



Physical & Environmental Sciences
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Northern Road Link Project
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
500-55 York Street Toronto, ON M5J 1R7

To whom it may concern:

Re: Comments on the Draft Public Participation Plan of the Northern Road Link

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Climate Laboratory (CL@UT) at the Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences (DPES), University of Toronto Scarborough Campus (UTSC).

The University of Toronto Climate Lab (CL@UT) <https://www.utoronto.ca/people/gough/> is the research laboratory of Professor William A. Gough at UTSC. The CL@UT conducts research on climate change impacts, vulnerability, and adaptation such as climate change in the eastern Arctic, northern Canada and Canadian cities, climate change impact assessment, numerical ocean and climate modeling, air quality in southwestern Ontario, hurricanes and climate change, day to day temperature variability, climate change policy, and other topics in climatology, meteorology, and physical geography.

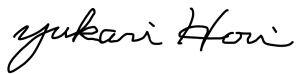
We have reviewed the *Northern Road Link Draft Public Participation Plan* for consideration and participation of our interests during the impact assessment process and hope to work collaboratively with your agency. In Appendix 1 Public Participation Plan Distribution List, we acknowledge that there are only two academic institutions listed as educational institutions. Since we recognize the significance of the Northern Road Link Project and its potential impacts on many Indigenous communities and groups as well as their environments in Northern Ontario, we are particularly concerned about the lack of insights, expertise, and concerns from academic communities.

Dr. Bill Gough and Dr. Yukari Hori at CL@UT have conducted several research projects related to the impacts of climate change on the winter road networks and the well-being of the Indigenous communities in Northern Canada. In addition, DPES at UTSC has been offering the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) course that examines EIA from a critical perspective as a strategic, comprehensive, and proactive process employed to integrate the ecological and social aspects of development into planning and environmental/resource management processes. Some of our graduated students are currently working at your agency.

We kindly request that you consider our request for active participation in the environmental impact assessment process. We are eager to contribute our knowledge and expertise to this important endeavor.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me at y.hori@utoronto.ca if you have any questions or require further information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Yukari Hori".

Yukari Hori, Ph.D.

Email: y.hori@utoronto.ca

Lab: 647 601-4443

Cc: William A. Gough, Ph.D.