

**Ministry of Transportation**

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**Ministère des Transports**

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Date: May 29, 2019

To: Red Sky Métis Independent Nation  
Community Consultation Department  
406 East Victoria Avenue  
Thunder Bay, ON, P7C 1A5

**Re: Ontario Ministry of Transportation Highway Improvements, GWP 6120-15-00, Highway 17 from Pays Plat River Bridge easterly for 7.2 km.**

To: Community Consultation Department,

The Ministry of Transportation (MTO) is planning to resurface and improve sections of Highway 17, located east of Pays Plat First Nation (refer to attached map). These road improvements will address the elimination of roadway distortions and frost heaves, review of guide rail systems, drainage improvements including ditching and the replacement of selected culverts, the addition of east-bound and west-bound truck climbing lanes, the removal of hazard rock, the realignment of substandard curves and the placement of fully paved shoulders.

Inspections undertaken by the MTO have determined that this road surface is in poor condition and must be rehabilitated to preserve the integrity of the highways and to maintain public safety. The culvert replacements and road resurfacing will be in the same location as the current highway/culvert footprint, but the addition of the truck climbing lanes and highway realignment will require the addition of new property.

Highway improvements like this are carried out on a routine basis and, for purposes of MTO's environmental assessments, are categorized as "minor improvements." Construction activities associated with resurfacing these highways will be confined to the MTO highway right-of-way with little to no impact to fish and wildlife resources. Measures will be incorporated into the design to ensure that there are no adverse impacts to the environment because of the construction.

An engineering consultant has been hired by the Ministry and is currently undertaking design production. Construction is tentatively scheduled to begin in the fall of 2019.

We value your input on this project; please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

  
**Greg Walas**

MTO Project Engineer  
Ministry of Transportation  
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Attached: Key Plan



Key Plan: Highway 17 from Pays Plat River Bridge easterly for 7.2 km

