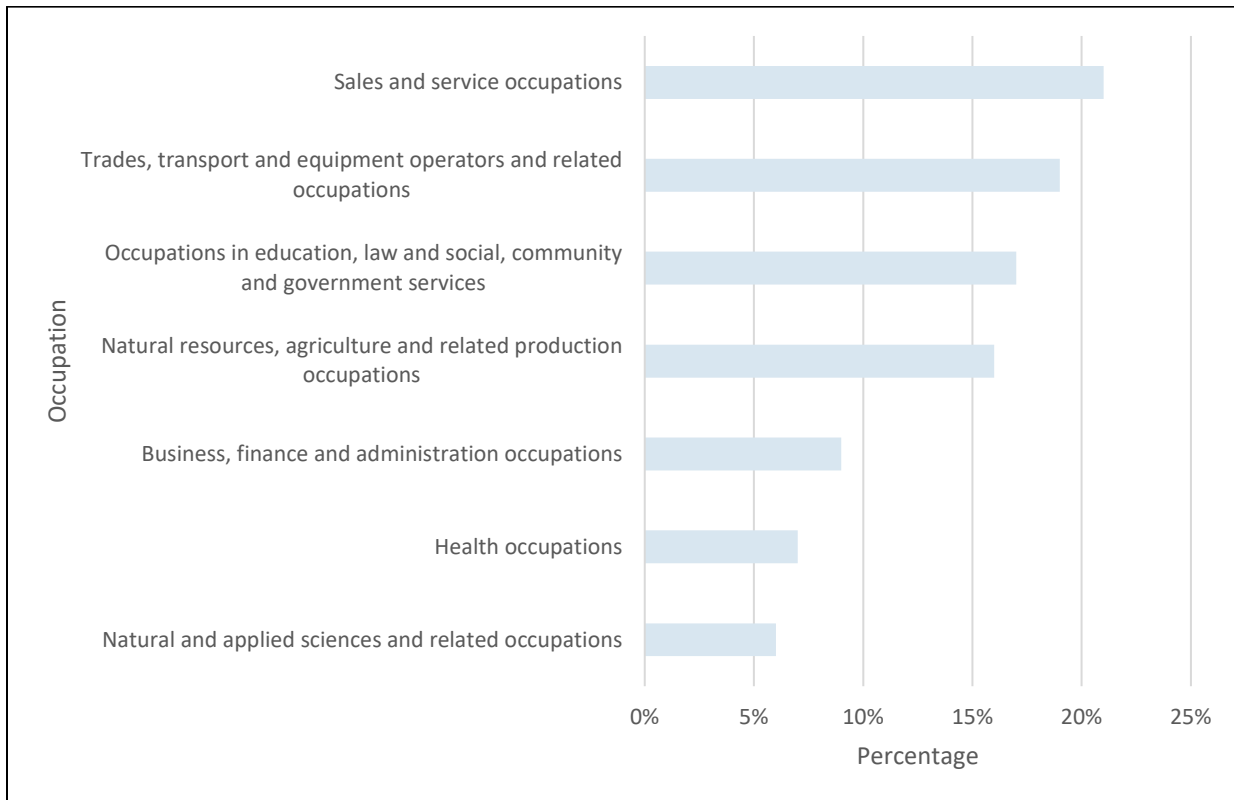
Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

Figure 6-12 shows the types of occupations held by Red Lake residents for those employed at the time of the 2021 Census. The most common occupations were in sales and service (21%), trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations (19%), occupations in education, law and social, community and government services (17%), and natural resources, agriculture and related production (16%). Occupations with a percentage point below 4%, such as occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport, and occupations in manufacturing and utilities, were not included in Figure 6-12. Men+ made up the majority of the population within sales and service occupations (27%) compared to women+ (2.5%). This is similar for trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations (31% and 4%, respectively). However, women+ made up a larger proportion of the population in occupations in education, law and social, community and government services (28% compared to 14% for men). Women+ also made up the majority of the population working in natural resources, agriculture and related production occupations (30%) compared to men+ (7%) (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

**Figure 6-10: Red Lake Workforce by Occupation, 2021**



Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023f).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Sources of Income

The income composition for Red Lake and Ontario is presented in Table 6-15. The total population of Red Lake had a higher percentage of market income (88.6%) and employment income (75.2%) compared to Ontario. Men+ made up a higher proportion of the market income and employment income compared to women+ in both Red Lake and Ontario. Similarly, women+ made up a higher percentage of the population that received government transfers in both Red Lake and Ontario (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

**Table 6-12: Income Composition for Red Lake and Ontario, 2021**

Income Composition	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Red Lake</b>			
Market Income (%)	88.6	92.0	83.0
Employment Income (%)	75.2	78.8	69.2
Government Transfers (%)	11.4	8.1	17.0
<b>Ontario</b>			
Market Income (%)	82.8	87.0	77.8
Employment Income (%)	67.4	71.4	62.3
Government Transfers (%)	17.1	13.0	22.3

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023f) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Employment Income

As indicated in Table 6-16, the median employment income in 2020 among income recipients was \$72,500 in Red Lake and was higher for men+ at \$89,000. The average employment income in 2020 among Red Lake recipients was also higher for men+ compared to women+ by \$31,800. While men+ in Red Lake had a higher median and average employment income compared to men+ in Ontario, women+ in Red Lake had a lower median and average employment income compared to women+ in Ontario (Statistics Canada, 2023f) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

**Table 6-13: Red Lake and Ontario Employment Income Statistics, 2021**

Income Statistics	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Red Lake</b>			
Number of employment income recipients (aged 15 years and over in private households who worked full year full time in 2020)	1,235	675	560
Median employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$72,500	\$89,000	\$55,200
Average employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$79,000	\$93,400	\$61,600
<b>Ontario</b>			
Number of employment income recipients (aged 15 years and over in private households who worked full year full time in 2020)	3,865,695	2,145,810	1,719,885
Median employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$67,000	\$72,000	\$61,600
Average employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$82,400	\$90,700	\$72,000

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023f) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Employment Income: Participation Barriers

Given that the average cost of childcare in Ontario as of 2018 was \$11,500 per child - per year, the average income earner in Red Lake would spend 14.5% of their income on childcare (Statistics Canada, 2018). There are three childcare services in Red Lake (see Section 0), with a limited supply of available subsidizes (Municipality of Red Lake and Township of Ear Falls, 2020). The combination of affordability issues and accessibility have disproportionately negative effects on women, whose work hours decrease more than men with the presence of a child in the household (Moyser, 2017).

#### 6.1.2.2 TOWNSHIP OF EAR FALLS

The Ear Falls Division of Interfor recently acquired the sawmill and employs over 150 unionized employees and 20 staff (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, 2019).

## Participation and Employment

Table 6-17 presents the data for labour force in Ear Falls and Ontario. Census data from 2021 indicates the population of Ear Falls aged 15 years and older had an employment rate of 54.2% and an unemployment rate of 11.8%. The remaining population were classified as not participating in the labour force, meaning they identified as not seeking employment. The participation and employment rate were higher for men+ compared to women+ in both Ear Falls and Ontario. While the unemployment rate was equal for both men+ and women+ in Ear Falls, women+ made up a higher proportion of the unemployment rate in Ontario. The total population of Ear Falls had a lower participation, employment, and unemployment rate compared to Ontario (Statistics Canada, 2023e) (Statistics Canada, 2023a).

**Table 6-14: Labour Force Indicators for Ear Falls and Ontario, 2021**

Labour Force Indicator	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Ear Falls</b>			
Population 15+ Years	895	505	390
In the labour force	550	320	230
Employed	485	290	200
Unemployed	65	35	25
Not in the labour force	345	185	165
Participation rate (%)	61.5	63.4	59.0
Employment rate (%)	54.2	57.4	51.3
Unemployment rate (%)	11.8	10.9	10.9
<b>Ontario</b>			
Population 15+ Years	11,782,820	5,733,360	6,049,460
In the labour force	7,399,200	3,847,325	3,551,880
Employed	6,492,895	3,416,955	3,075,940
Unemployed	906,310	430,365	475,940
Not in the labour force	4,383,620	1,886,035	2,497,580
Participation rate (%)	62.8	67.1	58.7
Employment rate (%)	55.1	59.6	50.8
Unemployment rate (%)	12.2	11.2	13.4

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023a) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

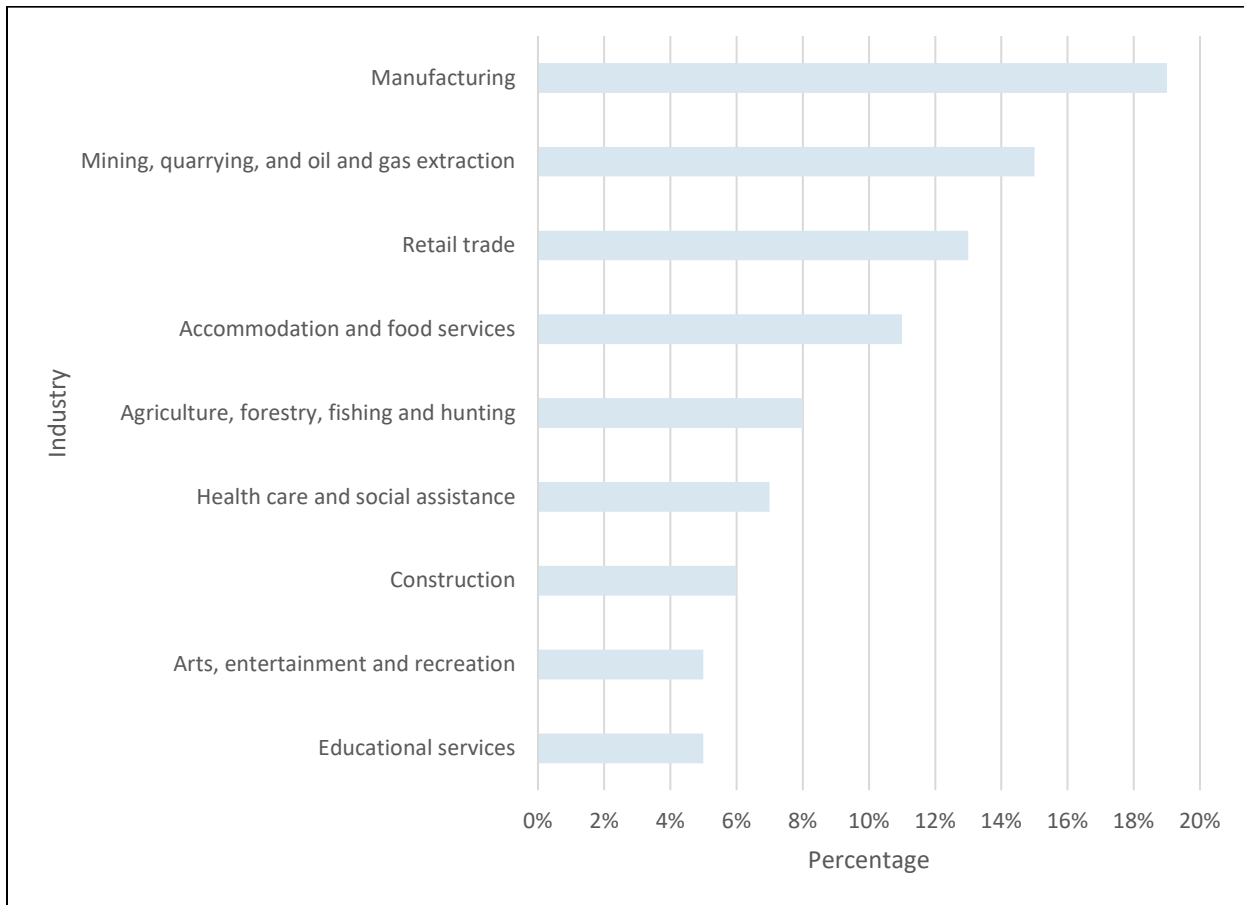
Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## Labour Supply

Figure 6-13 presents the workforce of Ear Falls by industry, according to 2021 Census data. The data shows that 19% of those in the workforce were in manufacturing, 15% were in the mining, quarrying and oil extraction industry, 13% were in retail trade, and 11% were in accommodation and food services. Industries with a percentage point lower than 4%, such as educational services, utilities, information and cultural industries, and finance and insurance, and administrative support, were not included in Figure 6-13. Men+ made up a higher proportion of the population working in manufacturing (22%) compared to women+ (13%). This is similar for mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction (20% to 4%, respectively). Men+ made up the entire population working in construction. However, women+ made up a higher proportion of the population working in retail trade (22%) compared to men+ (5%). Women+ made up the entire population working in arts, entertainment and recreation, as well as educational services (Statistics Canada, 2023a) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

**Figure 6-11: Ear Falls Workforce by Industry, 2021**



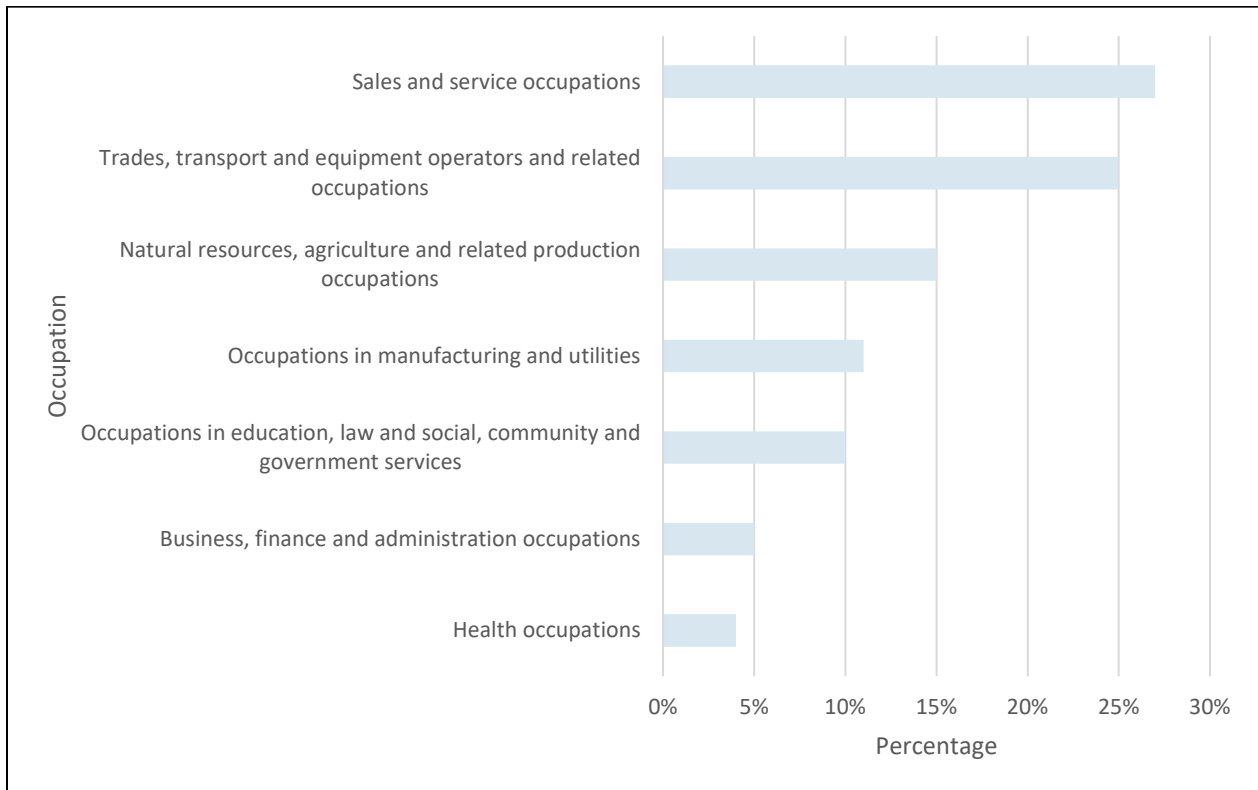
Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023a) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

Figure 6-14 shows the types of occupations held by Ear Falls residents employed at the time of the 2021 Census. The most common occupations were in sales and service (27%), trades; transport and equipment operators (25%), and natural resources; agriculture and related production (15%). Occupations with a percentage point lower than 4%, such as occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport, and natural and applied sciences, were not included in Figure 6-14. Women+ made up a higher proportion of the population working in sales and service occupations (44%) compared to men+ (15%). However, men+ made up the majority of the population working in trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations (39%) compared to women+ (7%). Men+ made up the entire population working in natural resources, agriculture, and related production occupations (Statistics Canada, 2023a).

**Figure 6-12: Ear Falls Workforce by Occupation, 2021**



Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023a).

Note - The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Sources of Income

The income composition for Ear Falls and Ontario for 2021 is presented in Table 6-18. Men+ made up a higher proportion of the market income (84%) compared to women+ (73.5%) in Ear Falls, as well as in employment income (73% to 58%, q). While the market income of the total population of Ear Falls is 2.4% lower than Ontario, Ear Falls has a higher employment income to Ontario by 0.6%. Women+ made up a higher proportion of the population that received government transfers in both Ear Falls and Ontario (Statistics Canada, 2023a) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

**Table 6-15: Income Composition for Ear Falls and Ontario, 2021**

Income Composition	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Ear Falls</b>			
Market Income (%)	80.4	84.0	73.5
Employment Income (%)	68.0	73.0	58.0
Government Transfers (%)	19.5	15.9	26.8
<b>Ontario</b>			
Market Income (%)	82.8	87.0	77.8
Employment Income (%)	67.4	71.4	62.3
Government Transfers (%)	17.1	13.0	22.3

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023a) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## Employment Income

As indicated in Table 6-19, the median employment income for 2020 in Ear Falls among income recipients was \$72,000 and was higher for men+ at \$85,000. The average employment income among recipients was \$77,500, which was higher for men+ at \$89,000 compared to women+ (\$60,000). While the median employment income was \$5000 higher in Ear Falls compared to Ontario, Ontario had a higher average employment income by \$4,900. Similar to Ear Falls, women+ in Ontario earned less median and average employment income compared to men+ (Statistics Canada, 2023a) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

**Table 6-16: Employment Income Statistics for Ear Falls and Ontario, 2021**

Income Statistics	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Ear Falls</b>			
Number of employment income recipients (aged 15 years and over in private households who worked full year full time in 2020)	275	170	105
Median employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$72,000	\$85,000	\$62,000
Average employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$77,500	\$89,000	\$60,000
<b>Ontario</b>			
Number of employment income recipients (aged 15 years and over in private households who worked full year full time in 2015)	3,865,695	2,145,810	1,719,885
Median employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$67,000	\$72,000	\$61,600
Average employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$82,400	\$90,700	\$72,000

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023a) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Employment Income: Participation Barriers

Ear Falls encounters similar barriers to Red Lake surrounding the affordability and accessibility of childcare. However, distinctions can be made regarding Ear Fall's lower average income (\$77,500) compared to Red Lake (\$79,000). Specifically, the average income earner in Ear Falls would be spending 14.8% of their income on childcare, compared to 14.5% for Red Lake (Statistics Canada, 2018). There is also one childcare service in Ear Falls (Township of Ear Falls, n.d. - c) compared to three in Red Lake (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, n.d. - b).

#### 6.1.2.3 DISTRICT OF KENORA

### Participation and Employment

The labour force indicators for the Kenora District compared to the Province of Ontario are presented in Table 6-11. Census data indicates participation rates in 2021 [VB1] to be at 57.3% in Kenora, with employment rate at 52.4%. This indicates a downward trend from 2016, when the reported participation rate in Kenora was 60.7%, with an employment rate of 53.6%, and 2011, when the participation rate was 63.7%, with a 57.2% employment rate. While the employment rate is lower in Kenora compared to Ontario (62.8%), Ontario has a higher unemployment rate (12.2%) compared to Kenora (8.7%). Regarding gender differences, men+ report higher participation rates, employment rates, and unemployment rates than women+ in Kenora District. In Ontario, women+ have a higher unemployment rate (13.4%) compared to men+ (11.2%) (Statistics Canada, 2023c) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

**Table 6-17: Labour Force Indicators for Kenora District and Ontario, 2021**

Labour Force Indicator	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Kenora District</b>			
Population 15+ Years	50,995	25,645	25,350
In the labour force	29,245	15,300	13,395
Employed	26,715	13,850	12,865
Unemployed	2,530	1,450	1,080
Not in the labour force	21,750	10,345	11,405
Participation rate (%)	57.3	59.7	55.0
Employment rate (%)	52.4	54.0	50.7
Unemployment rate (%)	8.7	9.5	7.7
<b>Ontario</b>			
Population 15+ Years	11,782,820	5,733,360	6,049,460
In the labour force	7,399,200	3,847,325	3,551,880
Employed	6,492,895	3,416,955	3,075,940
Unemployed	906,310	430,365	475,940
Not in the labour force	4,383,620	1,886,035	2,497,580
Participation rate (%)	62.8	67.1	58.7
Employment rate (%)	55.1	59.6	50.8
Unemployment rate (%)	12.2	11.2	13.4

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023c) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

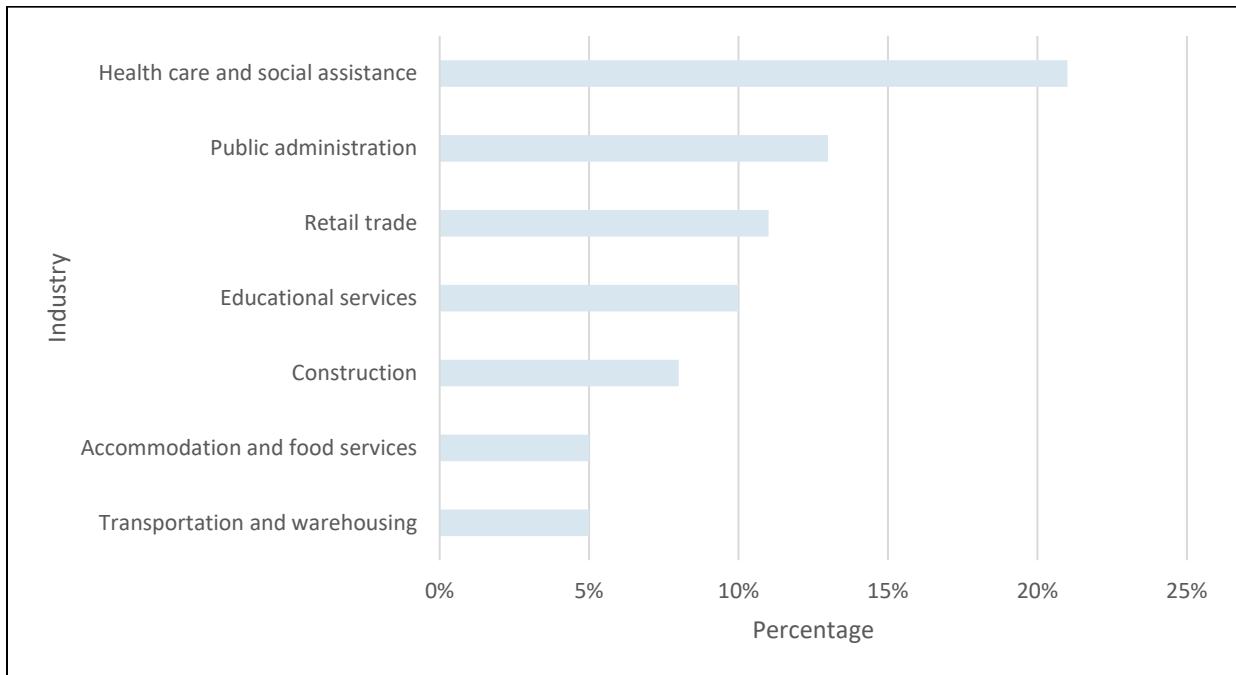
Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Labour Supply

The workforce by industry for Kenora District is presented in Figure 6-9. This figure demonstrates the top seven industries in the District according to the 2021 Census. Industries with a percentage point below 4%, such as agriculture, mining, utilities, manufacturing, finance and insurance, professional, scientific, and technical services, administrative support, and wholesale trade, were not included. Health care and social assistance represent the largest industry in the Kenora District. The other primary industries in the district include public administration, retail trade, educational services, construction, accommodation and food services, and transportation and warehousing (Statistics Canada, 2023c). The main employers in the district include, but are not limited to, Evolution Mining, Dryden Fibre, Lake of the Woods District Hospital, Keewatin Patricia District School Board, District of Kenora Home for the Aged, Trus Joist Weyerhaeuser, Canadian Pacific Railway, Firefly, Kenora Catholic School Board, and Canada Safeway Inc. (Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants, n.d. - b).

**Figure 6-13: Kenora District Workforce by Industry, 2021**



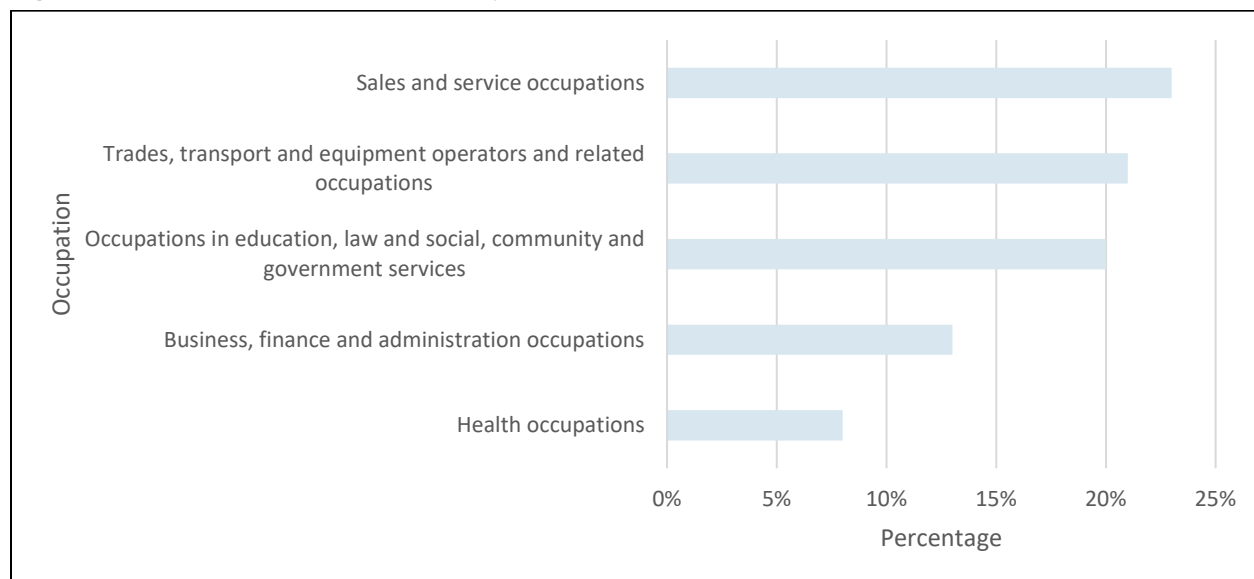
Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023c).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

Figure 6-10 shows the types of occupations held by Kenora District residents employed at the time of the 2021 Census. The most common occupations were in sales services (23%), trades; transport and equipment operations (21%), occupations in education, law, and social, community and government services (20%), business, finance and administration occupations (13%), and health occupations (8%). Occupations with a percentage point below 4%, such as occupations in natural resources and agriculture, occupations in manufacturing and utilities, and occupations in art, culture, recreation and sport were not included in Figure 6-10 (Statistics Canada, 2023c).

**Figure 6-14: Kenora District Workforce by Occupation, 2021**



Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023c).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Sources of Income

The income composition for the Kenora District and Ontario is presented in Table 6-12. Men+ made up a higher percentage than women+ for both market and employment income in both the Kenora District and Ontario. As such, the government transfers are almost double the percentage points for women+ compared to men+ in both Kenora District and Ontario. Kenora District has a lower percentage of total market income (80%) and employment income (65.2%) compared to Ontario averages (Statistics Canada, 2023c) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

**Table 6-18: Income Composition Statistics for Kenora District and Ontario, 2021**

Income Composition Kenora District	Total	Men+	Women+
<b>Kenora District</b>			
Market Income (%)	80.0	84.6	74.2
Employment Income (%)	65.2	68.0	61.8
Government Transfers (%)	20.0	15.4	25.8
<b>Ontario</b>			
Market Income (%)	82.8	87.0	77.8
Employment Income (%)	67.4	71.4	62.3
Government Transfers (%)	17.1	13.0	22.3

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023c) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

### Employment Income

As indicated in Table 6-13, the median employment income in 2020 among income recipients was \$59,600 in Kenora District and was higher for men+ at \$64,000 compared to women+ at \$55,600. The average employment income in 2020 among recipients was \$65,700, which was also higher for men+ compared to women+. The median and average employment income in 2020 was higher in Ontario compared to Kenora District (Statistics Canada, 2023c) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

**Table 6-19: Employment Income Statistics for Kenora District and Ontario, 2021**

<b>Income Statistics</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Men+</b>	<b>Women+</b>
<b>Kenora District</b>			
Number of employment income recipients (aged 15 years and over in private households who worked full year full time in 2020)	16,530	8,895	7,640
Median employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$59,600	\$64,000	\$55,600
Average employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$65,700	\$71,100	\$59,500
<b>Ontario</b>			
Number of employment income recipients (aged 15 years and over in private households who worked full year full time in 2020)	3,865,695	2,145,810	1,719,885
Median employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$67,000	\$72,000	\$61,600
Average employment income in 2020 among recipients (Full-year full-time workers)	\$82,400	\$90,700	\$72,000

Source: (Statistics Canada, 2023c) (Statistics Canada, 2023e).

Note:

The category men+ includes men, as well as some non-binary persons. The category women+ includes women, as well as some non-binary persons.

## 6.2 ECONOMIC SECTOR OVERVIEW

Red Lake is known for its rich gold mine industry that is critical to the success of the region. The increase in possible mining opportunities directly provides access to future employment and business opportunities for the region. The local impact may expand to a much wider region and displays their economic importance on a larger national scale (Murray J, 2024).

Historically Ear Falls became known for its rich mining industry, fur trade and recently developed tourism industry. The tourism industry was also significantly impacted during Covid-19 and negatively impacted the economic strength of the community (Forrest P and Gutsche E, 2021).

The Chukuni Development Corporation (Chukuni) is a non-profit business development organization funded by Industry Canada and FedNor. Chukuni supports community economic development by providing services to local small and mid-sized enterprises in its catchment area, which stretches from Vermillion Bay to Red Lake. Both Ear Falls and Red Lake are serviced by Chukuni (Chukuni Community Development Corporation, n.d.).

Chukuni has Community Development Strategy for 2020 to 2024. The focus areas in the Community Development Strategy are:

- Market the community;
- Encourage Youth Retention;
- Becoming a community data hub for planning, training and development.
- Use partnerships to improve quality of life and recreational opportunities;
- Promote arts, culture and recreational opportunities; and
- Regional approach to have more diverse local economy and more visitors who feel welcome and spend more time in the area

There are also desired action items in the Community Development Strategy, some of which are found below.

- Attract immigrants to the Ear Falls/Red Lake District;
- Develop a guide to the Red Lake/Ear Falls;
- Maintain and Improve Welcome Bags;

- Communicate more effectively with residents;
  - Encourage Quality Recruitment;
  - Host a career and job fair;
  - Support Recruiters;
  - Obtain funding for a community mural project;
  - Street banner project;
  - Home based business trade show;
  - Downtown revitalization - historical signage;
  - Provide regular workshops for all ages; and
  - Develop entrepreneur training.
- 

### 6.2.1 *INDIGENOUS NATIONS*

The paragraphs below provide an indication of major projects, mining, forestry, construction, infrastructure, tourism, goods and services in these areas. The secondary data relies on availability and require verification from the communities listed below. In some instances, limited information is publicly available.

It is noted by Statistics Canada that important data gaps remain evident regarding the business ownership among Indigenous People. In addition, the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business (CCAB) highlighted the lack of information on Indigenous-owned businesses in Canada which resulted to barriers in the development of policies and overall business support (Statistics Canada, 2022).

#### **Indigenous Businesses and Training Opportunities**

Kinross Great Bear is currently developing workforce and training plans, including those specific for Indigenous people. It is expected that workforce and training plans will include partnership with local and regional based education institutes, in addition to alignment with specific Indigenous focused training platforms and organizations aligned to the needs of those Indigenous communities identified for the Project.

Kinross, at all of its global operations, provides training and education programs to ensure they create leaders at all levels through a culture of coaching and development. Their employees are offered a broad range of training opportunities to support mining, mineral processing and maintenance operations. All sites have full-time trainers. At the regional level, training programs are offered to address specific workplace needs such as literacy, language skills, and to help employees manage retirement or termination of employment. It is anticipated that Kinross Great Bear will align with these board strategies, programs, and policies while accounting for local needs as determined.

Kinross Great Bear is currently committed to the inclusion and consideration of Indigenous businesses as defined under the Amended Exploration Agreement and local policy guidance under the draft Local Procurement Policy. It is expected that further commitments will be established under ongoing dialogue with the communities of Lac Seul First Nation (LSFN) and Wabauskang First Nation (WFN). In addition, it is expected that ongoing dialogue with local business associations may create additional commercial considerations for Great Bear.

As per the Company's Amended Exploration Agreement with WFN and LSFN, Great Bear will provide an updated Procurement Opportunity Inventory on a quarterly basis with all known goods and services Great Bear anticipates, and to its knowledge its contractors and subcontractors, will likely procure over the following six (6) months. These notices are issued to the joint economic development corporation Shared Spirits.

In accordance with the Agreement, the communities of WFN and LSFN will provide Great Bear with a list of qualified Indigenous businesses. This list continues to evolve and inform the bidding process for the

Project. LSFN and WFN may further indicate the priority in which businesses should be considered for contracting opportunities.

In conjunction to those commercial commitments Kinross has developed a Local Procurement Policy (“Policy”) to prioritize the use of Local, Indigenous and First Nations Partner Suppliers located within the “Local Benefit Footprint” (“the LBF”) area, encourage local business development, and to strive to ensure that the Company’s contractors and suppliers also do the same throughout the advancement of the Great Bear Project. The LBF area is defined as the area from Red Lake, ON (northern point), Fort Frances, ON (southern point), Winnipeg, MB (western point), and Nipigon, ON (eastern point). We expect that Local, Indigenous Partner Suppliers will offer commercial advantages for the Project given their proximity and familiarity with the area. It is expected that local service providers can successfully deliver on ongoing procurement and capital needs for Great Bear (Kinross, 2024).

### **6.2.1.1 LAC SEUL FIRST NATION**

#### **Organizations and Businesses Income**

The Lac Seul area is known to have a number of organizations and businesses to support the local communities and some of these entities include:

- Joint ventures: Boart, DOMCO, Northern Mat and Bridge, Obish Construction, Perron Contracting, Synterra Security Solutions, Wisk Air Helicopters;
- Shared Spirit Joined Ventures: Outland Dexterra;
- Band Member Owned Businesses: Anderson Electric IN, Keesic Health Strategies, Northern Development Resources, Tim Horton’s Red Lake and Yutzy Contracting; and
- In addition to the convenience centres, Lac Seul provides entry to tourist housing, memorial complex and access centres (Lac Seul First Nation, n.d.).

#### **Major Regional Projects**

At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding major regional projects being planned by or in the Lac Seul First Nation. In future, additional information will be collected in collaboration with the communities. Information listed below is subject to verification by the local communities.

#### **Mining**

The Lac Seul First Nation engages and has executed commercial arrangements with several proponents in the local region, both individually and in collaboration with Wabauskang First Nation.

Aligning to the overall External Relations approach, Kinross goals include to successfully increase spend with Local, Indigenous and First Nation Partner Suppliers within the LBF, Capacity will be built through a combination of the following:

- Meet and greets with suppliers in the LBF to grow the local business registry;
- Advance notice of upcoming opportunities to Local Suppliers, see note below;
- Hosting workshops on Project contracting procedures and typical RFP requirements;
- Utilizing Identified Local Opportunities to help companies grow with smaller scopes; and
- Providing feedback and recommendations when Local, Indigenous and First Nation Partner Suppliers are not successful. Feedback to be provided in a constructive manner to help them improve for future packages.

#### **Forestry**

The Obishikokaang Resources Corporation (ORC) was established by the Lac Seul First Nation in 2012 to manage the Lac Seul forest and provide economic development opportunities for the Nation. The corporation has held a forest resource license to manage the Lac Seul Forest since July 2012 and

oversees planning, harvesting, silviculture, and road building (Obishikokaang Resources Corporation, 2016). The goal of the ORC is to extend economic development in the area, focus on community capacity building and meet forest management expectations (Obishikokaang Resources Corporation, 2016). In 2017 it was mentioned that the Lac Seul Sawmill continued to explore expansion opportunities with the hope to create more local avenues in terms of skills and individual employment openings (McKay J, 2017).

### **Construction**

Lac Seul First Nation is also currently implementing a road reconstruction project, in addition to planning for construction of an arena/business conference centre, an economic development building, and an elder and youth drop-in centre (211 Ontario North, 2023a). The Lac Seul's First Nation Capital Projects continue to identify opportunities related to construction especially with regards to housing and additional educational centres (Lac Seul First Nation, 2023).

### **Infrastructure**

Lac Seul First Nation is a joint owner of Waynikaneyap Power, in partnership with 24 other First Nations and Goldcorps. Waynikaneyap Power is planning to reinforce existing transmission lines between Pickle Lake and Musselwhite Mine, as well as constructing new transmission lines to service remote First Nation communities north of Pickle Lake (211 Ontario North, 2023a).

Lac Seul First Nation has also partnered with OPG in 2009 to construct the Obishikokaang Waasiganikewigamig 12MW hydro-electric power station on the Lac Seul Reservoir of the English River. The Nation currently has a 25% equity share in the station which provides revenue for the community (Ontario Power Generation Inc., 2019).

According to Indigenous Canada 574 waste and drinking water projects have been initiated since 2016. These projects include new, upgraded and repaired water infrastructure projects in the vicinity. A number of 265 projects have been completed and another 309 still needs to be delivered (The Government of Canada, 2020). The Government of Canada and the First Nations are working together to improve access to water infrastructure at the reserve areas. The opening of a new plant in Kejick Bay was celebrated in 2020 according to Indigenous Services Canada. The availability of water not only provides access to drinking water but also provision of fire protection to the residents in the area (The Government of Canada, 2020). The Lac Seul Public Works and O&M Department is responsible for roads, water systems, community operated buildings and heavy equipment. The Water department is finishing work at the Whitefish Bay water treatment plant. In addition, an application was submitted for a new water treatment plant in Kejick Bay. The application was approved for an amount of \$5,4 million with the expectation that Lac Seul will contribute one third of the costs (Lac Seul First Nation, 2023).

### **Tourism**

Mahkwa Lodge is a conference and retreat centre located in Whitefish Bay on the south bank of Lac Seul. The facility offers meals and accommodations for up to 80 people and is open year-round (Mahkwa Lodge, 2023). The Lac Seul Islands conservation reserve provides a variety of camping opportunities to visitors but is also protected under the Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act (Ontario Parks, 2024). Besides the significant history of Lac Seul, the area offers a range of tourism activities inclusive of fishing and boating (Northern Ontario Travel, 2023).

### **Goods and Services Profile**

Several businesses provide a variety of goods and services in Lac Seul First Nation. The Red Pine Convenience Store, Golden Eagle Convenience, and Irv's Snack Shak provide groceries and necessities. The local radio station CKZY-FM operates at 90.3 FM and provides programming for Lac Seul First Nation (Lac Seul First Nation, 2023a).

#### **6.2.1.2 WABAUSKANG FIRST NATION**

In 2018, the Lac Seul First Nation and Wabauskang First Nation joined efforts to develop a shared business approach to resource development. The First Nation's aim to work together with the goal to take advantage of shared business opportunities (Shared Spirits, 2024).

## **Major Regional Projects**

At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding major regional projects being planned by or in Wabauskang First Nation. Secondary research indicates that a significant portion of the area experienced water contamination which influenced their reliability on the fishing industry (NationTalk, 2008).

### **Mining**

At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding mining projects being planned by or in Wabauskang First Nation. Pure Gold committed to the establishment of long-term relationships with Wabauskang and Lac Seul (Northern Ontario Business, 2024). The data requires verification from the communities.

### **Forestry**

The management of forests must be prepared in accordance with the Forest Management Planning Manual which is the responsibility of Ontario's Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. Wabauskang First Nation falls within the Whiskey Jack Forest and have been identified to have traditional lands, values and interests in the forest. At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding forestry projects being planned by or in Wabauskang First Nation.

### **Construction**

At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding construction projects being planned by or in Wabauskang First Nation; however, it is acknowledged that significant community-based construction and infrastructure works are in progress or under consideration at this time. The data requires verification from the communities.

### **Infrastructure**

At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding infrastructure projects being planned by or in Wabauskang First Nation. The Government of Canada requested submissions of proposals to assist with the new development and upgrade of existing infrastructure. These opportunities also provide a capacity building programme to equip the communities from Wabauskang (Government of Canada, 2022).

After an assessment of the water infrastructure quality in 2001, various issues were identified in terms of the boil water advisory, equipment malfunction, ongoing operational issues and lack of certified professionals as well as technical individuals to assist (cbc.ca, 2001).

### **Tourism**

Indigenous Peoples have a rich category of traditions, stories and landscapes to share with visitors. The Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada (ITAC) plays an important role to support the small businesses associated with Indigenous Tourism (Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada, 2024). At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding tourism businesses by or in Wabauskang First Nation.

### **Goods and Services Profile**

At the time of desktop research, limited information was available regarding goods and services by or in Wabauskang First Nation.

One service was identified related to wood products offered by Makoose Wood Innovations (NorthWesthealthline, 2024).

#### **6.2.1.3 ASUBPEESCHOSEEWAGONG NETUM ANISHINABEK FIRST NATION**

Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation has a range of businesses inclusive of the following:

- Ball Lake Lodge;

- Grassy Lodge;
- Ojibway-aking Marina;
- English River Fishing Adventures; and
- Logging and heating businesses (Mercury Disability Board, 2024).

### **Major Regional Projects**

One of the key projects in the area relates to the Mercury Care Home Framework Agreement. The Mercury Care Home facility aims to provide access to specialised care for residents closer to home (Government of Canada, 2021). At the time of desktop research, limited additional information was available regarding major regional projects being planned by or in Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation.

### **Mining**

At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding mining projects being planned by or in Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation. Although secondary information is available about potential mining activities in the area, the data requires cross referencing and verification.

### **Forestry**

Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek (Asubpeeschoseewagong) First Nation is located in the Whiskey Jack Forest. The area is the responsibility of the Ontario Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry. Planning is provided *via* the use and implementation of guidelines set-out in the 10-year period management plans (Miisun Integrated Resource Management Company, 2024). At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding forestry related projects being planned by or in Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation.

### **Construction**

At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding construction projects being planned by or in Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation. Additional primary data is required to identify the status of construction projects in the area.

### **Infrastructure**

At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding infrastructure projects being planned by or in Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation. Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation struggled with poor quality water over many years and faced challenges related to resources pollution as result of low-quality water treatment plants. The poor wastewater management continues to impact a safe living environment for the community members of Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek. The historical eventsof mercury contamination during 1960s impacted the communities' ability to gain access to clean drinking water. According to records the community was asked to relocate to a new area along the river that subsequently impacted their access to water (Urban Water Atlas, 2021).

The lack of funding to ensure the upkeep of the infrastructure remains a problem in addition to minimal budget provided by the federal government (Urban Water Atlas, 2021).

### **Tourism**

At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding tourism businesses by or in Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation. Community sensitivity exist around potential mining and logging activities that may influence the occurrences of tourism as well. Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada (ITAC) collaborates with the Indigenous Communities to identify tourism experiences and businesses that are Indigenous Owned (Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada, 2024).

## **Goods and Services Profile**

At the time of desktop research, limited information was not available regarding goods and services by or in Asubpeeschoseewagong Netum Anishinabek First Nation.

### **6.2.1.4 NORTHWESTERN ONTARIO MÉTIS COMMUNITY (MÉTIS NATION OF ONTARIO - REGION 1)**

The information in the section below provides a summary of the major regional projects, mining, forestry, construction, infrastructure, tourism, goods and services profiles. In some instances, data sets are not publicly available and therefore additional primary research will be required.

The Métis National Council continues to explore opportunities related to economic development and trade. One of the objectives includes a need to improve socio-economic conditions of the Métis people (Métis National Council, 2024).

## **Major Regional Projects**

At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding major regional projects specific to the Northwestern Ontario Métis community.

## **Mining**

The Métis Nation of Ontario launched a Labour Market Survey in 2021 that allows community members to present their interests in the mining industry. In this case, Greenstone Gold and MNO will work together to fill the gap related to employment in the mining sector (Métis Nation of Ontario, 2021). According to the Greenstone Mine External Stakeholder and Indigenous Community Plan, regular scheduled meetings are in place with the Métis Nation of Ontario (Equinox Gold, 2024). At the time of desktop research, limited information was available regarding mining projects specific to the Northwestern Ontario Métis community.

## **Forestry**

The Forestry Advisor in the Lands, Resources and Consultations (LRC) Branch of the Métis Nation of Ontario provides support to the Managers in the LRC Branch, Director of the Branch and forestry related issues. The aim of the Forestry Advisor is to facilitate the engagement on a variety of opportunities and challenges (Métis Nation of Ontario, 2024). At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding forestry projects specific to the Northwestern Ontario Métis community.

## **Construction**

At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding construction projects specific to the Northwestern Ontario Métis community.

## **Infrastructure**

At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding infrastructure projects specific to the Northwestern Ontario Métis community. Similar as to the other Nations the issue of water quality and waste management infrastructure continue to be a challenge. In 2021, the Canadian government allocated budget towards the upliftment of the water infrastructure in the area with the aim to improve the living conditions for the community (Government of Canada, 2021).

## **Tourism**

At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding tourism businesses specific to the Northwestern Ontario Métis community. Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada (ITAC) collaborates with the Indigenous Communities to identify tourism experiences and businesses that are Indigenous Owned (Indigenous Tourism Association of Canada, 2024).

## **Goods and Services Profile**

At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding goods and services specific to the Northwestern Ontario Métis community.

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## 6.2.2 MUNICIPALITIES

### 6.2.2.1 MUNICIPALITY OF RED LAKE

#### Major Regional Projects

At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding major regional projects being planned by, or in, Red Lake.

#### Mining

In addition to Great Bear Project, there are two gold mines currently in the exploration phase as indicated in Table 6-20.

**Table 6-20: Mineral and Mining Exploration Projects, Red Lake**

Project	Proponent	Commodity	Location	Description
Madsen Project	West Red Lake Gold	Gold	Red Lake, Ontario	West Red Lake Gold's Madsen Project containing three past producing mines, including: the Gold Shore, Buffalo and Hasaga Mines.
Springpole Project	First Mining Gold	Gold and Silver	Approximately 110 km from Red Lake, Ontario	Open pit gold and silver mine and ore processing facilities with approximately 12 year production life.

Source: (West Red Lake Gold, 2023) (First Mining Gold, n.d.)

#### Forestry

A forest management plan for the Red Lake Forest is being prepared and covers the 2020-2030 time period. The Plan is prepared in alignment with the Crown Forest Sustainability Act (1994) of the Forest Management Planning Manual (2017) and also the Declaration Order MNR-75 (Environmental Registry of Ontario, 2019).

The Red Lake Forest is located in the Northwest Region of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and situated in the Red Lake administrative district. The following areas are included in the area:

- Crown land north of Little Vermilion Lake;
- South to Pakwash Lake;
- East of Woodland Caribou Provincial Park;
- Trout Lake Nature Reserve; and
- Pakwash Provincial Park and Hammell Lake Conservation Reserve (Environmental Registry of Ontario, 2024).

At the time of desktop research, limited information was available regarding forestry projects being planned by or in Red Lake.

#### Construction

Various construction projects occurred in Red Lake Municipality since 2023 mostly related to upgrades of streetlights, expansion to the cemetery, bridge upgrades, beautification improvements and construction of sidewalks at High School to Hughes Crescent (Municipality of Red Lake, 2022). At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding large scale construction projects being planned by or in Red Lake.

## Infrastructure

At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding infrastructure projects, such as road construction or transmission lines, being planned by or in Red Lake. In 2017 the Government of Canada budgeted an amount of \$ 120 000 to the community with the aim to update their infrastructure. A significant portion of the funding was allocated towards a community playground, tourism and set-up of business facilities (Government of Canada, 2017).

Red Lake Airport is located 1 kilometre south of Cochenour, ON. The Airport serves as a point of call for Air Carriers offering scheduled passenger service; an operating base for Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources; and services both private and commercial fixed-wing aircraft and helicopter operators located on site. Commercial air service to the area began in 1926 using the waters of Howey Bay on Red Lake as a float and sea plane base. Due to the freight requirements of the gold mines developing in the area, Howey Bay was recognized as the busiest airport in the world during 1936 and 1937. Construction of a 400' x 150' gravel runway began in 1946 and was put into use on May 29th, 1947 when Canadian Pacific Airlines began daily service from Winnipeg.

The Airport operated privately until 1959 when the Department of Transport took over and lighting was installed. In 1996, the Township of Golden became the owner/operator of the Red Lake Airport and two years later, in 1998, the Township of Golden and Red Lake along with the Local Services Board of Madsen amalgamated to form the Municipality of Red Lake. It was 1993 when the paved runway was extended to 5001' x 150' to help serve the future growth of the Red Lake Area.

In October 2011, a brand-new state-of-the-art Airport Terminal opened its doors to help serve the growing numbers of regional visitors and travellers. On June 22, 2012, the Airport Terminal was officially named J.E.J. Fahlgren Terminal after a man with a great vision for the area. Those leaving or arriving in Red Lake now enter a building that boasts large ticket and rental car counters, luggage carousels, naturally lit seating areas, NAVCan offices and space for administration. Along with these additions, a modern parking lot has been implemented (Red Lake Municipality, 2022).

The Red Lake Drinking Water System is management by Ontario's Safe Drinking Water Act. According to the Red Lake Drinking Water System Report, water production begins as raw water flows by gravity from the intake structure located in Skookum Bay (Red Lake) to underground reservoirs located at the Red Lake Water Treatment Plant (Red Lake Municipality, 2024).

## Tourism

Red Lake has an established tourism sector, with many lakes, beaches, parks, cross-country skiing, snow machining, ice fishing, and an 18-hole golf course at the Red Lake Golf and Country Club. Tourism is further promoted in Red Lake through the Norsemen Festival. This is held every July at Philip Thomas Vinet Centennial Park, where there is live entertainment, music, children's games, movies, activities, rides, street vendors, food booths, pancake breakfasts, fish fry, firework, barbecue, and bush plane sightseeing flights.

Hunting and fishing are popular activities at Woodland Caribou Provincial Park, which has 450,000 hectares of untouched wilderness. RLRHC is a museum that displays many Indigenous artifacts and collections from the gold rush period. Other annual events include the Red Lake Fall Classic Fishing Tournament, Red Lake Traditional Pow Wow, Red Lake Winter Carnival, and Angler Young Angler (Municipality of Red Lake, n.d. - e).

## Goods and Services Profile

Several businesses providing a variety of goods and services operate in Red Lake. The number of businesses by category or service type that are relevant to the Project are presented in Table 6-21.

**Table 6-21: Municipality of Red Lake Businesses and Service Providers**

Category	Number of Businesses
Tourist Camps and Outposts	39
Retail Stores	34
Contractors	28

Category	Number of Businesses
Health Services	23
Mining	22
Recreation and Leisure	21
Red Lake Services: Municipal Government, Regional Organizations	20
Education / Employment	20
Real Estate - Building Rentals	17
Food and Beverage	13
Accommodations	12
Church, Funeral, Cemeteries	12
Restaurants	11
Automotive Sales and Services	11
Airlines and Services	10
Ontario Government Services	9
Laundry / Cleaning	8
Hair Salons and Esthetics	8
Communications / Repairs	7
Facility Rentals	7
Machinery / Equipment	7
Fuel	7
Emergency Services	6
Contractor Accommodations	5
Accounting Services	5
Transportation and Taxi	5
Couriers and Shipping	5
Pet Care / Supplies	5
Photography and Art	5
Wholesale	4
Canoe Outfitters and Guides	4
Home Based Business	4
Legal Services	4
Child Care	3
Logging and Forestry	3
Insurance / Financial	3
Publish, Advertise, and Graphics	3
Banks	2

Source: (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, n.d. - b).

### 6.2.2.2 TOWNSHIP OF EAR FALLS

#### Major Regional Projects

Township of Ear Falls is an incorporated municipality and situated at Highway 105 between Pakwash Lake and Lac Seul in Northwestern Ontario. The area is at large rural and therefore popular for hunting and fishing lodges. Township of Ear Falls is in close vicinity of Red Lake which displays an economic growth that is expected to influence the economic sector of Ear Falls as well. Although the tourism sector plays a key role in future developments of the area, the protection of the environment stays an objective for the Township's future sustainability (Township of Ear Falls, 2018).

At the time of desktop research, limited information was available regarding major regional projects being planned by or in the Township of Ear Falls.

## Mining

The Beyond Lithium exploration started in 2023 and the project is located in 70 km south of Red Lake and 145 km north of Dryden (Beyond Lithium, 2024)

## Forestry

At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding forestry projects being planned by or in the Township of Ear Falls.

## Construction

At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding construction projects being planned by or in the Township of Ear Falls.

## Infrastructure

According to a 2022 Ear Falls Project Description, an application was put forward to develop cottages in the Township of Ear Falls. The development of these cottage lots will increase the economic activity in the surrounding areas and increase the assessment base. The project aimed to provide easy access to the cottages and being located in close vicinity of the existing roadways. After a review of various possible locations, White Wing Road was decided upon (Township of Ear Falls, 2022). At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding infrastructure projects being planned by or in the Township of Ear Falls.

## Tourism

At the time of desktop research, information was not available regarding tourism businesses by or in the Township of Ear Falls.

## Goods and Services Profile

Several businesses provide a variety of goods and services in Ear Falls or service in Ear Falls from Red Lake or the Kenora District. Table 6-22 presents the number of businesses by category or service type that are relevant to the Project.

**Table 6-22: Businesses in Ear Falls by Category or Service Type Relevant to the Project**

Category	Number of Businesses
Construction / Contracting	8
Restaurants and Accommodations	8
Airlines and Service	3
Education / Employment	2
Fuel	2
Logging and Forestry	2
Mining Consultants	2
Real Estate Operators	2
Automotive Sales and Services	1

Source: (Chukuni Communities Development Corporation, 2022b).

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## 6.3 GOVERNMENT REVENUES

According to the 2022 Ontario Budget Report, \$158 billion is planned to be invested in highways and key infrastructure over the next 10 years, including \$20 billion in 2022 and 2023 alone. The building and reconstruction of key highways, such as Highway 413, the Bradford Bypass, Highway 7, and Highway 101 are planned to be underway in the next 10 years (Government of Ontario, 2022a).

The Low-income Individuals and Family Tax Credit is proposed to be enhanced and expanded to provide \$300 in additional tax relief, on average, to 1.1 million workers (Government of Ontario, 2022a).

Through the Ontario Community Infrastructure Fund (OCIF), the government doubled its annual investment to nearly \$2 billion over five years, beginning in 2021-22, to help small, rural and Northern

communities construct and rehabilitate roads, bridges, water and wastewater infrastructure. Upgrades to the Osnaburgh water treatment plant in Mishkeegogamang First Nation have been recently approved under the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program. This is underway to improve access to clean, reliable drinking water, water services, and fire protection (Government of Ontario, 2022a).

In March 2022, the government released its Critical Minerals Strategy to enhance investment in mineral exploration and development. The strategy is a five year road map that focuses on priorities that will support better supply chain connections between industries, resources, and workers in Northern Ontario and manufacturing in the South. Ontario is planning to invest close to \$1 billion to support critical legacy infrastructure such as all-season roads to the Ring of Fire- a mineral deposit in Ontario. The proposed road is needed to ensure reliable, all-season road access to potential mining sites in Northern Ontario. Additionally, in the 2021 Budget, the government announced the covering of up to \$200,000 for mineral exploration and development under the Ontario Junior Exploration Program. The 2022 budget indicates further investment of \$12 million to extend the program for an additional two years (Government of Ontario, 2022a).

### 6.3.1 RED LAKE MUNICIPAL BUDGET AND REVENUES

The Municipality of Red Lake's 2022 budget is \$23,236,509 and the tax levy is \$9,320,000 (Municipality of Red Lake, 2022).

Table 6-23 presents the total revenue, expenses, and annual surplus for the year 2020.

**Table 6-23: Red Lake Municipality Revenue by Source and Annual Surplus, 2020**

Category <sup>1</sup>	Value 2020
Total revenue (\$)	\$22.4 million
Total expenses (\$)	\$19.8 million
Annual surplus (\$)	\$2.6 million
Revenue by source (% of total revenue)	
Property taxation	41%
Transfers from other governments	0%
User fees and service charges	20%
Licenses, permits, rents, etc.	1%
Fines and penalties	1%
Land transfer tax	0%
Other revenue	15%

Source: (Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, 2020).

Note:

<sup>1</sup> Percentages may not add to 100 per cent due to rounding.

### 6.3.2 EAR FALLS MUNICIPAL BUDGET AND REVENUES

The Ear Falls 2022 Municipal budget is \$7,183,083 and the tax levy \$1,993,683 (Township of Ear Falls, 2022c). The total Capital budget is \$2,303,975.

Table 6-24 presents the total revenue, expenses, and annual surplus for the year 2020.

**Table 6-24: Ear Falls Municipality Revenue by Source and Annual Surplus, 2020**

<b>Category<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Value (2020)</b>
Total revenue (\$)	\$6.5 million
Total expenses (\$)	\$4.8 million
Annual surplus (\$)	\$1.7 million
Revenue by source (% of total revenue)	
Property taxation	41%
Transfers from other governments	0%
User fees and service charges	32%
Licenses, permits, rents, etc.	0%
Fines and penalties	1%
Land transfer tax	0%
Other revenue	1%

Source: (Ontario Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing, 2020).

Note:

<sup>1</sup> Percentages may not add to 100 per cent due to rounding.

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