

April 15, 2019

NO BIG-PROJECT DELIVERABLES FOR NORTHERN ONTARIO IN PROVINCIAL BUDGET

Northern Ontario Business – Apr 11

No mention was made of any funding commitment to further develop the transportation corridor into the Ring of Fire, other than what's already being spent in early-stage planning and environmental assessment of the first leg of a north-south access route.

<https://www.northernontariobusiness.com/regional-news/northeastern-ontario/no-big-project-deliverables-for-northern-ontario-in-provincial-budget-1370341>

DOUG FORD SLASHES INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS BUDGET AND PURSUES RING OF FIRE

National Observer – Apr 11

Premier Doug Ford is pushing ahead with plans to develop Ontario's northern region in the province's 2019 budget, promising to cut "red tape and restrictions that are blocking important economic developments" in the Ring of Fire, a remote region with mining potential and logistical struggles. Efforts to exploit mineral resources in the Ring of Fire region have been fraught with controversy and opposition, as First Nation communities assert jurisdiction over traditional territory and raise concerns about the use of land and risk of water contamination. The move to open up development of the remote area comes as the government also seeks to slash the budget for Indigenous Affairs — which promotes collaboration and coordination in policy and programs across ministries in partnership with First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities — from \$146 million last year to just \$74.4 million. Part of the decrease is due to the loss of one-time funding investments, and things like land claim settlements that are not tied to the base budget.

<https://www.nationalobserver.com/2019/04/11/news/doug-ford-slashes-indigenous-affairs-budget-and-pursues-ring-fire>

LOCAL MP'S VOICE DISAPPOINTMENT IN PROVINCIAL BUDGET

TBNNewswatch – Apr 11

While there was no dollar figure attached, the Ring of Fire was mentioned in the budget, merely with a promise that the government "is working to cut red tape and end the delays that block the development of the Ring of Fire area by working with willing partners to ensure sustainable development in the North." Gravelle said he was disappointed with the lack of financial commitment for infrastructure for the potentially lucrative far north mining development, as the Liberals had for a number of years in the form of a \$1-billion pledge. "I'm going to be pushing pretty hard on that one because it's one of the areas we're most interested in seeing progress," Gravelle said. "There hasn't been a lot to report since this government was put in place."

<https://www.tbnewswatch.com/local-news/local-mpps-voice-disappointment-in-provincial-budget-1370338>

\$3.4M IN FEDNOR FUNDING

Timmins Daily Press – Apr 11

Mushkegowuk Council received funding to study the feasibility of year-round road that would connect communities along the James Bay Coast. Mushkegowuk Council received \$750,000 which will be used to complete a study to explore the viability of establishing an all-season road to connect Attawapiskat, Kashechewan, Fort Albany and Moose Cree First Nation Nations to the Highway 11 corridor. The project will include extensive community consultations, environmental data, cost estimates, and preliminary design work for the new coastal roadway.

<https://www.timminspress.com/news/local-news/3-4m-in-fednor-funding>

TORIES COMMIT TO MOVING RING OF FIRE FORWARD

Timmins Daily Press – Apr 12

At the same time, Fedeli said, the province is looking to end the delays that have blocked the development of the Ring of Fire in in the James Bay lowlands “by working with willing partners to ensure sustainable development.”

<https://www.timminspress.com/news/local-news/tories-commit-to-moving-ring-of-fire-forward>

NORONT CLOESS \$3.45 MILLION FLOW-THROUGH FINANCING, ISSUES INTEREST SHARES

Nasdaq – Apr 12

Noront Resources Ltd. is pleased to announce the closing of a private placement of 11,130,807 Flow-Through Units at a price of \$0.31 per Flow-Through Unit for gross proceeds of \$3,450,550. The proceeds from the Flow-Through Unit Offering will be used to advance the Company's exploration program in the Ring of Fire. The immediate priority is to follow-up on the 26.4 metre massive sulphide intersection in McFaulds drill hole 18-98 which graded 2.1% copper, 3.4% zinc and 5.5 gpt silver.

<https://www.nasdaq.com/press-release/noront-closes-345-million-flowthrough-financing-issues-interest-shares-and-issues-options-to-the-20190412-00694>

ONTARIO PCS WANT TO MAKE IT NEXT TO IMPOSSIBLE TO SUE THE GOVERNMENT

CBC News – Apr 14

The PCs plan to repeal and replace the long-standing Ontario Proceedings Against the Crown Act — legislation that, among other things, outlines government liability in cases of misfeasance and negligence. The new law would increase the legal threshold necessary to proceed with civil litigation, including class action lawsuits, against the government. Further, it would considerably limit the instances in which the government could be on the hook for financial compensation to plaintiffs.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/proceedings-against-the-crown-act-repeal-replace-pcs-1.5097205>

ONTARIO CHANGES REGULATIONS ON WHO PAYS TO UPGRADE POWER LINES

CBC News – Apr 15

Changes approved by the Ontario Energy Board could make upgrades to power lines across the province cheaper for industries setting up shop in far-flung parts of the province. The OEB recently overhauled the rules on who pays for the upgrades to power lines. Previously, if industry required a line to be upgraded, it would bear the full cost of the upgrade. Now, a company only has to pay a portion of the upgrade. Iain Angus, the co-chair of the energy task force with Common Voice Northwest, said one example is an upgrade needed on the power line to Greenstone.

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/thunder-bay/ontario-power-line-upgrade-charges-1.5094764>