

## MFFN Access Road EA Process & Webequie First Nation Supply Road

December 13, 2019

Fort Albany First Nation has a mixed economy (Sustenance –harvesting/trapping/hunting/fishing, local entrepreneurship, resource based economic practice including small scale forestry, some professional work, i.e., health services, education, administration, retail, etc.)

There are currently high unemployment rates and lower high school graduation rates. Training in resources related fields, particularly within the traditional homelands of FAFN should be the focus for negotiations, lobbying, and advocacy activities by Chief and Council, Mushkegowuk Council, NAN, COO, and AFN.

Fort Albany First Nation (FAFN) has relied on the lands, waters, and related resources on their homelands of Treaty #9 of 1905, as the primary economic driver long before 1492. Today, many of the natural resources are rapidly depleting due to Climate Change, pollution, globalization, natural and man-made disasters (ie, Victor Mine Invasive species introduction, Attawapiskat River mercury effects/affects, related environmental disturbances, industrial-age introduction and/or impacts).

However, there are opportunities for the Peetabeck Inninowuk (FAFN) to encourage new and emerging economic and business developments to create a sustainable community without compromising our Inninowuk culture, heritage, or Inninowuk Aski (homelands within Treaty #9 of 1905).

The challenge for the Peetabeck Inninowuk community is to identify these opportunities and develop viable mushkeg focused economies, entrepreneurial initiatives, and associated capacity.