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# PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES:

The Mining and Northern Development Northern Superior Regional Round Table took place on Thursday March 2, 2017 at Vaughan. This was the first Regional Table meeting of its kind in the region as a result of the implementation of a new regional engagement framework put in place by the Union of Ontario Indians (UOI). This initial meeting was formulated as a sort of meet and greet and was an opportunity for the participants to become further equated with the regional framework. For the purposes of the regional framework there was a single Regional Table for the Southeast and Southwest Regions of the Anishinabek Nation. Figure below denotes the Southeast and Southwest Regions of the Anishinabek Nation.



4 First Nation leaders, portfolio holders and technicians from the Southeast/Southwest Regions attended the Mining and minerals portion of the Round Table that was part of a larger three-day meeting made up of round table discussions of various lands and resources related issues. The aforementioned First Nation representatives were joined by UOI Lands and Resources staff who facilitated the Table discussions as well as representatives from the Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines (MNDM). In addition, the Table was attended by staff from the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs. The Director of the Anishinabek/Ontario Fisheries Resource Centre also attended the meeting.

The following are those who were in attendance for the Mining and Northern Development Table:

### Anishinabek Nation Participants:

Adam St. Germain - Chippewas of Rama First Nation  
 Amber King - Beausoleil First Nation  
 Julie Henry - Alderville First Nation  
 Radek Odolczyk - Alderville First Nation

### UOI Participants:

Cameron Welch  
 Rhonda Gagnon  
 Tammy Desmoulin

### MNDM Participants:

Clayton Ralph  
 Jamie Fairchild  
 Karen Kettles  
 Suzanne Halet

### OMAFRA Participant:

Vicki Luke

### MOECC Participant:

Trudy Millard

### Anishinabek/Ontario Fisheries Resource Centre Participant:

Peter Meisenheimer

## TABLE DISCUSSION:

As the Mining and Minerals Regional Table was scheduled in the afternoon of a multi-day gathering of Southeast/Southwest Regional leaders, First Nation portfolio holders and community members, the Anishinabek traditional protocol remained open from the first day of the meeting. After all protocol was observed members of the table introduced themselves. MNDM personnel gave the Table some



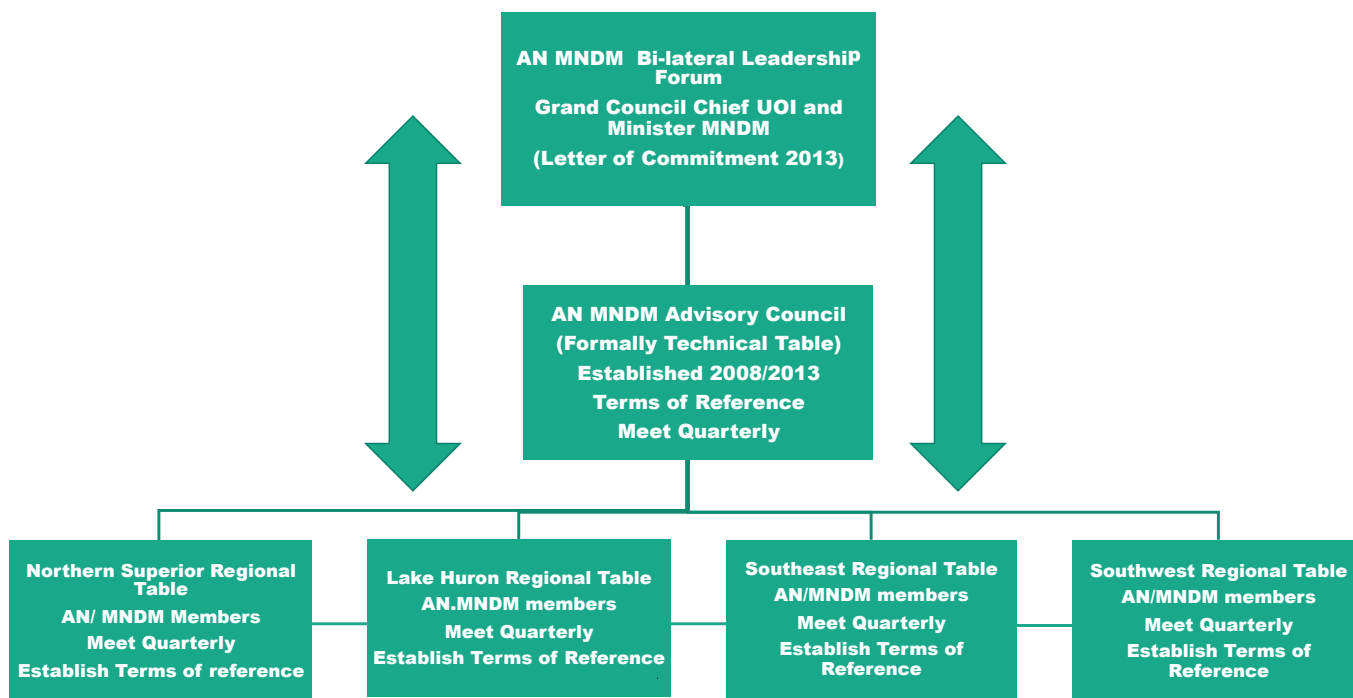
background on what types of work they do for the MNM and briefly outlined how they could assist Anishinabek communities represented at the Table. Cameron shared the UOI and MNM contact information sheets had had been distributed to the Table participants. He also requested that each participant fill out a contact information form so that UOI staff could update contact lists and make future individual follow-up calls with representatives from each community in the Region.

Cameron then delivered a timeline of MNM activities in relation to Mining Act Modernization (MAM), and the Table was brought up to date on issues such as on-line staking and other efforts as part of Phase III of the MAM process. This timeline was well received and members of the Table expressed a renewed interest in following up and improving their understanding of the on-line staking process. The timeline is reproduced below:

#### **Timeline of Mining Act Modernization**

- 2006 Ontario's Mineral Development Strategy is announced
- Prior to Mining Act Modernization (MAM) there were discussions with Aboriginal organizations and communities that took place in 2007
- July 2008 – Mining Act Modernization announced (Bill 173) as well as the Far North Planning Initiative (Far North Act)
- August 2008 – Ministry's "Finding a Balance" Discussion Paper released (Phase 1)
- 2008-2009 – Ministry of Northern Development and Mines (MNM) starts initial engagements across Ontario with Aboriginal communities, organizations, Industry, prospectors, and public
- May 2009 – Bill 173 posted on the Environmental Registry for 60 days
- 2008-2009 – Union of Ontario Indians (UOI) receives funds from MNM to carry out their own engagement sessions – 10 engagement sessions took place across Anishinabek Nation
- Engagement with the rest of the Province continues. MNM continues to contact UOI First Nations on mineral exploration activities
- UOI and its First Nation representatives continue discussions and meetings throughout the Mining Act Modernization process
- 2011 Phase 1 ends
- January 27, 2011 - Mining Act Modernization Regulation Development with Union of Ontario Indians – Anishinabek in Toronto (Chiefs of Ontario Office)
- 2012- 2013 Mining Act Modernization continues (Phase 2) - Engagement sessions across the Province continue including UOI First Nations
- June 25, 2013 UOI and MNM sign Letter of Commitment (LOC) - Technical Table is formed to support the meetings between UOI Grand Council Chief and Minister
- December 2013 – EBR posting
- 2013-14 Mining Act Modernization (Phase 3) - Engagement sessions across the Province continue including UOI First Nations
- 2015 Spring/Summer- Sessions on Mineral Development Strategy, Regulation 308, and MAM Phase 3 sessions are held
- 2016 – 2017 Mining Act Modernization (Phase 3) continues

What followed was an introduction to the MNM/Anishinabek relationship delivered by Cameron. He introduced the Table to the Regional Table process and discussed the relationships between the Regional Table and the Advisory Council and Bi-lateral Leadership Forum that constitutes the relational forum between the two governments. The figure below was shared with the Table and is a representation of the newly introduced regional framework for engagement between Anishinabek communities and the MNM:



The letter of intent that established the AN-MNMD Bi-Lateral Leadership Forum was presented and discussed. As was the evolving terms of reference for the Regional Tables. He stressed the utility of the Regional Table process and suggested that regional priorities for action related to mining and development should be discussed at the next meeting of the Table. He then opened up the Table for discussion and asked the Table what they would like to see the Regional Table accomplish.

# ISSUES IDENTIFIED BY THE TABLE:

One consistent topic of discussion was the need for capacity building at the community level in order for Anishinabek Nation citizens to participate more fully in the mining and minerals sector of our economy. To that end, the need for mining 101 training on the mining sequence and Mining Act modernization was discussed and placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Table.

The Table also expressed the need for further training and information sharing on the implementation of the on-line staking and potential implications and opportunities for the Anishinabek Nation and their communities.

Interest was also expressed by the table in the potential for their communities to participate in the Prospectors Course that the MNDM offers at the community level. The Table asked that the details of said training course be shared with the Table at their next meeting. Rhonda then introduced the Table to a number of projects being carried out by Ontario Geological Survey in the Southeast/Southwest Regions.



## NEXT STEPS:

This first meeting of the Southeast/Southwest Regional Table was very much a form for new UOI staff and their counterparts at MNDM to meet with representatives of the Anishinabek communities of the region(s). The meeting was a success and Table participants expressed the desire to move forward with discussion of many issues important to their communities. The next meeting of the Table is to take place in April or May of 2017 at a location to be determined. It is important that the next meeting of the full Table be preceded by a First Nation Caucus where community representatives can discuss a number of issues before being joined at that Table by representatives from the MNDM.

Follow-up Items:

Action	Responsible Party(ies)
TOR for table to be reviewed	Table (all)
Mining sequence training next meeting	MNDM
On-line staking training next meeting	MNDM
Aggregates- follow up with MNRF and MTO	MNDM
Values mapping proposal follow-up	AN and MNDM
Prospectors training- Information	MNDM
Prospectors training- Expressions of interest	Table/AN

