

May 10, 2019

NORONT CEO SAYS COMPANY 'HAS THE CHOPS' TO PULL OFF RING OF FIRE PROJECT

CBC News – May 9

The head of a company planning to build a ferrochrome smelter in Sault Ste. Marie says he's confident the project will move forward as planned. On Tuesday, Noront Resources announced it will build its smelter to process ore from the Ring of Fire in Sault Ste. Marie. The company had narrowed down two locations for the project: Timmins and Sault Ste. Marie. In response to the announcement, the mayor of Timmins stated "it's not over until it's over." "We know it will be a number of years before any facilities are built," George Pirie said. "We think that we'll have time to affect the decision. We don't think Noront will be the company that builds the facility. They don't have deep enough pockets required to build it and will have to bring in a bigger partner."

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/sudbury/noront-smelter-reax-1.5127636>

ENERGY TRAINING FOR INDIGENOUS YOUTH IN NORTHERN ONTARIO

NetNewsLedger – May 9

Parliamentary Secretary Paul Lefebvre, on behalf of Amarjeet Sohi, Canada's Minister of Natural Resources, today announced \$400,000 in funding over six years for the Energizing Youth: Capacity and Skill-Building Program. The program will create pathways for interested youth to pursue employment in the clean energy field among 24 First Nation partners in Northern Ontario, 16 of which are remote, diesel-reliant First Nation communities.

<http://www.netnewsledger.com/2019/05/09/energy-training-for-indigenous-youth-in-northern-ontario/?fbclid=IwAR1hhP0xVf9g8EJzZNJ46epy2cUyOor4HwCcFoQxgclJtKGQuBNzN0alelw>

GREAT LAKES PORT SWAYED NORONT RESOURCES IN PICKING SAULT FOR FERROCHROME PLANT

Northern Ontario Business – May 9

The company made its announcement in the Sault, May 7, informing the community of its plans to place the facility on Algoma Steel's expansive brownfield port lands, just west of the steelworks. Though the ribbon cutting for the processor remains years away - with a mid-2025 groundbreaking followed by a three-year build - with it comes the promise of 300 to 500 direct jobs and spinoffs of more than 1,000 indirect industrial supply jobs. The completion of the plant coincides with Noront's start of commercial production at its proposed Blackbird chromite mine project in the James Bay region in mid-2028. Noront designed the Sault processing facility to be scalable as it gradually brings its stable of chromite deposits into production over the next several years.

<https://www.northernontariobusiness.com/regional-news/far-north-ring-of-fire/great-lakes-port-swayed-noront-resources-in-picking-sault-for-ferrochrome-plant-1434393>

BATCHEWANA FIRST NATION DENIES IT SUPPORTED FERROCHROME PROPOSAL

Soo Today – May 9

It was announced yesterday that Noront Resources Ltd. chose Sault Ste. Marie as the future home of its ferrochrome processing facility. The announcement was held at City Hall with various speakers including Mayor Provenzano and City Council representatives. Absent from the event was leadership from Batchewana First Nation, the reason was lack of consultation. Chief Dean Sayers of Batchewana First Nation (BFN) acknowledged that discussions had been initiated back in January of 2018 with the Sault Ste. Marie Economic Development Corp. but noted that they didn't go far beyond a simple introduction to the project. After that meeting BFN leadership issued a letter to the city detailing the First Nations inherent jurisdiction to the territory (outlined for the proposed project) and specified the necessary steps forward to secure consent for the project.

<https://www.sootoday.com/local-news/batchewana-first-nation-denies-it-supported-ferrochrome-proposal-1435892>

BFN WILL 'DECIDE' FATE OF FERROCHROME FACILITY BID: CHIEF

Sault Star – May 9

Batchewana First Nation Chief Dean Sayers says he's ready and willing to have meaningful consultation with all parties about whether his government can support Noront Resources's proposed ferrochrome facility in Sault Ste. Marie. He says he's willing to set the table and invite others who want to enter into "meaningful" dialogue and follow the "inherent right and jurisdiction" Batchewana will exercise during the quest to find common ground. "We're going to do that in the very near future, with Noront and with the city (of Sault Ste. Marie), he said. And only when common ground is found and Batchewana First Nation is satisfied that the environment and its people will be protected, will the First Nation support a ferrochrome plant, he said. He doesn't want the community to think that consultation is done, or that the First Nation community has already rendered its support.

<https://www.saultstar.com/news/local-news/batchewana-first-nation-open-to-consultations-with-noront-ensuring-environment-and-people-are-protected-are-key>

FINNISH FERROCHROME PLANT INSPIRED NORONT, FINLAND'S AMBASSADOR SAYS

Soo Today – May 9

When Finland's Vesa Lehtonen first visited Sault Ste. Marie in 1986, he was a backpack tourist who stopped by to say hello to a friend. "We were happy to hear Sault Ste. Marie will be the place for the Noront ferrochrome site," Lehtonen said. "In Europe, the most similar plant is in Finland, in Tornio (a city in northwest Finland), and I think the Tornio plant, by Outokumpu, which is a main player in the field, has actually been a benchmark for Noront when planning this new plant."

<https://www.sootoday.com/local-news/finnish-ferrochrome-plant-inspired-noront-finlands-ambassador-says-1437066>