

ONTARIO (FAR NORTH)	Answers
<p>1. When did regional planning begin and describe why it began?</p>	<p>1. To help ensure sustainable development, the Ontario government and First Nations are working together on community based land use planning.</p> <p>Land use planning in the Far North is described as: A process that determines the most appropriate use of land and water in the Far North. It identifies which lands will be dedicated to protection and which will be open for potential economic development, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • forestry • tourism • mining • renewable energy <p>It is based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • mutual respect between First Nations and the government of Ontario • relationship building • dialogue <p>(Far North of Ontario website, n.d.).</p>
<p>2. Describe the state of regional planning in the jurisdiction.</p>	<p>2. Across the Far North, many First Nation communities are engaged with Ontario in community based land use planning, including communities currently residing outside Ontario that have identified areas of traditional use within Ontario. To date, five communities, including two from Manitoba, have completed land use plans. The map below shows the location of completed plans and also the status of ongoing planning (Government of Ontario, 2014).</p> <p>Approved plans and Terms of Reference in the Far North</p> <p>Pikangikum Whitefeather Forest Land Use Strategy Cat Lake-Slate Falls Cat-Lake Slate Falls Community Based Land Use Plan Terms of Reference for Cat Lake-Slate Falls Community-based Land Use Planning</p> <p>Pauingassi Pauingassi Community Based Land Use Plan Pauingassi Terms of Reference</p>

	<p>Little Grand Rapids Little Grand Rapids Community Based Land Use Plan Little Grand Rapids Terms of Reference</p> <p>Deer Lake Deer Lake Terms of Reference</p> <p>Eabametoong & Mishkeegogamang Eabametoong & Mishkeegogamang First Nations Terms of Reference</p> <p>Marten Falls First Nation Marten Falls First Nation Terms of Reference</p> <p>Wawakapewin First Nation Wawakapewin First Nation Terms of Reference</p> <p>Constance Lake First Nation Constance Lake First Nation Terms of Reference</p> <p>Webequie First Nation Webequie First Nation Terms of Reference</p> <p>(Far North of Ontario website, n.d.).</p> <p>See Appendix 1 for current status of community based planning in the Far North.</p>
<p>3. What legislation guides the planning process? and describe the links to other legislation.</p>	<p>3. The purpose of the <i>Far North Act, 2010</i> is to provide for community based land use planning in the Far North that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sets out a joint planning process between the First Nations and Ontario; • supports the environmental, social, and economic objectives for land use planning for the peoples of Ontario; and • is done in a manner that is consistent with the recognition and affirmation of existing Aboriginal and treaty rights in section 35 of the <i>Constitution Act, 1982</i>, including the duty to consult. <p>The Act sets out four objectives for land use planning:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A significant role for First Nations in the planning. 2. The protection of areas of cultural value in the Far North and the protection of ecological systems in the Far North by including at least 225,000 square kilometres of the Far North in an interconnected network of protected areas designated in community based land use plans. 3. The maintenance of biological diversity, ecological processes and ecological functions, including the

	<p>storage and sequestration of carbon in the Far North.</p> <p>4. Enabling sustainable economic development that benefits First Nations (Government of Ontario, 2014).</p> <p>The Far North covers 42% of Ontario’s land mass, it stretches from Manitoba in the west to James Bay and Quebec in the east.</p> <p>It is home to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 24,000 people (90% of them First Nations) • 31 First Nations communities • 2 municipalities (Pickle Lake and Moosonee) • 1 community with a Local Service Board (Moose Factory) <p>Links to other legislation and Policy:</p> <p><i>Ontario Mining Act</i> <i>Environmental Assessment Act</i> <i>Growth Plan for Northern Ontario</i> <i>Ontario’s Biodiversity Strategy</i> <i>Ontario’s Mineral Development Strategy (2006);</i> <i>the Strategic Plan for Ontario’s Fisheries;</i> <i>MNRF and other ministries’ Statements of Environmental Values under the Environmental Bill of Rights;</i> <i>MNRF’s strategic directions document, Our Sustainable Future (2011); and</i> <i>MNRF’s Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (2011-14).</i></p>
<p>4. What is the composition of the planning body?</p>	<p>4. The planning body is comprised of a planning team that is supported by an advisory team, technical support and community advisory groups. The composition from the Cat Lake and Slate Falls far north community based planning process was the following:</p> <p>Planning Team from Cat Lake-Slate Falls planning process</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Cat Lake First Nation Member •Slate Falls Nation Member •Community-assigned Project Manager •Community Technical Support Consultant •MNR Sioux Lookout - Far North Planner

	<p>•MNR Northwest Region Far North Planner</p> <p>The Planning Team and Advisory Team</p> <p>Planning team members will facilitate the process, ensure all available information and analyses are available for decision-making, and facilitate seeking advice and building consensus on recommendations. Advisors are to participate with the planning team at appropriate points to support information needs, enhance understanding of Provincial and sector interests, and provide options analysis in situations of overlapping interests. The planning team will work with Ministry of Northern Development and Mines and Ontario Parks through the identified advisors (Cat Lake First Nation and Slate Falls Nation in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Natural of Resources, 2008).</p> <p>See Appendix 2 for planning body visual (example from Cat Lake and Slate Falls planning process).</p>
<p>5. What land do the land use plans apply to?</p>	<p>5. The <i>Far North Act, 2010</i> applies to public lands in the area of the Province covered by the Far North Act (See Appendix 1). The Act does not direct planning on First Nation reserve lands and other federal lands, nor does it apply to municipal lands or parcels of private land (Government of Ontario, 2014).</p>
<p>6. Describe the jurisdictions</p> <p>a. planning process (i.e what are the stages)</p>	<p>6a. Land use planning process</p> <p>Step 1: First Nations wishing to prepare a community based land use plan initiate the process.</p> <p>Step 2: A joint planning team (with First Nations and Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry representatives) is established. Roles and responsibilities are defined.</p> <p>Step 3: Aboriginal traditional knowledge, land, science, and resource information is gathered and documented.</p> <p>Step 4: A Terms of Reference is developed. This is an agreement between First Nations and the government of Ontario which sets the objectives and process for developing a community based land use plan.</p> <p>Terms of Reference: A Terms of Reference is developed and jointly approved by the First Nation and Ontario. Terms of Reference set out the process to complete a plan and provide guidance for establishing a planning area.</p>

	<p>The First Nation leading a planning process extends invitations to neighbouring First Nations to discuss areas where they share interests and to ultimately confirm a planning area for the land use plan. This may include discussions with communities outside Ontario who have indicated they have an interest in planning activities underway in Ontario.</p> <p>The approved Terms of Reference is posted on the Environmental Registry, and open houses are held to invite early input to the planning process from community members, stakeholders and the public (Government of Ontario, 2014).</p> <p>Step 5: An opportunity for public input (including posting on the Environmental Registry) is provided.</p> <p>Step 6: The plan objectives and resource development opportunities in the planning area are set out.</p> <p>Step 7: A draft plan (which includes proposed land use and protected area designations) is prepared and the public is given another opportunity for input (See Appendix 4 building a Draft an Final Plan)</p> <p>Step 8: A final community based land use plan is prepared and approved by the First Nation and the government of Ontario. It is posted on the Internet and Environmental Registry.</p> <p>Step 9: Plan implementation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The First Nation and Ontario continue to work together to guide the implementation of the plan to pursue opportunities. For example, a First Nation may seek Environmental Assessment Act coverage in order to prepare a forest management plan. • The community based land use plan is kept current through scheduled reviews and amendments as required (Government of Ontario, 2014).
<p>b. associated planning products.</p>	<p>6b. For planning process visual from Cat Lake and Slate Falls planning process see Appendix 3. Appendix 3 also portrays the associated planning products from the planning process (Cat Lake and Slate Falls land use Plan, 2011).</p>
<p>7. Describe how the information gathering stage of the planning process is coordinated amongst</p>	<p>7. Once the joint planning team is established:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Nation community elders and members that know the land guide planning and contribute their

<p>the planning body.</p>	<p>understandings and perspectives. This includes documenting and interpreting Aboriginal traditional knowledge (for example on cultural values and ecological information such as plant, fish and animal biodiversity and changes over time).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The best available information from all sources, including Aboriginal traditional knowledge and scientific information, is assembled early in the planning process. Additional information may be contributed during the planning process to support decision-making. • All values significant to the First Nation and/or Ontario are considered (Government of Ontario, 2014). <p>Example from Cat Lake and Slate Falls planning process:</p> <p>Information from all sources has supported the planning process. Primary information sources were Cat Lake and Slate Falls and Ontario (Ministry of Natural Resources, and the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forests).</p> <p>Cat Lake-Slate Falls adopted extensive data collection programs over eight (8) years to collect new information and confirm existing information. Information collection was completed by individuals and groups from Cat Lake and Slate Falls, supported by GIS support staff who helped organize data and prepare maps. Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge (ATK) provided information on cultural lands values and ecological information as well as detailed plant and animal information (Cat Lake and Slate Falls land use Plan, 2011).</p> <p>The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources added information and mapping of natural resource values, watershed analysis (including hydro potential), and existing land uses. Information from historic and recent field surveys was made available, including fish and wildlife surveys, species at risk information, forest dynamics and provincially significant natural heritage features. The Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forests provided information on the bedrock and surficial geology, including areas of high mineral potential and historical records (Cat Lake and Slate Falls land use Plan, 2011).</p>
<p>8. Describe how conflicts between:</p> <p>a. the governments are addressed</p>	<p>8a. Example of how Conflict between First Nations Governments are minimized First Nations who have overlapping traditional territory with a First Nation engaged in planning are invited to participate in the planning process. Example from Cat Lake and Slate Falls land use planning process:</p> <p>Cat Lake and Slate Falls First Nations have initiated and supported discussions with adjacent First Nation communities during the planning process, to confirm the planning boundary and to ensure adjacent community interests and concerns have been respected and considered in the plan (Cat Lake and Slate Falls land use Plan, 2011). While Cat Lake and Slate Falls were drafting a terms of reference dialogue was established with surrounding First Nations and no planning boundary issues were identified. In this dialogue, the First Nations have the understanding that the land use planning area does not impact overlapping traditional uses. The</p>

	<p>planning team continued to meet with all adjacent First Nations to maintain dialogue throughout the planning process plan (Cat Lake and Slate Falls land use Plan, 2011).</p> <p>Example of how Conflict between First Nations Governments and Provincial Governments are minimized</p> <p>From Cat Lake and Slate Falls land use planning process: On December 20, 2000 a Statement of Intent was signed between Cat Lake First Nation and Slate Falls Nation and the Ontario Minister of Natural Resources confirming their intention to work cooperatively in land use and resource development planning (Cat Lake and Slate Falls land use Plan, 2011).</p> <p>Issue Resolution</p> <p>From Cat Lake and Slate Falls land use planning process:</p> <p>The land use planning exercise has been structured to incorporate on-going dialogue and feedback throughout the process. This offers a means to resolve issues and disputes concerning planning matters before recommendations for the final land use strategy are developed. Conflict resolution mechanisms will be built into each community process.</p> <p>Cat Lake and Slate Falls recognizes that there are likely to be disputes and/or issues during plan production both within the First Nation communities and with interested parties. A party bringing forward a dispute or issue shall provide it in writing to the Chief of each First Nation and the Minister of Natural Resources Sioux Lookout District Manager in care of the Community-Based Land Use Planning Advisory Team with any proposed resolution.</p> <p>The Chief of each Community, or a designated representative of Council, will meet with the Minister of Natural Resources Sioux Lookout District Manager to review and develop responses. A response may be expected within 30 days following the review of the dispute or issue (Cat Lake and Slate Falls land use Plan, 2011).</p>
<p>b. the stakeholders are addressed</p>	<p>8b. See Issue Resolution above</p>
<p>c. others involved, i.e. overseer and planning body</p>	<p>8c. See Issue Resolution above</p>
<p>9. Describe how decisions are</p>	<p>9. The community based land use planning approach builds upon a respectful working relationship between</p>

<p>made amongst the planning body throughout the planning process.</p>	<p>First Nations and Ontario, using consensus-based decision- making. Public consultation occurs throughout the planning process (Government of Ontario, 2014).</p> <p>From Cat Lake and Slate Falls land use planning process.</p> <p>A consensus-based decision-making approach was followed to prepare and reach endorsement of the plan. Initially, the planning team would reach agreement on proposals considering both community and provincial interests as expressed by the goals and objectives. Proposals were then shared within each community and with provincial agencies to continue building consensus. Direction would be adjusted along the way to arrive at sound, well-supported outcomes. Proposals were then shared broadly in meetings and consultation opportunities with other First Nations, interested people and organizations, and input was considered by the planning team (Cat Lake and Slate Falls land use Plan, 2011).</p> <p>From Cat Lake and Slate Falls land use Plan terms of reference.</p> <p>Decision-making will be made by consensus, in a manner that reflects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fairness • Openness • Good use of information and analysis • Time lines • Respect for opinion and input
<p>9a. Describe who is employed to conduct the planning work, i.e. contractors, planning board staff, etc.</p>	<p>According to Far North of Ontario Land Use Planning Initiative Backgrounder, the First Nations will initiate the preparation of local community based land use plans, working jointly with the Ministry of Natural Resources (Government of Ontario, 2014).</p> <p>The planning team develops the land use plan see Appendix 2.</p>
<p>10. Describe the role of the body who oversees the planning process</p>	<p>10.</p>
<p>11. Describe how the process is funded.</p>	<p>11. Various agencies provide funding. As an example: the Cat Lake and Slate Falls land use Planning process was funded by: the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forests, Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs, Industry Canada, Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Environment Canada and Natural Resources Canada (Cat Lake and Slate Falls land use Plan, 2011).</p>
<p>12. Describe the role that the</p>	<p>12a. The Provincial Government has various roles throughout the planning process. The Ontario Ministry of</p>

<p>a. a .Provincial/Territorial government play during the planning process.</p>	<p>Natural Resources is the main Provincial Government department involved in regional land use planning.</p> <p>The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources has the following responsibilities during the planning process:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide background information including a completed Forest Resource Inventory (FRI) • Provide available information on landform/vegetation types, natural heritage features and areas and provide analysis of this information such as ecological reports and landform /vegetation representation • Facilitate Ministry of Northern Development and Mines engagement with the planning team, including the identification of significant areas of mineral potential (e.g., Provincial Significant Mineral Potential (PSMP)). • Facilitate Ontario Parks engagement with the planning team, including the provision of representation analysis. • Facilitate provision of advice to the planning team regarding the application of ecological criteria to identify, select, design, and assess candidate protected areas (representation, condition, diversity, ecological functions and special features) • Facilitate consultation opportunities, including Open Houses and Environmental Registry notification • Identify issues and opportunities • Facilitate stakeholder interest by providing opportunities for input and review of recommendations throughout the planning process in a fair unbiased manner, ensuring stakeholder interests are represented appropriately. • Address Provincial requirements with respect to policy/legislation • Document of process and public input Facilitate issue resolution process • Participate with Far North dialogue to address policy implications for ongoing planning (Cat Lake First Nation and Slate Falls Nation in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Natural of Resources, 2008). <p>Some of the ways that Provincial interests are communicated throughout the planning process:</p> <p>Provincial Government staff are consulted throughout the planning process, furthermore they provide information and direction to the planning team via the technical support and advisory team (see Appendix 2). Moreover, Provincial Government provides policy that give broad objectives and existing guiding principles for land use.</p> <p>Provincial Government also conducts ecodistrict evaluations that identify provincial landform/vegetation representation needs; this information combined with ecoregional information may suggest location options for new dedicated protected areas within the planning region (Cat Lake First Nation and Slate Falls Nation in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Natural of Resources, 2008).</p>
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	<p>Provincial perspectives will provide the communities with views on the broader economic, social and environmental implications of recommendations developed during the land use planning process.</p>
<p>b. First Nation(s)/ First Nation government(s) play during the planning process.</p>	<p>12b. First Nations in the Far North have various roles and responsibilities throughout the planning area.</p> <p>During the Cat Lake and Slate Falls land use Planning process these First Nations had the following responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employ consensus as the method used in decision making with the goal of achieving majority community support. • Provide an open process and encourage participation • Post notice of community meetings which are open to all interested people Make available minutes to planning meetings • Provide regular communications on progress (e.g. radio, meetings etc.) • Consider a full range of values including social, cultural, economic, ecological and spiritual • Identify/address capacity building needs during and after plan preparation • Incorporate indigenous knowledge in the information base and planning decisions • Partner with Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources to address the formal planning process requirements, including issue resolution • Participate with Far North dialogue to ensure consistency with Far North policy direction (Cat Lake and Slate Falls land use Plan, 2011). <p>Local First Nations community members are consulted throughout the process. Consultation processes include meetings, environmental registry postings, open houses and mail outs. First Nation community members within the planning region provide information to the Planning team via community advisory groups (See Appendix 2). Furthermore, the planning team communicates with First Nations (outside of the planning area) who's traditional territory overlaps the region being planned to ensure that their interests and concerns are considered (Cat Lake First Nation and Slate Falls Nation in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Natural of Resources, 2008).</p>
<p>c. Stakeholders</p>	<p>12c. Stakeholders including : tourist operators, anglers, hunters, forest industry, mineral exploration/mining industry, are consulted throughout the process through meetings, environmental registry postings, open houses and mail outs (Cat Lake First Nation and Slate Falls Nation in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Natural of Resources, 2008).</p>

And describe how these groups interests are communicated to the planning body?

Examples of how the above groups communicated their interests and worked with the planning team during the Cat Lake – Slate Falls Community-based Land Use Planning process.

- Community members provided interpretation and advice on the importance of waterways and interests of the communities including Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge and cultural values;
- Advisors with the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines and Forests participated frequently at planning team meetings and consultation opportunities to provide and interpret mineral related information, discuss mineral sector interests generally and advise Cat Lake and Slate Falls on approaches to achieve objectives;
- Advisors with Ontario Parks participated regularly with the planning team in a dialogue on the role and design of protected areas, broad scale considerations, and analysis of draft proposals. Ontario Parks' ecologist and geologist worked with the community members to verify information on areas of conservation interest;
- Scientists with Minister of Natural Resource's Water Resources Information Program contributed information and analysis of water systems in the planning area supporting Cat Lake and Slate Falls' focus on the protection of water and water courses; and
- Science advisors specializing in climate change and woodland caribou conservation provided advice to the planning team (Cat Lake and Slate Falls land use Plan, 2011).

Other examples of how interests are communicated to the planning body:

Through the Planning Team and Advisory Team

Planning team members will facilitate the planning process, ensure all available information and analyses are available for decision-making, and facilitate seeking advice and building consensus on recommendations. Advisors are to participate with the planning team at appropriate points to support information needs, enhance understanding of Provincial and sector interests, and provide options analysis in situations of overlapping interests. The planning team will work with Ministry of Northern Development and Mines and Ontario Parks through the identified advisors (Cat Lake First Nation and Slate Falls Nation in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Natural of Resources, 2008).

Through Consultation

Notice of Open Houses will be mailed to all names on the mail out list at least fifteen days prior to the Open House. Documents that are produced through this planning exercise will be made available for public review and comment. A summary of comments will be available to the public (Cat Lake First Nation and Slate Falls Nation in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Natural of Resources, 2008).

<p>13. Describe the land designation system used in the jurisdiction</p>	<p>13. Land use designations in the Far North are developed through discussion between First Nations and Ontario; input from stakeholders and the public will also be considered. The starting place for this discussion is the experience gained over the past 15 years of joint First Nations Ontario community based land use planning. Joint planning teams to date have, for the most part, applied land use designations used south of the Far North boundary, and in some cases, planning teams have customized designations to suit local planning interests (Government of Ontario, 2014) .</p> <p>See Appendix 5 for a description of the general land use designation system applied to Community based plans.</p> <p>Example from Cat Lake – Slate Falls Community-based Land Use Planning process</p> <p>The Cat Lake – Slate Falls planning area has 3 designated land use areas:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1: Cat Lake-Slate Falls General Use Area (40% of planning area) 2: Cat Lake-Slate Falls Enhanced Management Area - Cultural Heritage category (25% of planning area) 3: Cat-Slate River System Dedicated Protected Area (34% of planning area2) <p>Each type of land use designation conveys an overall purpose and intent for that zone:</p> <p>Dedicated Protected Areas (DPAs) provide the highest level of protection for natural and cultural landscapes supporting compatible activities such as traditional use, recreation, tourism, and research, and excluding industrial activities such as commercial forestry, mineral sector activities, commercial electricity generation, aggregate extraction and peat extraction;</p> <p>Enhanced Management Areas (EMAs) generally support all land use activities with additional guidelines or restrictions to protect or emphasize special interests, features or values. For example, access may be limited; and</p> <p>General Use Areas (GUAs) support all land use activities. Protection of features and values takes place through application of requirements in legislation, policy and guidelines (Cat Lake and Slate Falls land use Plan, 2011).</p>
<p>14. How does the land designation system provide management direction? i.e. how do land users interact with the approved plan?</p>	<p>14. Land use activities in the planning area must be consistent with the land use direction specified in the plan. Specifically the Far North Act 2010 (Section 14 (1)) directs that once a community based land use plan is approved, decisions respecting the allocation, disposition or use of public land and natural resources in the area must be consistent with the land use designations and permitted uses specified in the plan and the permitted uses prescribed for the purpose of the plan (Cat Lake and Slate Falls land use Plan, 2011).</p>

	<p>Once the strategic land use document is complete and endorsed by the First Nations and the Ministry of Natural Resources, the document will provide guiding direction to government, resource based industry and other land use regulatory agencies in their assessment of development projects (Cat Lake and Slate Falls land use Plan, 2011).</p> <p>Most major development cannot proceed in the Far North until a community based land use plan is in place. <u>Activities that can proceed</u> include: mineral claim staking and exploration, environmental clean-up and feasibility studies. Some other development can proceed before a plan is in place if an exception or exemption applies (as set out in section 12 of the <i>Far North Act, 2010</i>) (Government of Ontario, 2014). This is problematic for some as these activities can affect a meaningful land use planning process (King, 2010)</p>
15. What are the stages of the approval process for a regional plan?	15. A final endorsement of land use planning strategies will be required from First Nations involved and from the Ministry of Natural Resources, under the authority of the Minister of Natural Resources administering the Public Lands Act.
16. Who is responsible for plan implementation and review?	16. First Nations in the planning region and the Minister of Natural Resources.
a. How often are the plans reviewed?	16a. A formal review will take place once every fifteen years, following a joint process similar to that taken in preparation of the land use plan. During plan implementation First Nations or, the Minister of Natural Resources may propose amendments to the plan addressing land use designations, the designation of protected areas or specification of permitted land uses.
b. How are variance and amendments handled?	16b. See above, handled by coming together in a joint process similar to the one used during the planning process (See Appendix 2).
17. What is the average cost of regional planning processes in the jurisdiction?	17. Information not found.

References

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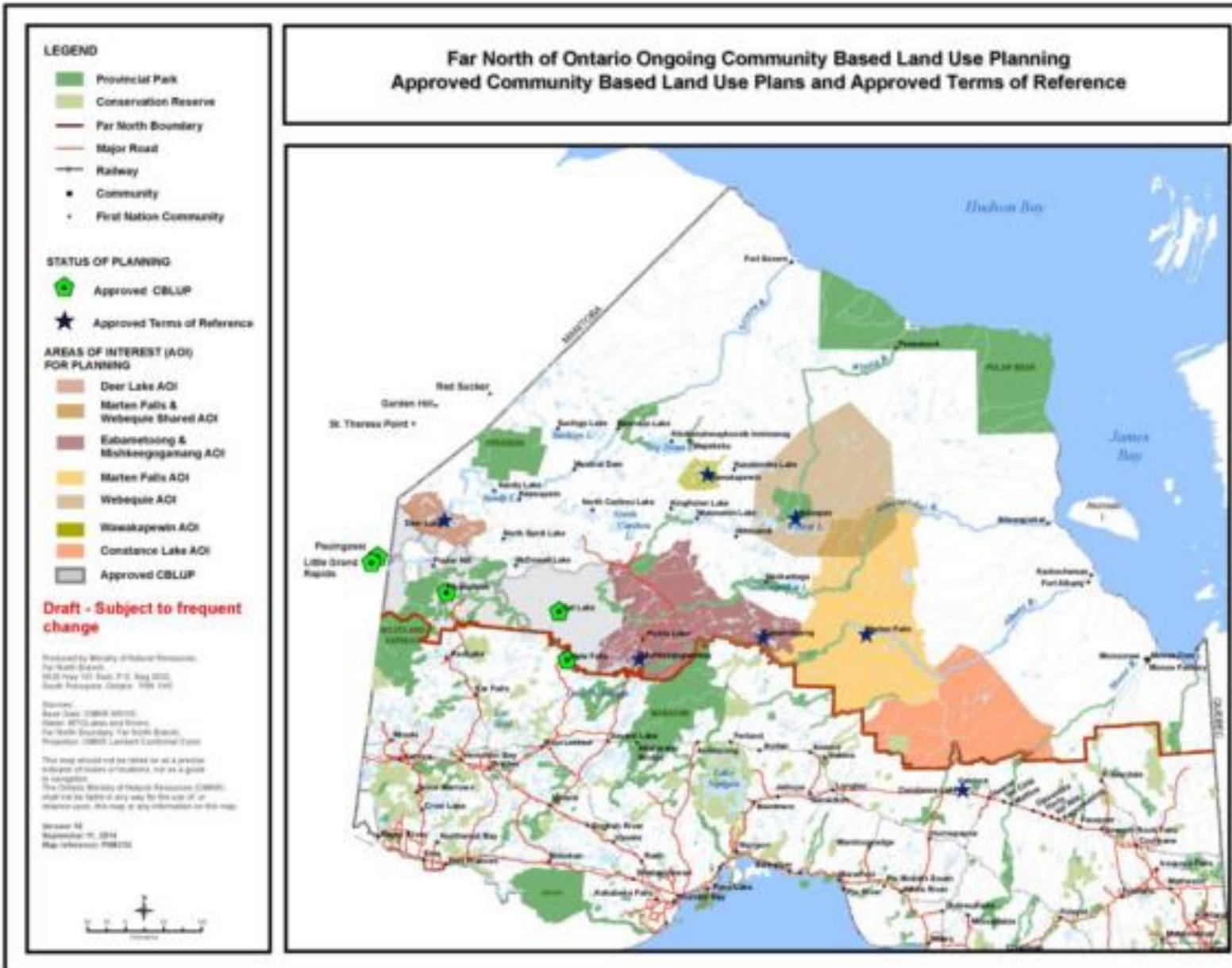
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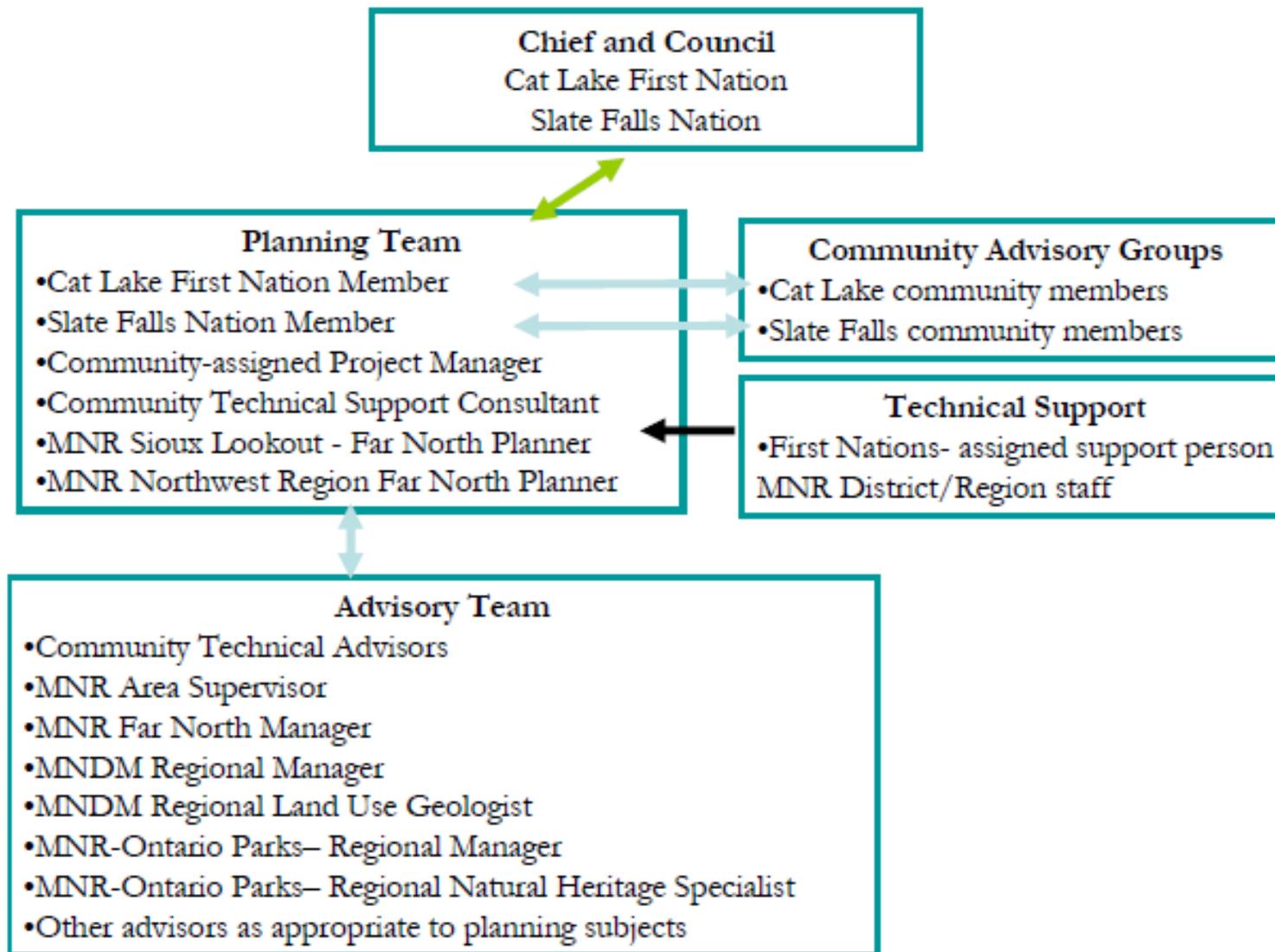
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Appendix 1– Current status of Ontario Community based planning.



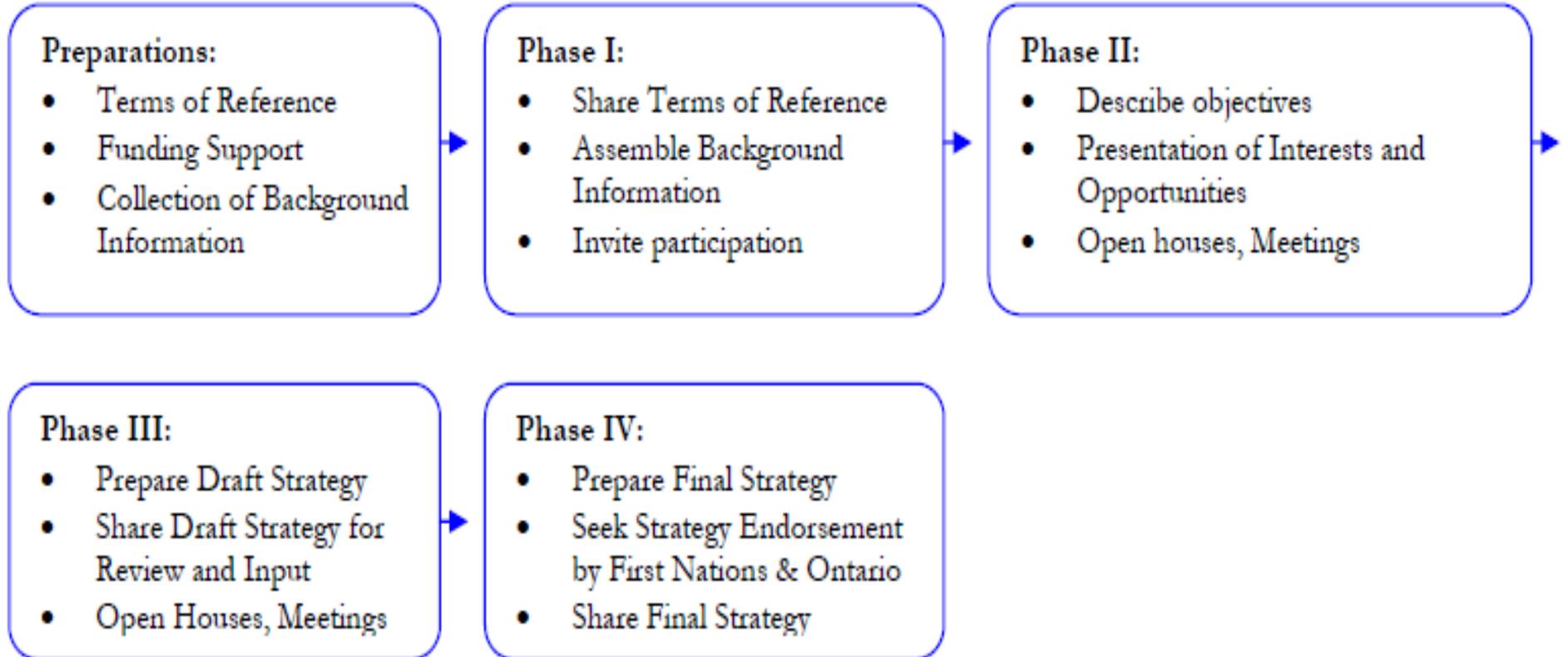
Source: Government of Ontario, 2014

Appendix 2- Cat Lake and Slate Falls planning structure.



Source: Cat Lake First Nation and Slate Falls Nation in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Natural of Resources, 2008

Appendix 3- Cat Lake and Slate Falls planning process



Source: Cat Lake First Nation and Slate Falls Nation in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Natural of Resources, 2008

Appendix 4 – Building a Draft and Final Plan

- Community and provincial objectives are described, leading to a description of shared objectives for the plan.
- The planning team draws upon the community and provincial subject matter experts to support wise decision-making. For example, provincial advisors from the Ministry of Northern Development and Mines (MNDM) work with the planning team and community to build an understanding of geology.
- A draft plan is developed setting out land use areas and permitted activities. Plans also may offer guidance or principles on the manner in which activities take place.
- Plans are developed with an understanding that existing uses and tenure must be respected.
- Information on current mining claims from MNDM's CLAIMaps internet site is an important part of the planning process.
- Plans address land uses and features in areas adjacent to the planning area that the joint planning team has identified. This requires conversations with neighbouring communities, whether inside or outside Ontario, that may have an interest in the planning area or whose activities may affect the planning area.
- When a new protected area is being recommended in a draft plan, MNRF typically requests that MNDM withdraw the area from mineral claim staking. This will provide ongoing protection until a final decision is made about the area.
- Opportunities for input are provided during the development of the plan. Draft plans are posted on the Environmental Registry and open houses are held to invite comment. All input received is considered as the community based land use plan is prepared and finalized.
- The community based land use plan must be approved by the First Nation and the Minister of Natural Resources and Forestry. Once approved, activities on the land must be consistent with the plan. Plans include direction to keep them current, including an implementation approach and a timeframe for review.

Source: Government of Ontario, 2014

Appendix 5 – Land use Designation system Ontario’s Far North.

General Use Area:

- Offers the greatest amount of flexibility for land use. □ Supports a full range of land use activities, within an overall context of ecological sustainability.
- Can contain local land use policies providing area-specific direction.
- Emphasizes use of existing legislation, regulations, policies and guidelines to direct and support resource management actions.

Enhanced Management Area:

- Provides land use direction in areas of special features or values while also providing for a broad range of resource and land use opportunities.
- May promote that resource development is at a lesser intensity.
- Provides for protection through existing tools and planning processes and may include more detailed direction for protection of special features and values.
- Specific sub-types of Enhanced Management Areas described in community based land use plans are:
 - Remote Access: Sustainable development activities are permitted, but with additional restrictions on access to maintain remoteness.
 - Recreation: Enables the management or development of an area with high recreational potential for the benefit of both the community and Ontario.
 - Fish and Wildlife: Manages areas for multiple uses while emphasizing the maintenance and enhancement of fish and wildlife populations.
 - Cultural Heritage: Emphasizes protection of cultural and/or historic values and landscapes, while allowing a range of resource activities.
 - The first three categories are used elsewhere in Ontario; the last category was developed by planning teams in the Far North.

Dedicated Protected Area:

- Focus on providing a high level of protection to natural or cultural values and features by identifying desired and compatible uses and limiting permitted development activities.
- Joint planning teams understand that the Far North Act, 2010 provides options. It is not required that Dedicated Protected Areas become regulated under the

- Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act and; that the boundaries of existing provincial parks and conservation reserves may be reviewed as part of the community based land use planning process.
- Restrictions on development, land uses, and activities in protected areas are set out in the Far North Act, 2010.
- To date, plans have not established sub-categories of Dedicated Protected Areas.
- In some cases, planning teams have chosen the Dedicated Protected Area designation as an interim designation, pending decision on an approach to regulate the protected area, either under the Far North Act, or the Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act.

Source: Government of Ontario, 2014