



NOTICE OF STUDY COMMENCEMENT DETAIL DESIGN AND CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT – Highway 6 Little Current Swing Bridge Project, GWP 5268-14-00

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) has retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. to undertake the Detail Design and Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) Study for the replacement of the Highway 6 Little Current Swing Bridge located in the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands in Northeastern Ontario. The bridge provides year-round highway access between Manitoulin Island and mainland areas of Northern Ontario. The preliminary design for the new bridge was confirmed through the Planning, Preliminary Design and Class EA study previously completed in 2023. The Preliminary recommended design includes the replacement of the Little Current Swing Bridge with a new through-truss swing bridge situated on a new alignment, located approximately 80 m west of the existing bridge.



THE PROCESS

This study is being carried out as a Group 'A' project under the previous MTO *Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) for Provincial Transportation Facilities (2000)* and includes undertaking environmental and engineering field investigations and seeking input from stakeholders, external agencies, Indigenous communities and the public.

One Public Information Centre (PIC) is planned, and the notice of the PIC will be advertised in local newspapers and sent to the study contact list. Upon completion of the Detail Design study, a Design and Construction Report (DCR) will be prepared and filed for a 30-day public comment period. The DCR will document the Class EA process followed, the detail design study, the consultation program, potential environmental effects and the final mitigation plan. At that time, a Notice of DCR Submission will be published in local newspapers and sent to the study contact list. Additionally, continuous Indigenous consultation will be held throughout the study process, including Community Information Sharing Sessions (CISSs).

COMMENTS

You are encouraged to participate in the study and to provide comments in writing to the project team. If you wish to have your name added to the project mailing list or have questions about the study, please contact:

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You are encouraged to visit the project website, <https://swingbridgestudy.ca> where project information including study notices, background information, PIC displays and the DCR will be made available as the study progresses. You can also submit comments to the project team on the project website. If you have any accessibility requirements in order to participate in this project, please contact one of the Project Team members listed above. Comments and information are being collected to assist the MTO in meeting the requirements of the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act. Information will be collected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. All comments will be maintained on file for use during the study and, with the exception of personal information, may be included in study documentation and become part of the public record.