

NORTHERN ROAD LINK NEWSLETTER

Issue 8 | October 2022

PROGRESS & UPDATES

Progress and updates since the last Northern Road Link (NRL) Newsletter include:

- Posted the proposed Terms of Reference (ToR) on April 29, 2022 for a 60-day comment period
- Following completion of comment period on June 28, 2022, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) extended the review period for Indigenous communities until December 14, 2022

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

- Submission of formal Initial Project Description (IPD) to the Agency
- Ongoing 2022 field surveys
- Ongoing meetings and presentations with Indigenous Communities regarding the Indigenous Knowledge (IK) Program
- Resume livestream shows. Upcoming topics include discussing comments received on the ToR
- Responses to ToR comments
- Project Update for Marten Falls and Webequie Members in Thunder Bay – November 30, 2022

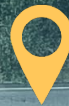
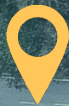
Moose

Photo Credit: Jon Pleizier

Fall/Winter 2022
Ongoing Engagement, IK
Program, Field Studies, and
Submission of IPD and DPD

Winter/Spring 2023
Start Environmental
Assessment / Impact
Assessment

Spring 2023
Public and Indigenous
community open
houses



COMMUNITY INSIGHTS

Marten Falls First Nation

Marten Falls First Nation (MFFN) is an Anishinaabe community of 825 members, located approximately 400 kilometres northeast of Thunder Bay at the junction of the Albany and Ogoki Rivers¹. Also known as Ogoki Post, this community was known as being a supply depot and place to purchase boats and canoes for travelers going south. In 1924, the community moved 64 kilometres down the Albany River due to dangerous rapids at Marten Falls. MFFN is fly-in, meaning there is no all-season road access to this community. Ojibwe is commonly spoken in MFFN. Camping, fishing, hunting, and other ecotourism activities can be enjoyed in the region.



NRL Impacts on MFFN

“[The NRL] offers us an opportunity to put thoughts, actions, and all our sense of working together with our team and community to build something that we should be proud of in the future and that we are going to use every day.” - Chief Achneepineskum, 2021

Chief Bruce Achneepineskum spoke on behalf of MFFN Council about the benefits of an all-season road to the MFFN community, including economic opportunities and self-sufficiency². Meaningful engagement with the provincial and federal government, business sectors, and other First Nation communities will ultimately lead to economic prosperity, job opportunities, improved food security, and better community services.



Yellow Warbler
Photo Credit: Jon Pleizier



Moccasins



Northern Blue Flag
(*Iris versicolor* L.)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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1. <https://www.martenfallsaccessroad.ca/>
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rj5s6OjHdbg>