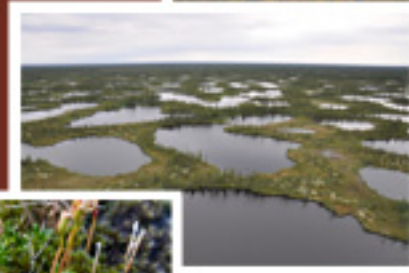
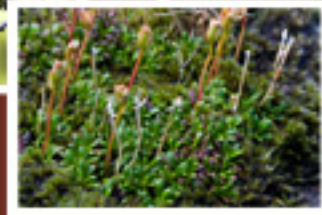
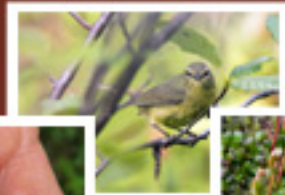


# The Far North Land Use Planning Initiative: Knowledge in Action

**Presentation to NOFNEC**

**Julie McArdle, Susan Thorne and  
Jennifer Chikoski  
Far North Branch, MNRF**

**October 4, 2016**



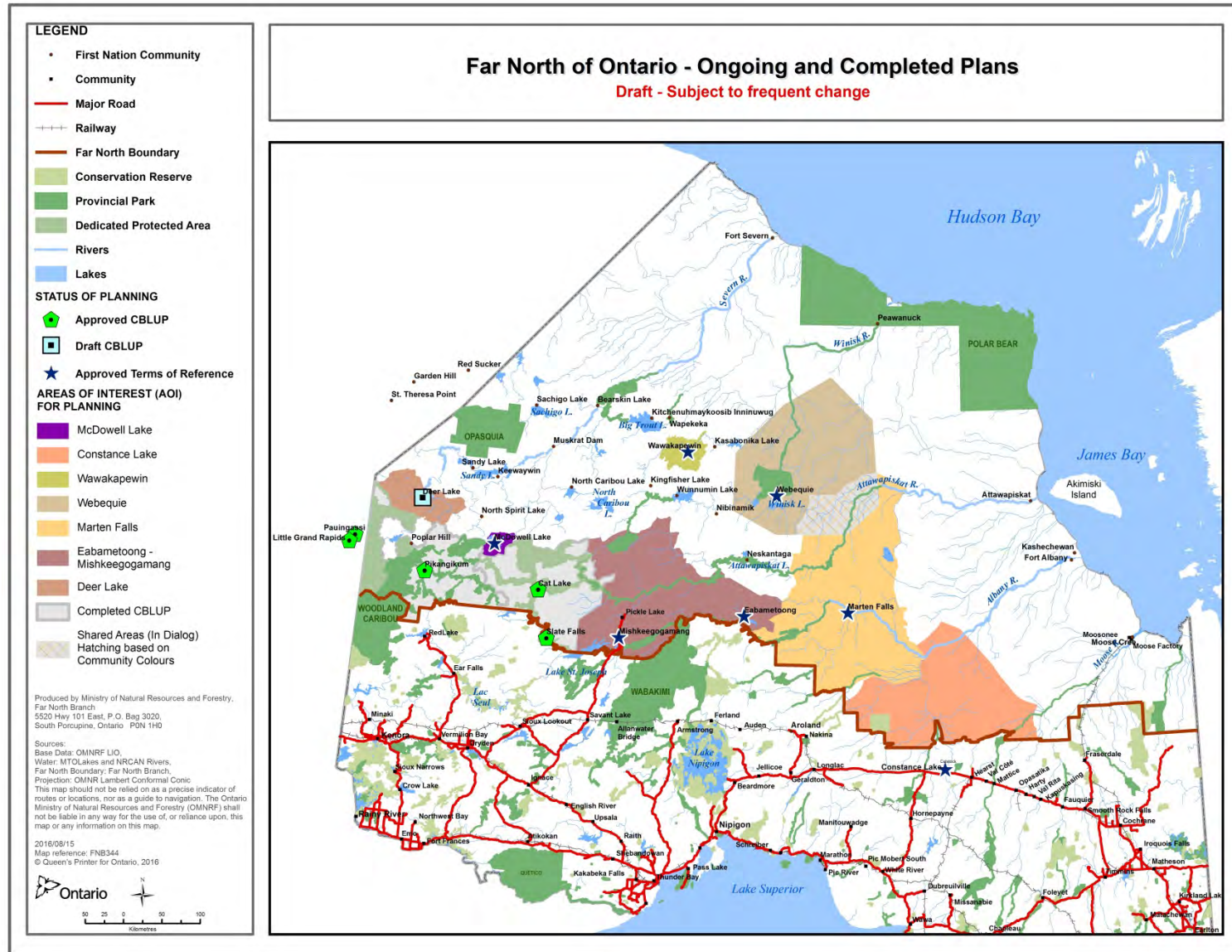
# Purpose of Presentation

## Knowledge in Action: Themes

- **Growing Knowledge of Initiating and Maintaining the Relationship**
- **Growing and collecting knowledge of Indigenous Traditional Knowledge and western science to support the planning process.**



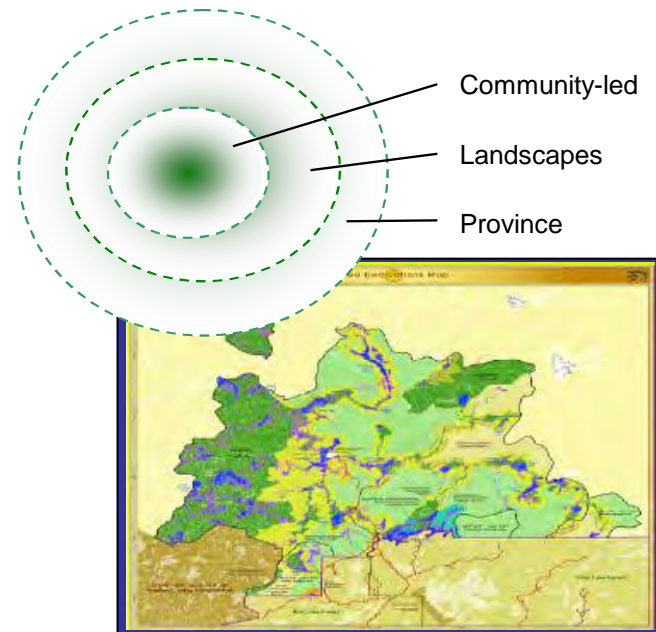
# An Update on the Initiative: Planning



# Community Based Land Use Planning Process

Community Based Land Use Plans are foundational pieces to the Far North Land Use Planning Initiative

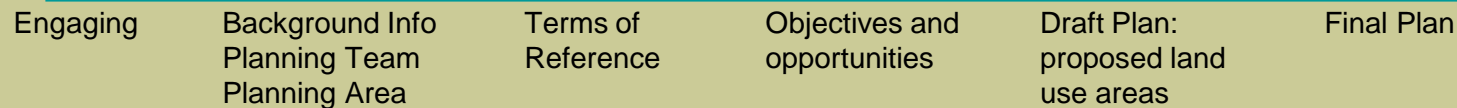
- Planning is initiated and led by First Nations working together with Ontario. Key aspects:
  - joint planning process, **consensus** approach
  - joint approvals
  - address shared goals and interests
  - information based process
  - local and broad scales



- First Nation Role
  - Local knowledge of and historical relationship to the land
  - Community interests for economic development, traditional use of the land, protection of sensitive sites.

- Ontario Role
  - Communicate the Provincial interests in conservation and economic development
  - Provide broad scale mapping and info
  - Provide opportunities for public and stakeholder input

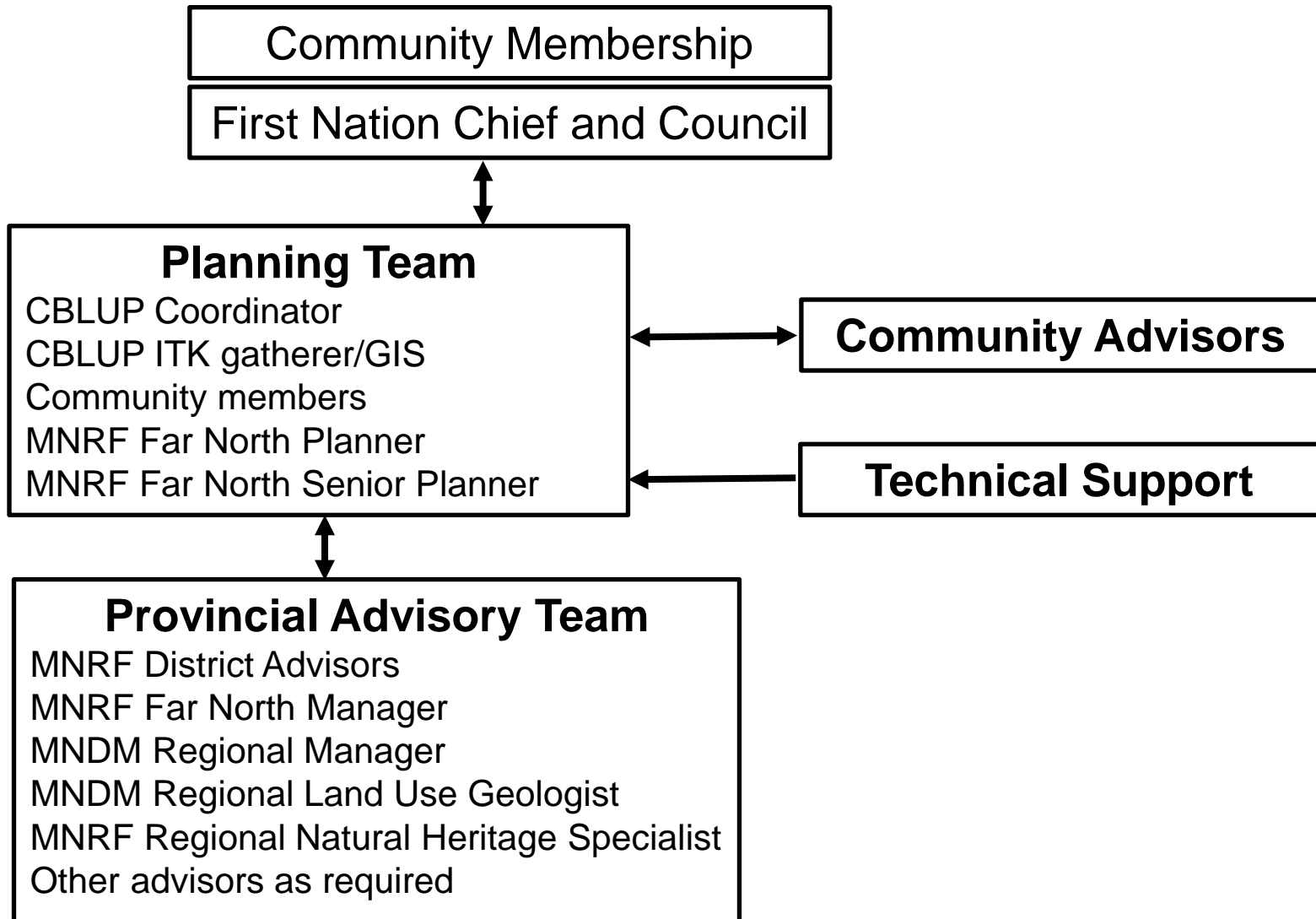
Consultative planning process:



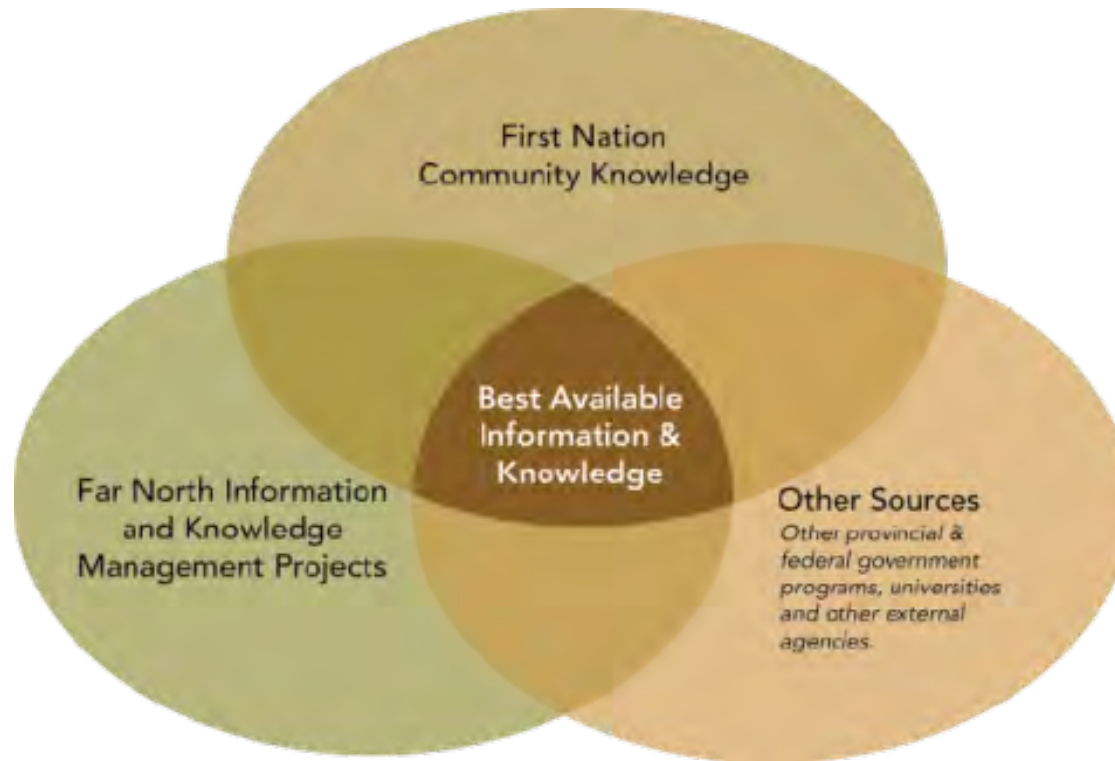
★ Denotes public consultation opportunity



# Sample Planning Structure



# Supporting Engagement and Decision Making



Indigenous Traditional Knowledge is an important component in supporting community engagement and wise decision making. Ontario is investing in information with the Far North Land Use Planning Initiative.

# Information Gathering & Knowledge

Many different types of information and knowledge will be required to support planning decisions.

## Some examples:

Cultural Areas

Conservations Areas

Timber Harvest Areas

Burial Grounds

Wildlife Movement

Family Camps

Berry-picking sites

Traplines

Spiritual Areas

Medicinal Plant Sites

Transportation Corridors

Mineral Potential

Tourism and Recreation

Fishing and Hunting Areas

Plants

Wetlands

Peat lands

Water information



# Indigenous Traditional Knowledge

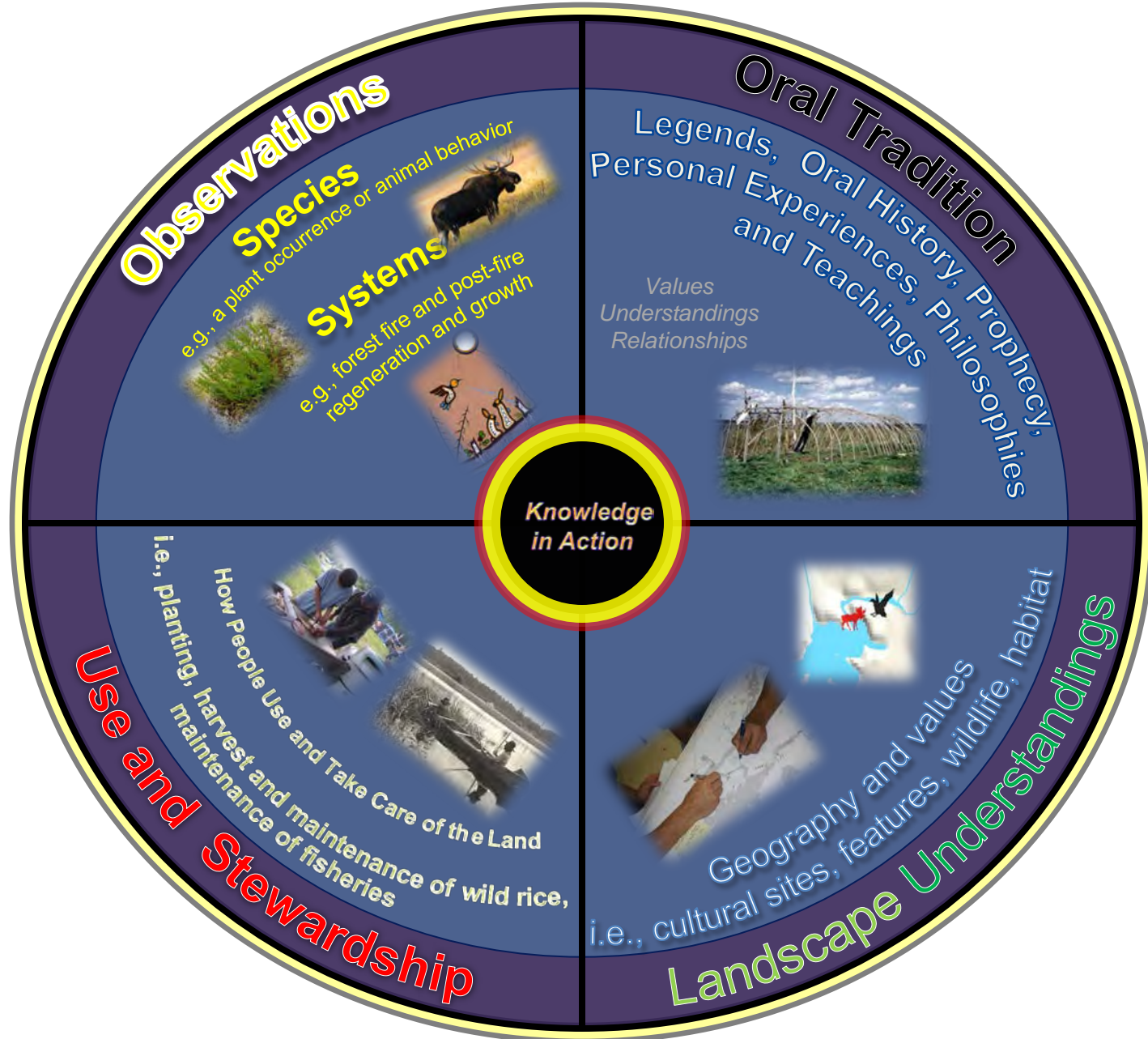
## ■ First Nation traditional information and knowledge

- Information stays with the community unless the community agrees to formally share with Ontario.
- Community determines how the information is shared with Ontario





# Areas of Indigenous Traditional Knowledge



# Approaches to Indigenous Traditional Knowledge Collection

## ■ Community focused project

- Project design by community with input and advice, e.g., aspects of collection, storage, security, maintenance.
- Interviews conducted by community members.
- Information automated (GIS) by community working with various providers, e.g. tribal council, consultant.
- Community can decide on degree of project delivery by consultant considering purpose of collection, community capacity, etc.

## ■ Consultant focused project

- Project design developed between the consultant and community.
- Interviews being conducted and data automated by consultants.

## ■ This is sensitive information and used for the purposes of community based land use planning only.

# Indigenous Knowledge Collection – Pikangikum First Nation experience

- Research team conducted interviews with the Elders creating digital videos and audio CDs.
- Documenting oral history of the community - cultural sites, special ecological areas, plant, animal and fish inventories, and historical occupancy.
- Information digitized and updated in Pikangikum and compiled into guides and map products.
- Guides all planning – land use, forest management, protected areas.
- Research partnerships.



# Indigenous Knowledge and Science Inform Planning



Sharing information and knowledge in a planning process can take place through a variety of forums including workshops, celebrations, interview, meetings and training.





# Far North Information & Knowledge Projects

Working together in partnership with provincial and federal government programs, universities, First Nations and other external agencies

## Indigenous Traditional Knowledge



## Knowledge of the Land



## Knowledge on Species of Interest



First Nation  
Community Knowledge

Best Available  
Knowledge &  
Information

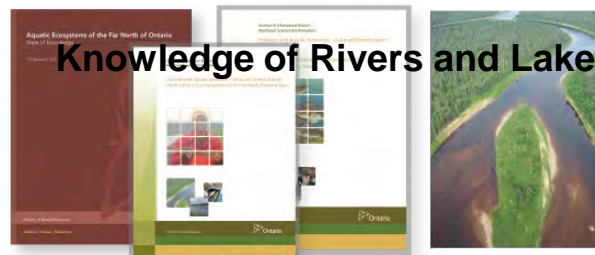
Far North Information  
and Knowledge  
Management Projects

Other Sources  
*Other provincial &  
federal government  
programs, universities  
and other external  
agencies.*

## Knowledge on Climate Change



## Knowledge of Rivers and Lakes



## Knowledge of Natural Values & Biodiversity





# Opportunity to benefit from Information Knowledge Management (IKM) projects

## Examples of Information Knowledge Management supported projects

### ■ Revised fundamental base data:

- Base data
- Hydrology
- Land Cover
- Vegetation Change

### ■ Tools and applications:

- Ontario Flow Assessment Tool
- GeoPDFs
- CapturX for values collection

### ■ Inventory and occurrence information:

- Species of interest (e.g., caribou)
- Biodiversity
- Historical field plots

### ■ Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge:

- Sea-run brook trout
- Sturgeon
- Wildlife harvest surveys

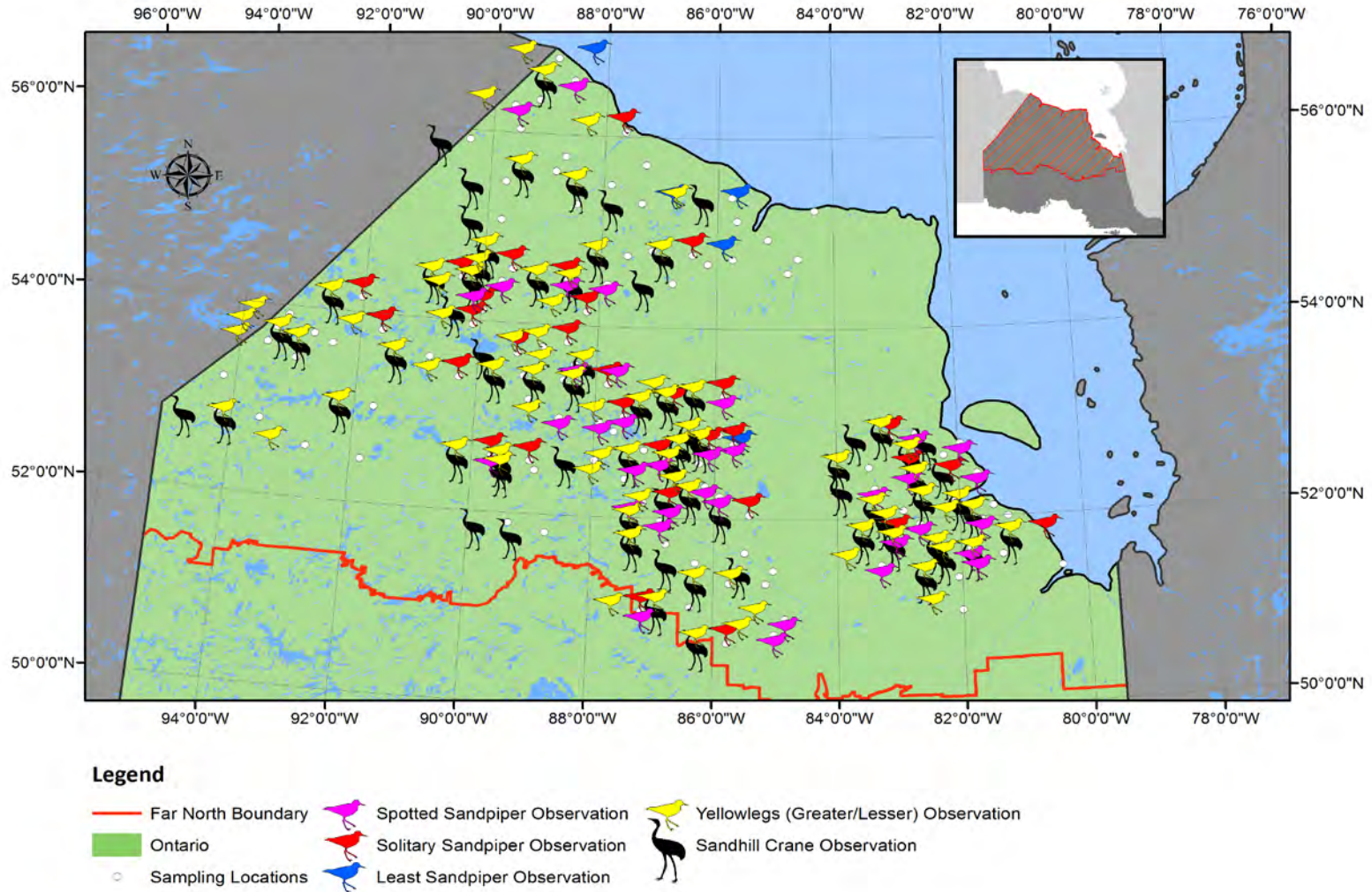
### ■ Monitoring and research:

- Stream gauges
- Carbon flux stations
- Peatland and forest modelling

### ■ Research and reporting:

- Aquatic state of knowledge
- Climate change in peatlands
- Ecosystem status and trends

# Biodiversity Information in Planning



# Example of Information Knowledge Project: How do we map water on the land?

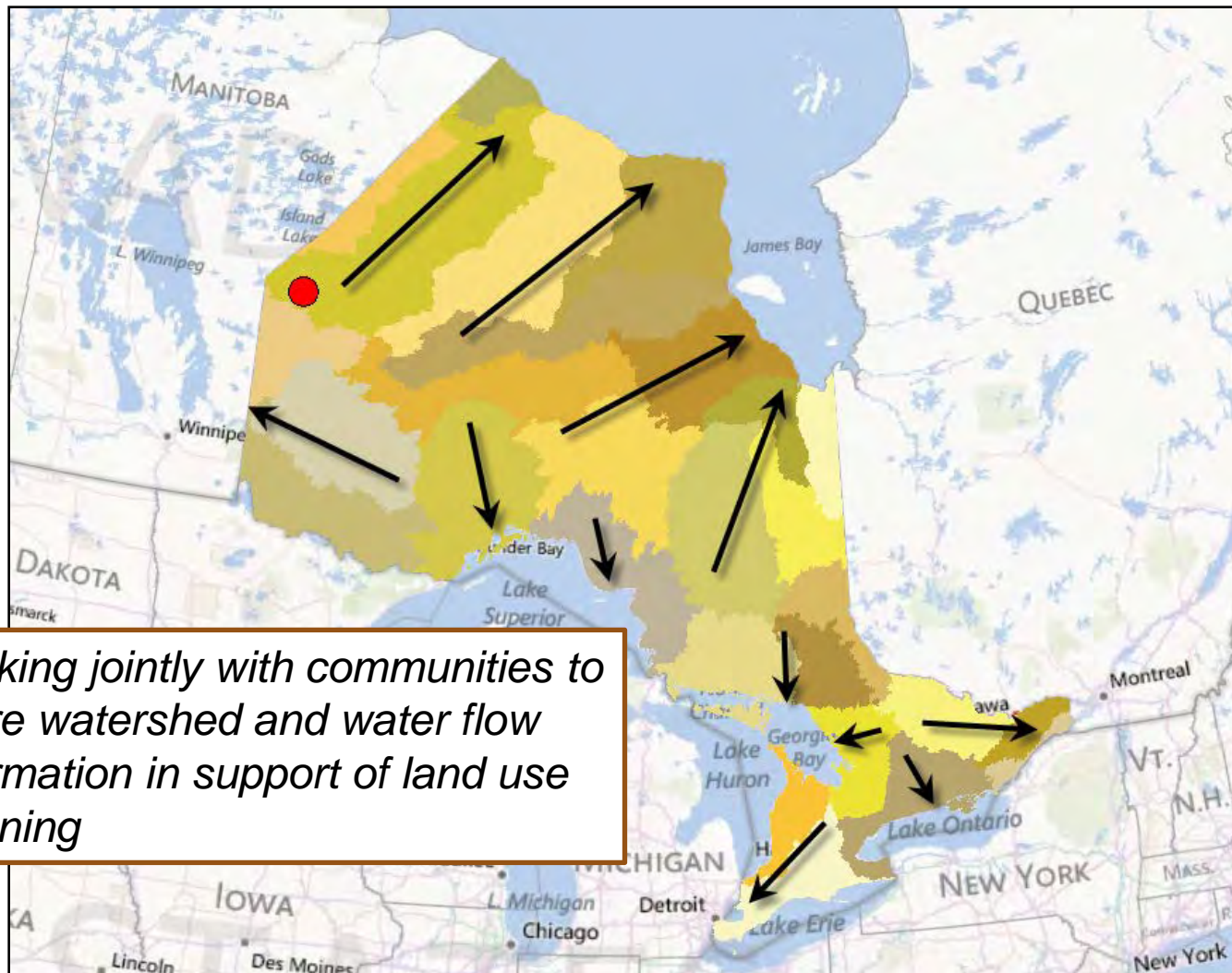
1. *How do we find out where water is coming from on the land? We can use **watersheds**.*

2. *How do we find out where the water will go. We can use a **stream network**.*



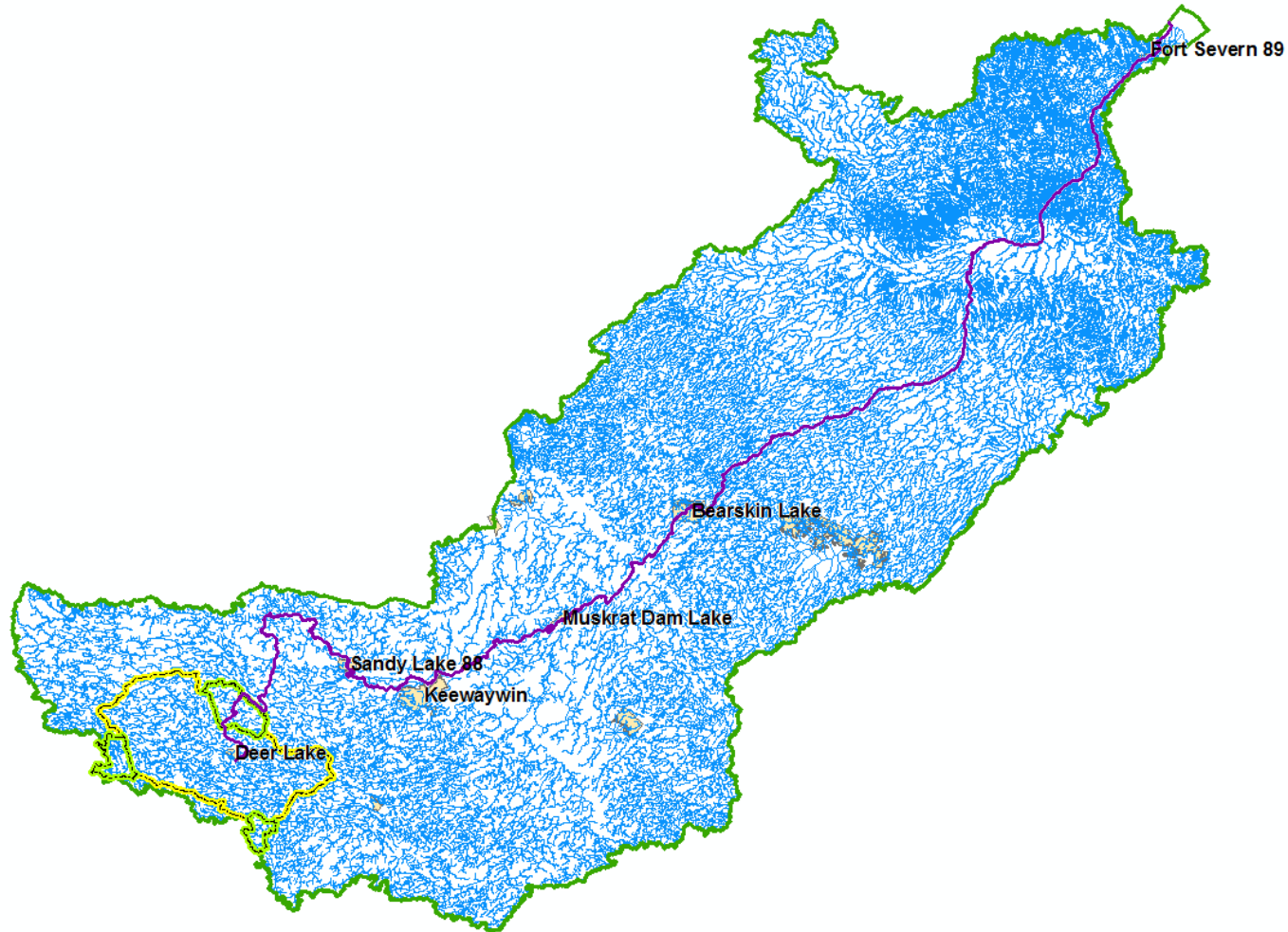


# Example of Information Knowledge Project: Ontario Watersheds & Water Flow Direction



**Note:** not to scale, for illustrative purposes only.

# Example of Information Knowledge Project: Tracing Where Water Flows

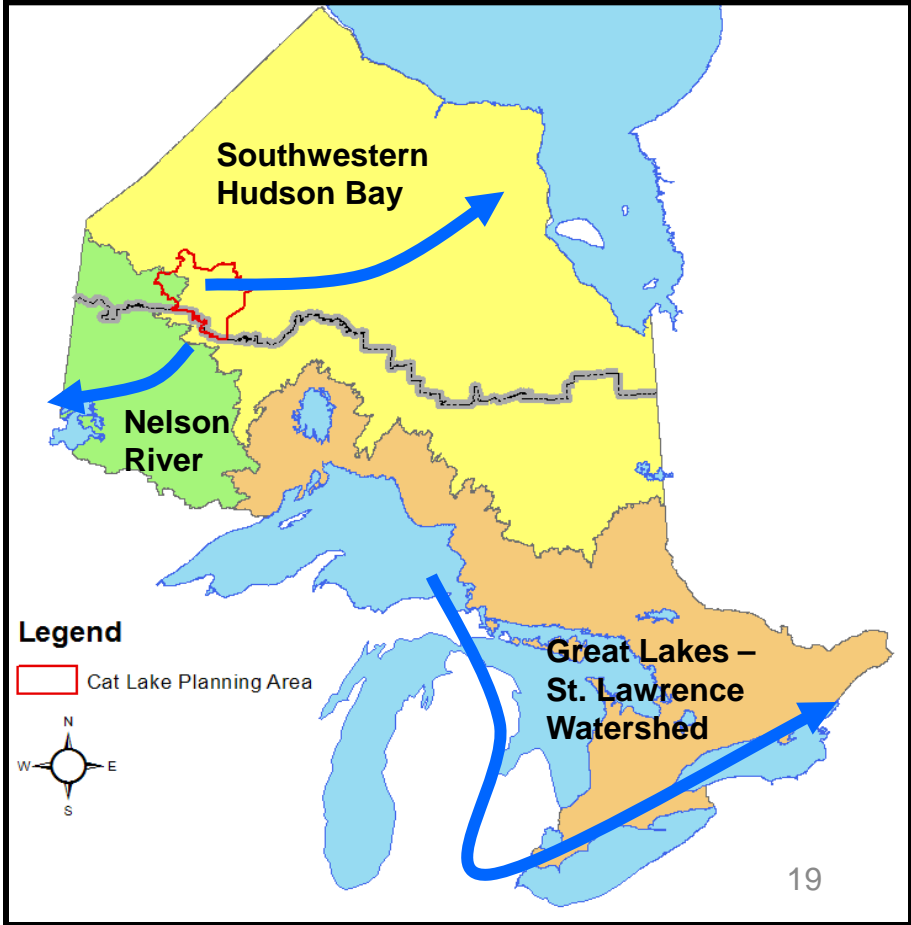


**Note:** not to scale, for illustrative purposes only.



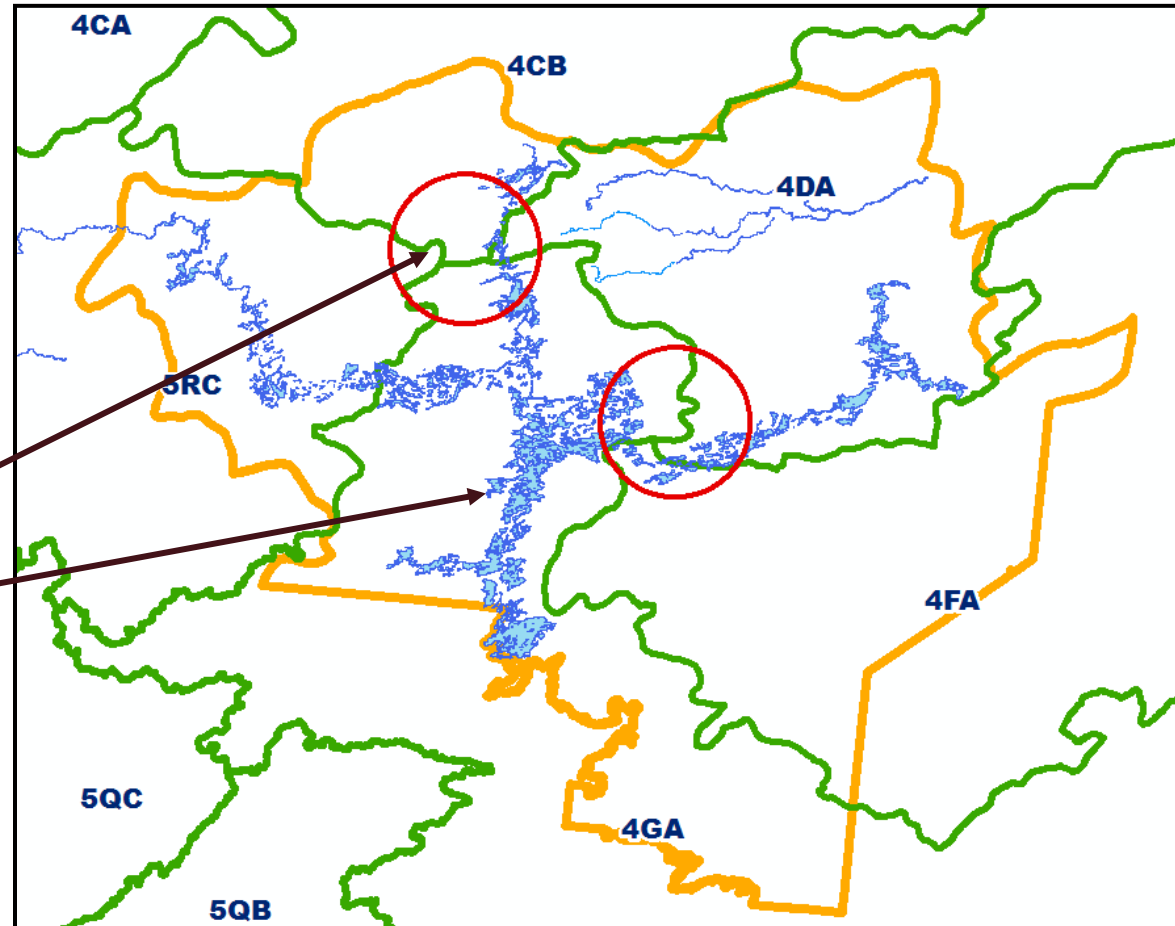
# Cat Lake – Slate Falls Community Based Plan

*Located at the headwaters of two primary watersheds*



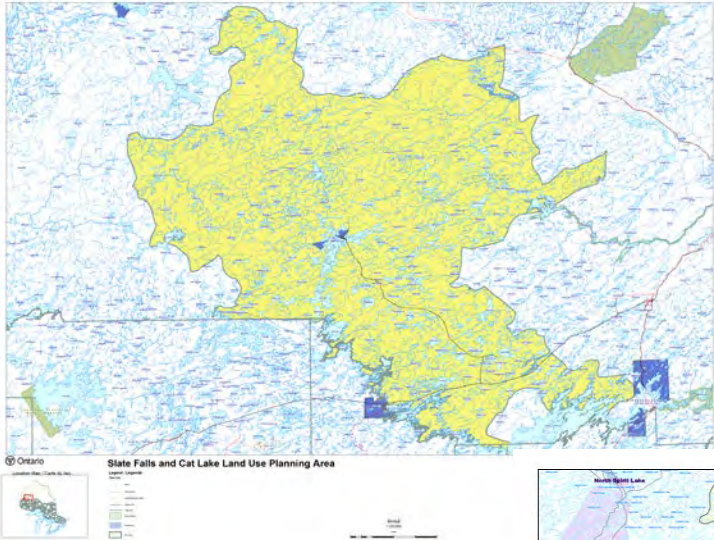
# Indigenous Traditional Values Used to Inform Planning Decisions along with Watershed Data

- *Traditional information and knowledge places high value on water in these areas*
- *Headwater areas (red areas) and lake/river corridors (blue areas) identified for protection by community*

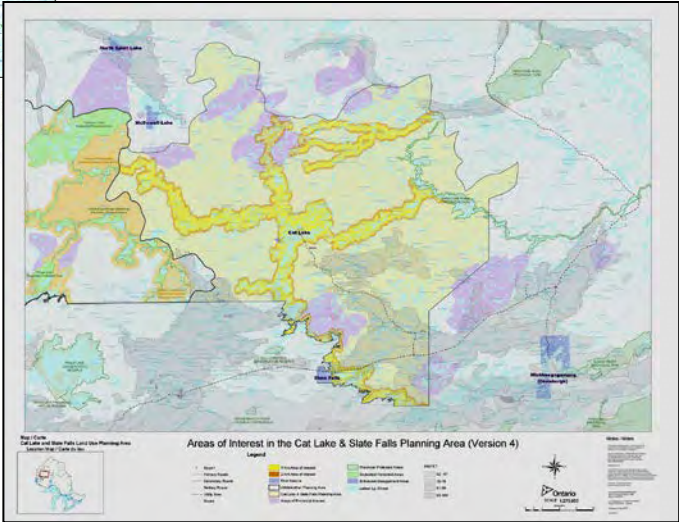
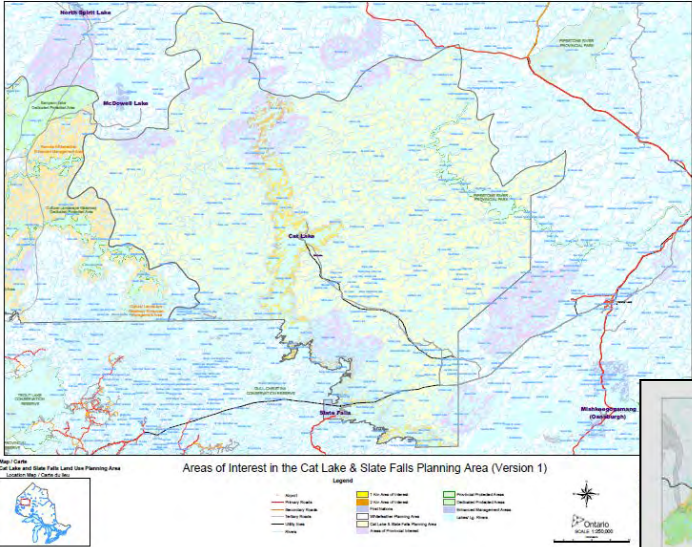


# Zoning is an Iterative Process

Planning Area of Interest



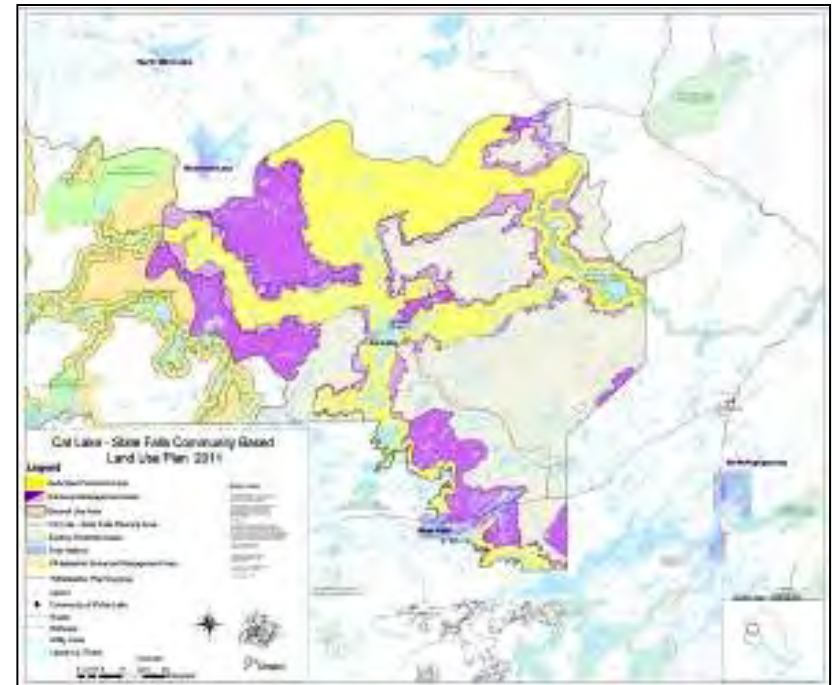
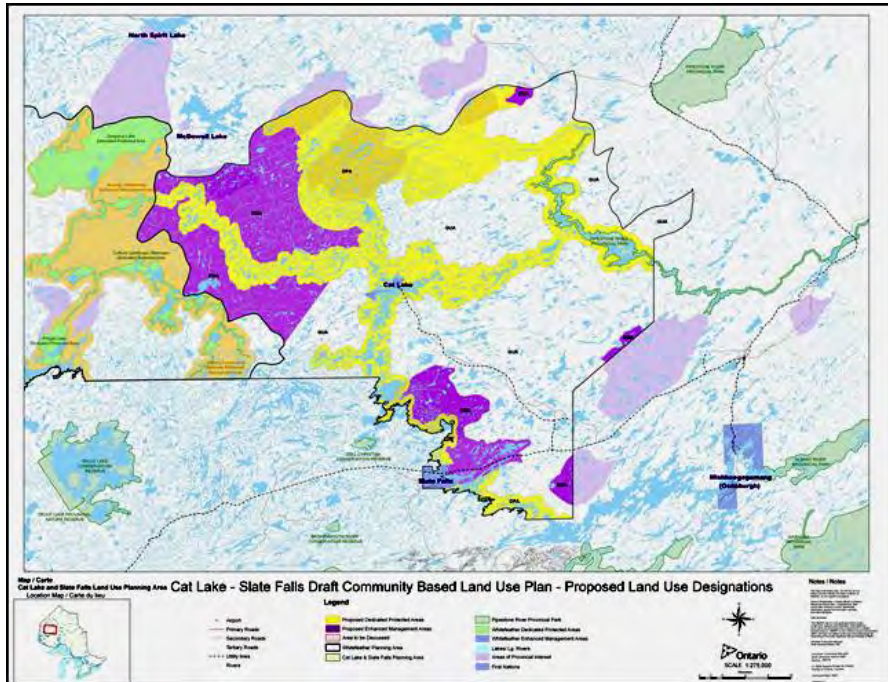
Important areas identified from the start



Example:  
Cat Lake Slate Falls Community Based Land Use Plan “Niigaan Bimaadiziwin” – A Future Life



# Zoning is an iterative process

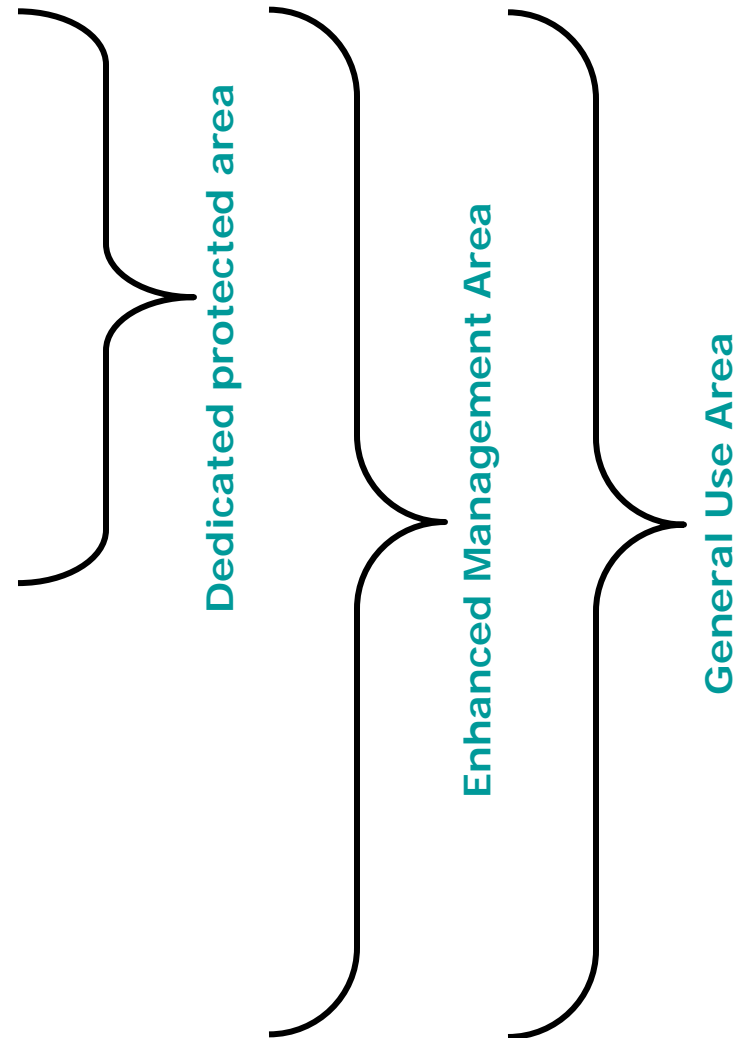


As information is collected:

- different layers of information helps in evolving boundary decisions
- balance interests in protection and development

# Example: Activities to Zoning

- Traditional use
- Small scale NTFP
- Tourism
- Recreation
- Research/education
- Fish and wildlife management
- Cutting trees for local needs
  
- Commercial forestry
- Access - major
- Mineral exploration
- Transmission lines
- Renewable Energy



*Note: Illustration only – further definition of activities required for actual zoning decisions. Several types of Dedicated Protected Area and Enhanced Management Areas can be selected, to suit desired activities.*<sub>23</sub>





# In Summary...

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- First Nations have a leadership role in planning and work together with Ontario to create community based land use plans.
- Ontario is investing in information with the Far North Land Use Planning Initiative including support to Indigenous Traditional Knowledge collection and projects.
- Traditional knowledge and information is the foundation of planning. CBLUP approach is successful by building a relationship to move forward, supporting a shared understanding of perspectives, goals and interests

# Policy Update: The Far North Land Use Strategy

- Strategy will contain important guidance that will help communities preparing community based land use plans to think about broad issues such as water, caribou, climate change, and the need for roads and energy corridors.
- Strategy has been in development since 2013, and much engagement with communities has taken place.
- Currently going through final approvals, hoping to release final Strategy this winter.
- Once finalized, MNRF will provide copies to communities.
- The Strategy can evolve over time.



# Policy Update: What is in the Far North Land Use Strategy

- A **vision** for the outcome of land use planning in the Far North and **overarching principles**
- **Land use designations** - Dedicated Protected Areas, Enhanced Management Areas, and General Use Area.
- **Guidance** for joint planning teams to apply when preparing, reviewing and amending plans.
- A process for **amending community based land use plans**.
- Information on **implementation of plans**, describing use of joint implementation teams as an approach for implementing plans.
- A section on **Implementation of the Strategy and Commitments**.
- **Supporting information and guidance for developers and resource managers** to consider as they plan and approve projects.
- Descriptions of five **areas** to help planning teams, developers, and resource managers consider landscape-level issues such as caribou habitat, climate change, and all-weather roads.
- An Appendix providing with guidance on **confirming and designating a planning area**.



# Policy Update: What is Contributing to the Strategy?

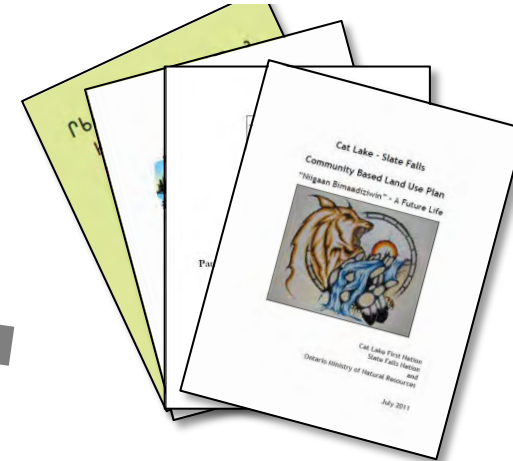
Input and Perspectives shared by First Nations



Joint Working Group activities and input



Approaches and lessons learned from completed and ongoing CBLUPs



Input from stakeholders



Far North Land Use Strategy



Existing provincial policies and legislation



Far North Science Panel and Advisory Panel Reports

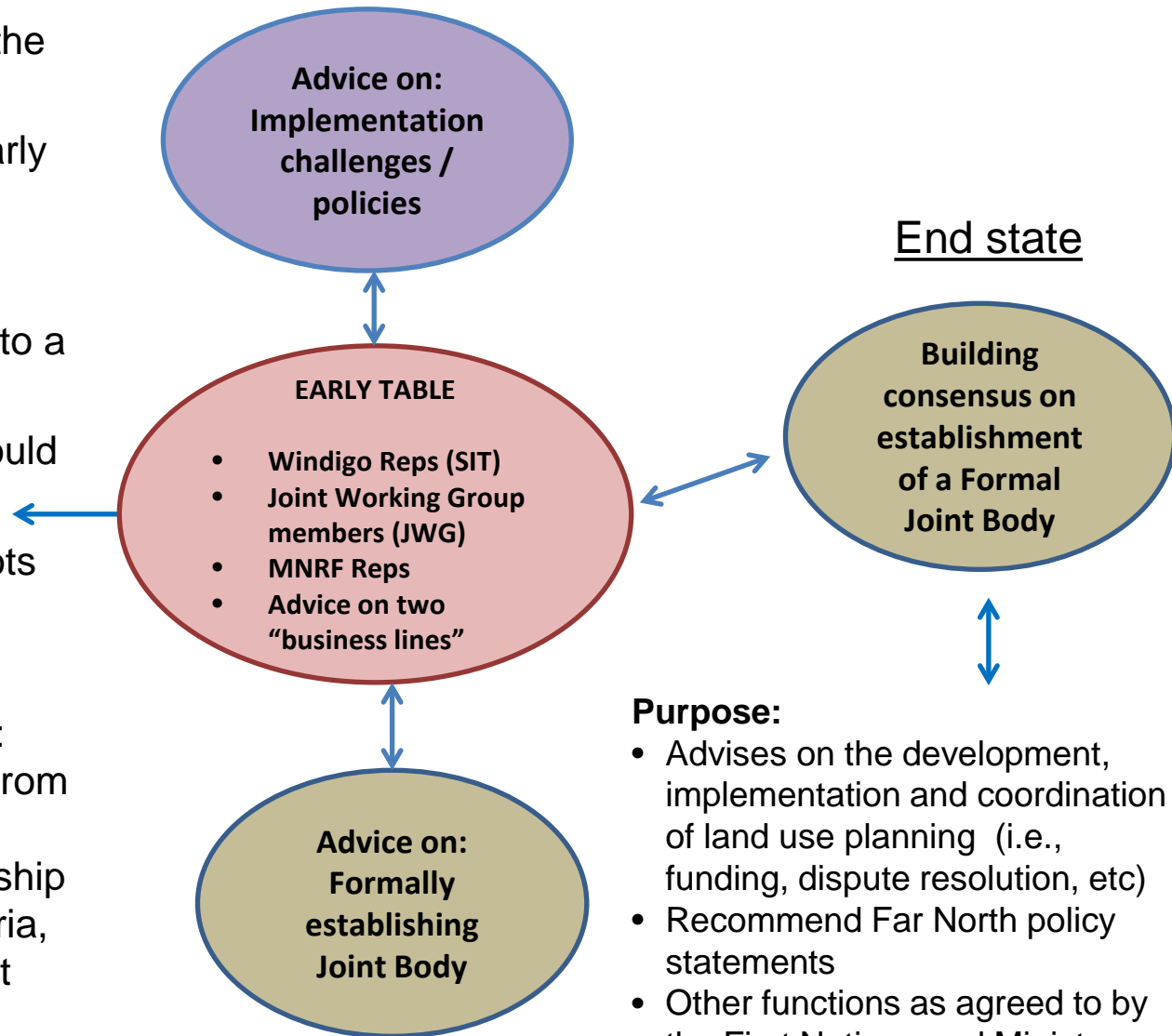


The objectives for land use planning set out in the Far North Act



# Policy Update: Evolving the Joint Body

- Formal Joint Body is for the entire Far North
- A new, interim group (Early Table) would :
  - Provide advice on implementation
  - help MNRF evolve to a formal Joint Body.
- A Terms of Reference would guide Early Table
- Seek input from grassroots
- Seek input from district/ regional MNRF staff
- Considers key questions:
  - how to get support from FNs,
  - Joint Body membership & membership criteria,
  - procedures the Joint Body would follow



## Purpose:

- Advises on the development, implementation and coordination of land use planning (i.e., funding, dispute resolution, etc)
- Recommend Far North policy statements
- Other functions as agreed to by the First Nations and Minister

# The story of our relationship in pictures

## Planning Together I



## Planning Together II



## Planning Together III



## Planning Together 4





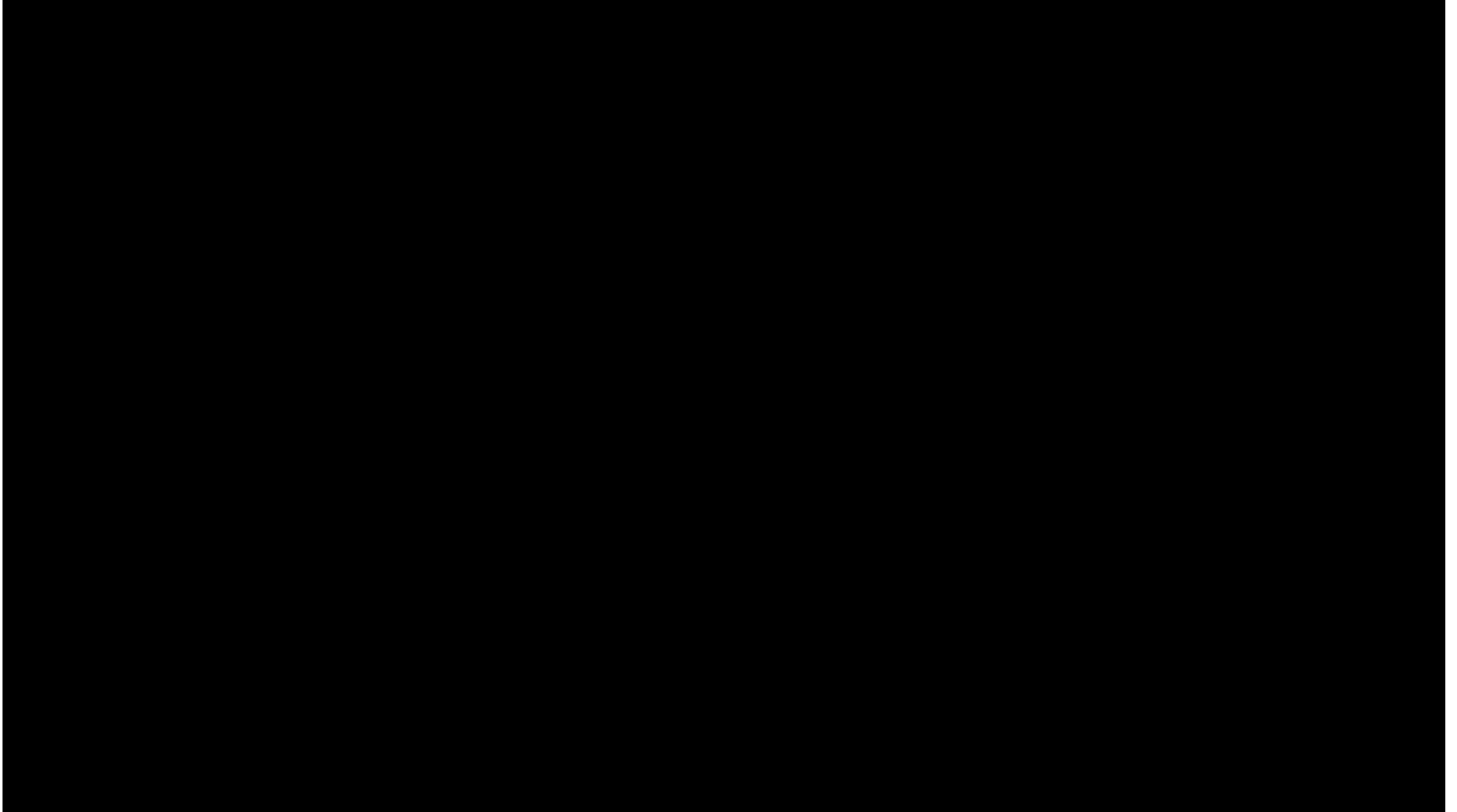
# What have we learned to help grow our relationship?

- We need to take the time need to build trust and establish the relationship.
- We need to listen to the stories and many wrongs of the past to improve our understanding of First Nations present and future.
- We need to respect First Nations culture and languages; translation is key.
- We need to be flexible and provide opportunities to give input in a variety of ways and in ways that respect First Nations culture.
- We need to consider the challenges and realities facing communities...people before policy.
- We need to seek input at grassroots level, while ensuring leadership supports and understands decisions.

# How did we learn this? Elders Workshop

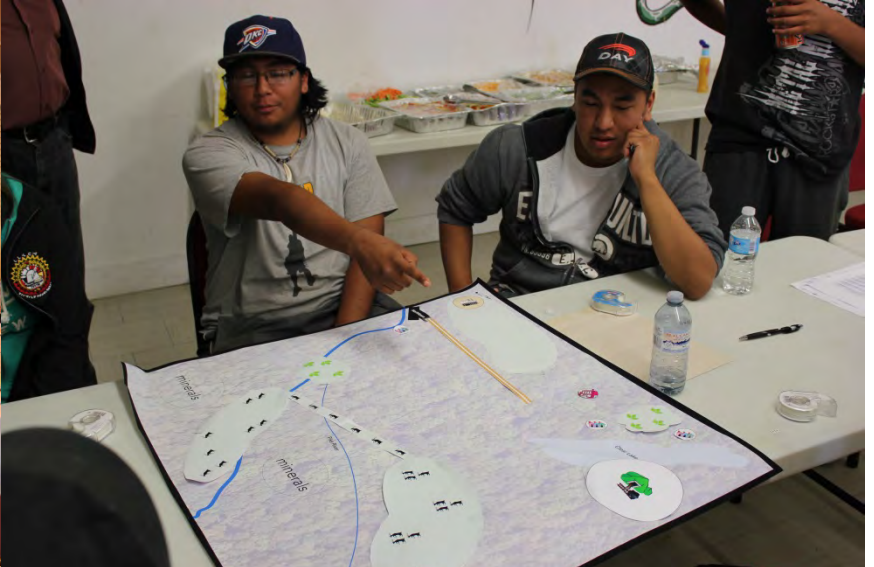


**This video inspired by Elder's Workshop....**





# Listening to the Youth





# Listening to the people: Joint Working Group

- Group was established to build understanding about planning and the Strategy at the community level.
- Participants are self-identified volunteers who have experience with land use planning; participants come from across the Far North.
- Working with us, they developed and delivered a communications strategy, which included an:
  - Elders Workshop
  - A five-part video series
  - Assisted at Planning Together workshops and Nov 2014 Stakeholder Workshop
  - Wawatay radio shows Dec 2014
  - Provided input on components of the Strategy (Vision, Principles, Shared areas)



## We have much more to learn....

- Listening has helped us learn.
- What we have learned has changed the way we work within government. For example, the inter-ministerial work we did on the Far North Land Use Strategy.
- We also share what we have learned from you throughout government.
- We know we have much more to learn. Our relationship is still evolving.

