

FIRST NATION CONSULTATION PROGRAM

First Nation Communities involved in the Matabitchuan River Water Management Plan are as follows:

- Temagami First Nation (TFN), Teme-Augama Anishnabai (TAA), Matachewan First Nation, Mattagami First Nation and the Wabun Tribal Council.

Based on the Provincial consultation protocols, the Ministry of Natural Resources has engaged those First Nation Communities whose traditional lands and areas of interest fall within the Matabitchuan River system water management planning area.

First Nation Consultation is a separate and parallel process for each of First Nation communities involved and is based on their individual community's consultation needs and requirements. All of the First Nations involved have representation on the Steering Committee and Planning Team. The Teme-Augama Anishnabai has chosen to have a representative on the Public Advisory Committee. The Terms of Reference lists the representatives for each of the First Nations. The MNR and the Facility Owners have worked co-operatively with the First Nations to develop the WMP in an open, transparent, and consultative manner. First Nation representatives have participated in the ongoing planning process, in the development of the Terms of Reference and the subsequent stages of the plan.

The MNR and facility owners have made commitments for staff to travel to First Nation Communities, to meet and discuss the technical aspects of dams and generating facilities and the current river operating regime. Several such introduction and scoping sessions have been undertaken to date. The MNR has also worked with the First Nation communities to help provide assistance and resources to enable them a measure of capacity for involvement in the planning process. The MNR, where possible, has attempted to meet these needs by providing resources to hold community meetings, seek community input, assess impacts to treaty/aboriginal rights arising from the WMP process, and ensure that First Nation values are protected.

First Nation Consultation Plan

Planning Organization and commencement

- Preliminary communications and invitations to participate in the WMP process
- Initial meeting of Proponents, Stakeholders and First Nations
- Development of Steering Committee, Planning Team and Terms of Reference for WMP
- Development of consultation plans
- Initial First Nation community meetings – Background information/ river description

Scoping

- Preliminary identification of issues and concerns
- First Nation Community meeting (as requested) to seek input and identify issues and concerns
- Identify Native Heritage Values, traditional knowledge

Option Development

- Inform First Nation on background information responses to issues and concerns and proposed options developed.
- First Nation community meeting (as requested) to review and comment on scoping report and proposed options.

Draft Plan

- First Nation Community meeting (as requested) to review and comment on Draft Plan

Final Plan

- Access to Final Plan

