

November 20, 2018

CUTTING RED TAPE EXTENDS TO THE RING OF FIRE

Northern Ontario Business – Nov 16

The Ring of Fire Secretariat, a Crown agency left over from the previous Wynne government, remains in place, but it's unclear whether the negotiating format to consult with area First Nations close to the mineral deposits – known as Regional Framework Agreement process – will be restarted. “The Ring of Fire is a top priority for our government. We are committed to cutting red tape and ending delays to ensure the Ring of Fire moves forward in a timely manner,” said Sydney Stonier, press secretary in Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines Greg Rickford’s office, in an email. <https://www.northernontariobusiness.com/industry-news/mining/cutting-red-tape-extends-to-the-ring-of-fire-1125688>

MUSHKEGOWUK LEADERSHIP ALARMED OVER FORD GOVERNMENT’S “SLASH AND BURN” APPROACH

Netnewsledger – Nov 16

Solomon added “A few years ago we established a Treaty Relationship Discussion Table with Ontario to discuss issues such as resource development, environmental protection and supporting our children. “Since the Ford government came to power, there has been no indication by this Government on the future of the Treaty Table. “Now they have delivered basically a slap in the face by eliminating these independent bodies which are keys to helping our First Nations – and also declaring that they will be plowing ahead with the Ring of Fire development. “This is a mining development about which the Ontario government has had no consultation with our First Nation, contrary to every recent Supreme Court decision.” The Grand Chief finished with this warning, “Things have changed. I can assure Premier Doug Ford and his government that if he continues in this direction, the Mushkegowuk First Nations will resist his efforts and stand up for what is right.”

<http://www.netnewsledger.com/2018/11/16/mushkegowuk-leadership-alarmed-over-ford-governments-slash-and-burn-approach/>

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RESPONDS TO FALL ECONOMIC STATEMENT

Sault Online – Nov 16

The Sault Ste. Marie Chamber of Commerce and the Ontario Chamber of Commerce have released the following statement in response to the Fall Economic Statement, 2018 Ontario Economic Outlook and Fiscal Review, released Thursday by the Ontario government. Our members are also supportive of some of the government’s other key priorities, such as their commitment to: investing in both the Ring of Fire and transportation infrastructure in Northern Ontario

<https://saultonline.com/2018/11/chamber-of-commerce-responds-to-fall-economic-statement/>

SUSTAINABLE MINERALS INSTITUTE (SMI) RELEASE NEW REPORT ON INDIGENOUS EMPLOYMENT FUTURES IN AN AUTOMATED MINING INDUSTRY

University of Queensland Australia Website – Nov 19

New report out from SMI ([attached](#)) examines the implications of automation on Indigenous employment in mining in Canada and Australia and urges action to proactively address potential job losses.

<https://smi.uq.edu.au/indigenous-employment-futures-automated-mining-industry>

OPINION: NORTHERN ONTARIO, A DIGITAL DEAD END?

Northern Ontario Business – Nov 20

A government serious about a sustainable future for Ontario’s Northern regions would be looking to make the North a digital powerhouse. Expanding not just connectivity but capacity. If a Finnish grandmother can check her CT scan online,

why can't we? If a Norwegian fisherman can sell his catch to a Japanese fishmonger, why can't we? When I hear a premier or prime minister talking about the latest Anishinaabe tech millionaire, or how diabetes has been beaten by low-cost, high-tech intervention, that will be something completely different.

https://www.northernontariobusiness.com/columns/opinion-northern-ontario-a-digital-dead-end-1121932?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter

SHEEHAN MEETS WITH NORONT EXECS IN OTTAWA DURING MINING DAYS

Sault Star – Nov 21

Sault MP Terry Sheehan says relationship building is important and he meets regularly with Noront Resources officials, taking the opportunity to highlight Sault Ste. Marie and all it has to offer.

<https://www.saultstar.com/news/local-news/sheehan-meets-with-noront-execs-in-ottawa-during-mining-days>

ONTARIO SUPPORTING FAR NORTH WINTER ROADS NETWORK

Ontario Newsroom – Nov 21

Ontario's Government for the People is connecting communities and creating opportunities for economic development by investing in the 2018-19 winter roads program. Today, Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines, and Minister of Indigenous Affairs Greg Rickford attended the Chiefs of Ontario Special Chiefs' Assembly in Toronto to announce \$5.7 million in funding for 29 First Nations and the Town of Moosonee to build and maintain 3,160 kilometres of temporary winter roads.

<https://news.ontario.ca/mndmf/en/2018/11/ontario-supporting-far-north-winter-roads-network.html>

MARTEN FALLS FIRST NATION SELECTS AECOM TO CONDUCT ROAD STUDY AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR NEW ALL-SEASON ROAD

Cision – Nov 22

Marten Falls First Nation and Ontario announced the agreement to study a long-awaited community access road on August 21, 2017. Since then, Marten Falls has entered into a voluntary agreement with the Ministry of Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) to conduct an Individual Environmental Assessment (EA) and Preliminary Design (PD) for the proposed community access road from Marten Falls First Nation going south to existing provincial highways. The First Nation has established a project team and conducted one field season of baseline surveys; but to carry out the full suite of technical services and studies, and other steps within the EA process, Marten Falls has brought on AECOM.

<https://bit.ly/2DViyxG>