

February 8, 2021

[Fedeli bullish on North's economic future | North Bay Nugget](#)

Feb 1 - Northern Ontario is key to the development of electric vehicles, with the Cobalt, Hearst and Red Lake areas all providing minerals essential to the manufacture of batteries used in those vehicles. And if the stars align properly, there is even the potential for those batteries to be manufactured in the North, according to Nipissing MPP Vic Fedeli.

[Federal consultation period being extended for Ring of Fire assessment process - Northern Ontario Business](#)

Feb 2 - Ottawa is following Queen's Park lead in allowing more time for locked-down remote Indigenous communities to express their comments and concerns on the potential impact of mining in the Far North. The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) is extending the commenting period beyond the original Jan. 21 deadline to allow the public, Indigenous communities and other organizations to provide input on shaping the terms of reference surrounding the federal Regional Assessment of the Ring of Fire area in the James Bay region. No new deadline for taking comments has yet been posted on the IAAC's project home page.

[Gold miner launches initiative to advance relationships with Indigenous Peoples - Northern Ontario Business](#)

Feb 3 - Gold miner Newmont has launched the Global Centre for Indigenous Community Relations to advance relationships between mining companies and Indigenous Peoples within the company and across the industry. In a Feb. 2 news release, the company said the Vancouver-based centre would act as a way to "promote awareness, education and engagement between industry and Indigenous Peoples." In Northern Ontario, Newmont's assets include the Musselwhite Mine, a fly-in, fly-out operation north of Thunder Bay; Borden Mine, located near Chapleau; and the Porcupine Mines operation, which encompasses Hoyle Pond underground mine, Hollinger open-pit mine, and the Dome processing facility east of Timmins.

[Province investing in mineral exploration - TBNewsWatch.com](#)

Feb 4 - New funding provided by the Northern Ontario Heritage Fund Corporation will allow for new research into mining and mineral exploration. The provincial government announced on Friday that it is providing \$690,000 to Lakehead University for the creation of an industrial research chair. "Investing in job creation and research and development at Lakehead University will help drive new solutions and support our government's commitment to grow the province's mineral exploration and prospecting industry," said Greg Rickford, Minister of Energy, Northern Development and Mines. "Through this project, we have the potential to attract new investments into the region and drive more economic opportunities here in Northwestern Ontario."

[Historic partnership with the Innu Nation - Québec moves forward with the large-scale 200 MW Apuiat wind farm project | MERN \(gouv.qc.ca\)](#)

Feb 4 - The agreement concluded provides for the signing of a 30-year contract to purchase the electricity that will be produced by the Apuiat wind farm. The contract between Hydro-Québec Production and Parc éolien Apuiat S.E.C., a company jointly held by the Innu communities and Boralex, provides for the electricity to be bought at a cost of about 6¢/kWh. Apuiat becomes the wind farm offering the most competitive cost of all wind farms under contract in Québec. See also: [The AFNQL Welcomes the Announcement of the Wind Farm Carried by the Innu Nation in Quebec \(nationtalk.ca\)](#)

[CCPPP welcomes robust role for Canada Infrastructure Bank in driving Canada's post-pandemic recovery \(pppcouncil.ca\)](#)

Feb 5 - We also strongly support the commitment by the federal government and the CIB to address one of the most pressing infrastructure challenges facing the country: the Indigenous infrastructure gap. This has been a longstanding priority concern for CCPPP. In 2016, an independent report the Council commissioned (P3s: Bridging the First Nations Infrastructure Gap) estimated this gap to be between \$25 billion and \$30 billion. This report has served as call to action and CCPPP is now working with partners that include the First Nations Infrastructure Institute, First Nations Major

Projects Coalition, Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA), Indigenous leaders and the private sector to raise awareness and bring forward innovative solutions to address the scale of the Indigenous infrastructure deficit.

[Indigenous energy company gives \\$1.7M to the north | CTV News](#)

Feb 6 - Five Nations Energy, Canada's only Indigenous-owned long-distance energy company, recently wrapped up a two-year campaign to donate around \$1.7 million to First Nations communities and health providers in northern Ontario.

[Ferrochrome opponent set for appointment to controversial city environmental committee - SooToday.com](#)

Feb 6 - One of the most outspoken opponents of a proposed ferrochrome smelter in Sault Ste. Marie is expected to be appointed Monday to the city's environmental sustainability committee. Appointment of Dr. Pedro Antunes, executive research lead at Algoma University, was recommended one week ago by the city's boards and committees nominating committee.

[KWG forging ahead with Ring of Fire railroad | Sudbury Star \(thesudburystar.com\)](#)

Feb 7 - Once a permit is obtained, Marquis said it would take three years to construct the railroad, which will have to cross two major rivers — the Albany and Attawapiskat — as well as significant swathes of muskeg. “There will definitely be challenges, but finding the eskers was brilliant, because that will allow an infrastructure to build on,” he said. While the impetus for the route is the transport of chromite and other minerals, the line would also provide a land link to the remote Anishinabe communities that to date have only been accessible by air or ice road.