

A-5 Aboriginal Correspondence



July 3rd, 2015

Mirjana Osojnicki
EA and Public Consultation Lead
AECOM
5080 Commerce Blvd, Mississauga ON, L4W 4P2

Dear Ms. Osojnicki,

Thank you for your notification on the Creditview Road Class EA Study dated May 27th, 2015. Mississauga of the New Credit First Nation has various treaty rights across its traditional territory, including the area contemplated by your project. For further information, please see our website, <http://www.newcreditfirstnation.com/> . MNCFN continues to exercise treaty rights which include, but are not limited to, rights to harvest, fish, trap and gather species of plants, animals and insects for any purpose including for food, social, ceremonial, trade and exchange purposes. The MNCFN also has the right to use the water and resources from the rivers, creeks and lands across the MNCFN traditional territory.

At this time, MNCFN does not have a high level of concern regarding the proposed project. However, MNCFN requests that you continue to notify us about the status of the project. **In addition, we respectfully ask you to immediately notify us if there are any changes to the project which may impact MNCFN's interests and that you please provide us with a copy of all associated environmental and archaeology reports.** This includes, but is not limited to changes related to the scope of work and expected archaeological and environmental impacts.

Additionally, MNCFN employs Field Liaison Representatives ("FLRs") to act as official representatives of the community and who are answerable to MNCFN Chief and Council through the Department of Consultation and Accommodation. The FLRs' mandate is to ensure that MNCFN's perspectives and priorities are considered in the field and to enable MNCFN to provide timely, relevant, and meaningful comment on the Project. Therefore, **it is MNCFN policy that FLRs are on location whenever any fieldwork for environmental and/or archaeological assessments is undertaken.** It is expected that the proponent will cover the

costs of this FLR participation in the fieldwork. Please also provide the contact information of the person, or consultant, in charge of organizing this work so they may facilitate the participation of the MNCFN FLRs.

Nothing in this letter, pursuant to section 25 of the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, shall be construed so as to abrogate or derogate from the protection provided for MNCFN's existing Aboriginal or Treaty rights as recognized by section 35 of the Constitution Act 1982, the Royal Proclamation of October 7, 1763, and any rights or freedoms that now exist by way of land claim settlement agreements or may be so acquired.

Nothing in this letter shall be construed as to affect the Aboriginal or Treaty rights and hence shall not limit any consultation and accommodation owed to MNCFN by the Crown or any proponent, as recognized by section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, of any other First Nation.

MNCFN reserves the right in relation to any development project or decision, to decide whether it supports a project and to: comment to regulators, participate in regulatory processes and hearings, seek intervener funding or status, or to challenge and seek remedies through the courts.

MNCFN expects all proponents to act according to the following best practices:

- Engage early in the planning process, before decisions are made
- Provide information in meaningful and understandable formats.
- Convey willingness to transparently describe the project and consider any MNCFN concerns.
- Recognize the significance of cultural activities and traditional practices of the MNCFN
- Demonstrate a respect for MNCFN knowledge and uses of land and resources.
- Understand the importance of youth and elders in First Nation communities.
- Act with honour, openness, transparency and respect.
- Be prepared to listen and allow time for meaningful discussion.

Sincerely,

Fawn D. Sault

Consultation Manager

MNCFN Department of Consultation and Accommodation