



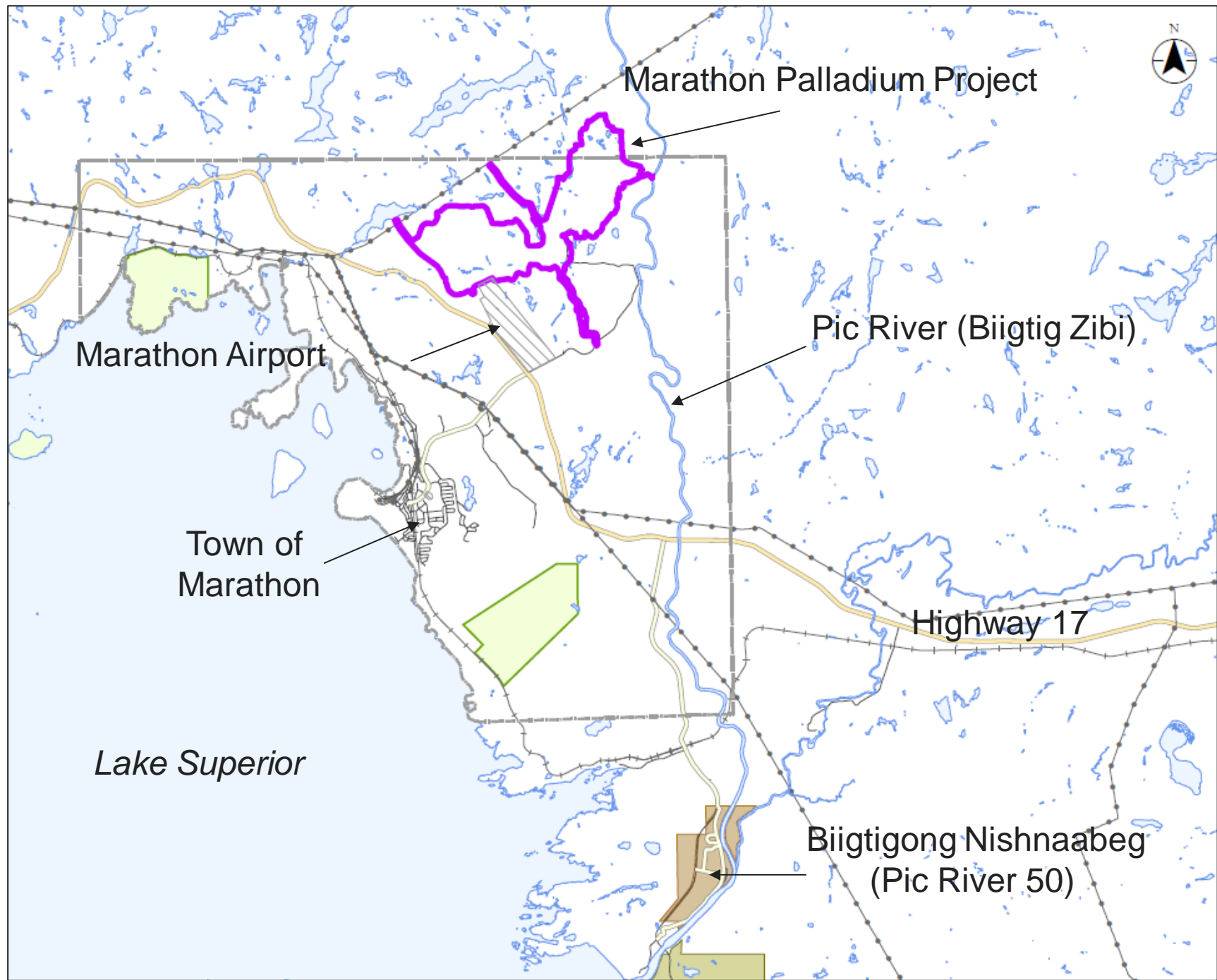
Integration of  
Indigenous  
Communities into the  
Marathon Palladium  
Project Environmental  
Assessment

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# Outline

1. Project Overview
2. Indigenous Engagement
3. Project Outcomes
4. Implications to the EA Practice

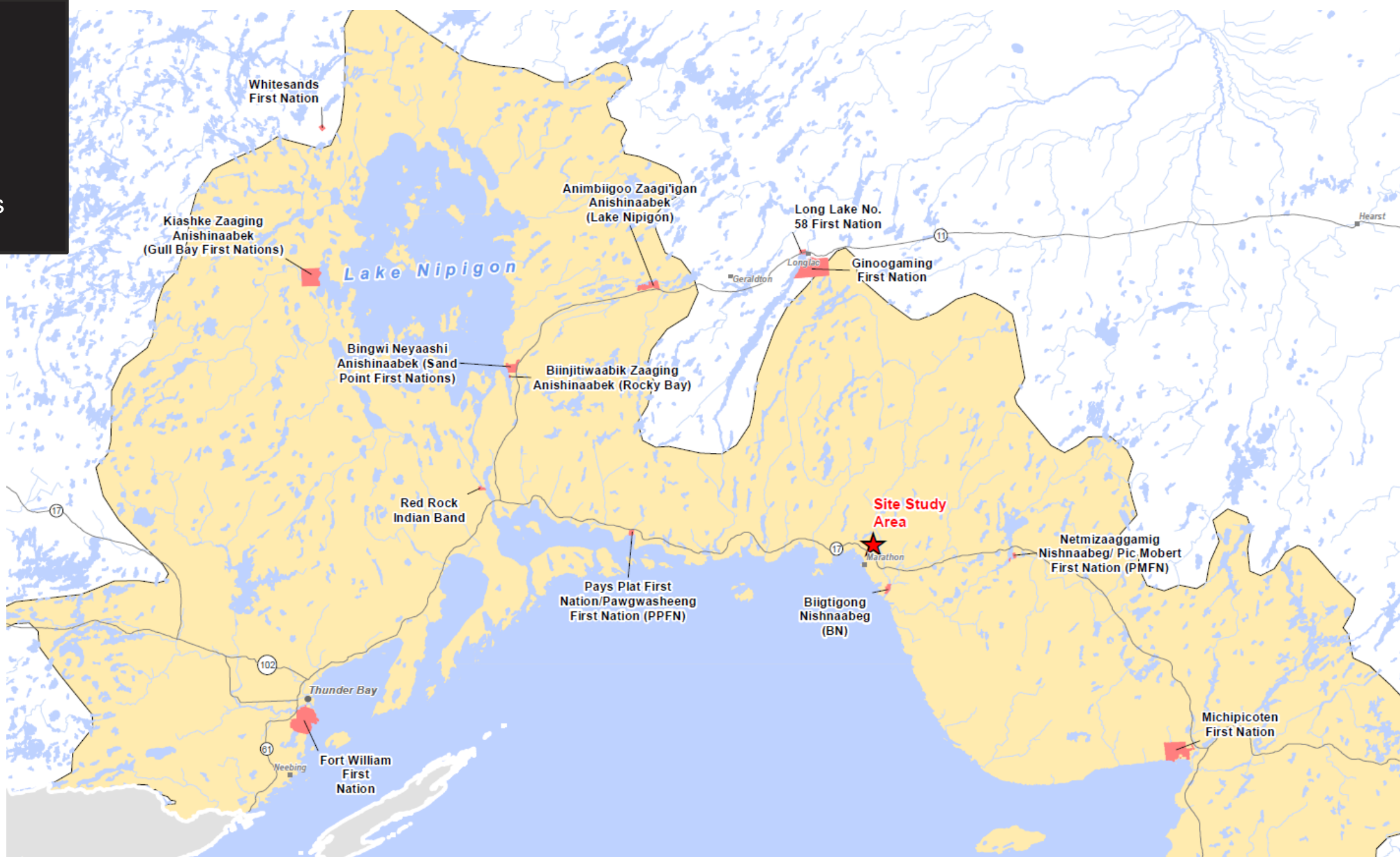
Project Overview



# Environmental Assessment Process

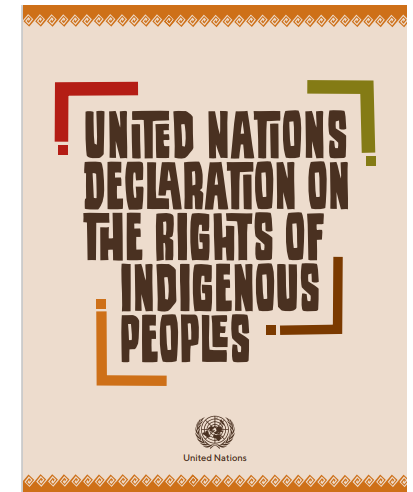
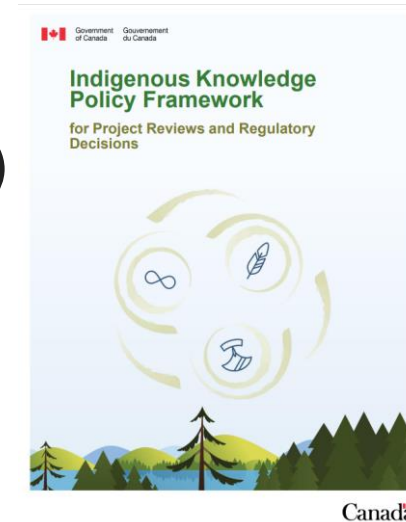
- Coordinated EA under a Joint Review Panel:
  - *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012*
  - *Ontario Environmental Assessment Act*
- Project Environmental Impact Statement (2010 to 2014)
- Environmental Impact Assessment Addendum (2020 to 2022)
  - Conformity Review / Information Requests / Sufficiency
  - Joint Review Panel Hearing (March to April 2022)
- Parallel Crown Consultation Team Process (2020 to 2022)
- Draft Conditions Released for Comments (September 2022)
- Federal and Provincial Decisions Pending

# Indigenous Communities



# Reasons for Indigenous Engagement

- Regulatory Requirements
- Legal Obligation (Crown Consultation)
- UNDRIP
- ESG Policy / Partnerships
- Funding / Lending Requirements
- Procedural (Avoid Project Delays)
- Integration of Indigenous Knowledge
- Contribute to Sustainable Development
- Achieve Mutual Project Benefits



# Indigenous Participation Opportunities

- Information Sharing
  - Project Notifications/ Newspaper Briefs
  - Open Houses / Community Meetings
  - Information Boards
  - Project Website
- Participation in Field Work
- Peer Review of EA Documents
- Public Comment Periods
- Environmental Committees
- Capacity Funding



**Save The Dates**

**MARATHON PALLADIUM PROJECT-  
CLOSURE PLAN**

**COMMUNITY SESSIONS**

**Tuesday, September 20th**  
**Tuesday, October 25th**

**6:00 - 8:00pm**

**@ Biigtigong Community Hall**

Open to all Community Members  
Registration for streaming link will be open  
2 weeks prior to event dates

# Key Project Related Outcomes

- Acknowledgment of Spiritual Connection to the Land
- Community Benefits Agreement
- Project Support for Employment and Business Opportunities
- Input to design and implementation of Follow-up and Monitoring
- Project Support and Partnerships
- Commitment to seek consensus on Project closure





# Beyond Project Outcomes

Commitment to engage and support issues that transcend Project-related effects:

- Increased Awareness of Systemic Conditions
- Financial Support for Community Services
- Partnership to promote solutions to address systemic issues (paddling in the same canoe)



# Implications to EA Practice

## Requirement to “Seek Consensus”

- For the first time, federal EA proponent is required to “seek consensus” as a condition of approval:

*The Proponent shall seek consensus with Biigtigong Nishnaabeg on:*

- *the content of the follow-up programs and their implementation*
  - *the identification and implementation of measures to mitigate adverse impacts on the socio-economic conditions of Biigtigong Nishnaabeg*
  - *the content of the final reclamation plan and its implementation*
- Conditions Require GenPGM to “Seek” vs. “Achieve” Consensus
  - Consultation Obligations Remain

## Implications to EA Practice

- Potentially establishes expectations and standard for Indigenous involvement in mining projects
- Increased requirements under *Impact Assessment Act*
- Increased complexity
  - Time and technical constraints need to be anticipated
  - Increased resourcing to facilitate integration
- Project and Indigenous benefits are integrated
  - Community benefits from Project success
  - Proponent benefits from community success

# Questions?

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