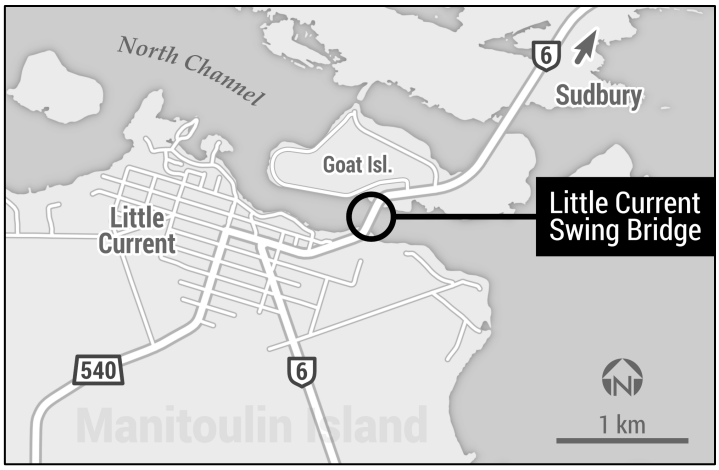
Ontario

NOTICE OF ONLINE PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE 3
PLANNING, PRELIMINARY DESIGN AND CLASS ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
Highway 6 Little Current Swing Bridge Study, GWP 5268-14-00

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation (MTO) has retained Stantec Consulting Ltd. to undertake a Planning, Preliminary Design, and Class Environmental Assessment (Class EA) Study for 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 the community of Little Current and Manitoulin Island and mainland areas of Northern Ontario. The existing bridge is nearing the end of its service life. The purpose of this study is to identify a Recommended Plan that addresses current and future transportation needs at the bridge crossing.



THE PROCESS

This study is a "Group A" project under the *Class Environmental Assessment (EA) for Provincial Transportation Facilities* (2000) and includes undertaking environmental and engineering investigations and seeking input from stakeholders, external agencies, Indigenous communities and the public. Upon completion of preliminary design, a *Transportation Environmental Study Report* (TESR) will be prepared and made available for public review. Notices will be published in local newspapers to advise the public of the TESR public review period.

ONLINE PUBLIC INFORMATION CENTRE 3

Two Public Information Centres (PICs) have been held to date to present and gather feedback at key points in this Study. PIC 1 was held in August 2018 to present the transportation needs assessment, existing study area conditions, and alternatives to the undertaking. PIC 2 was held in July 2019 to present alignment and structure type alternatives, the evaluation process and preliminary assessment of the heritage conservation options for the existing bridge.

The third and final PIC has been scheduled to provide an opportunity for you to review the evaluation of the alignment and structure alternatives, the Preliminary Preferred Plan, and the associated potential impacts and preliminary proposed mitigation measures. In light of the COVID-19 pandemic and associated physical distancing requirements, PIC 3 will be hosted online. **The PIC will be available for your review on the study website at www.swingbridgestudy.ca on Tuesday, March 30, 2021**. A recorded presentation will be available as part of the online PIC until April 30, 2021.

COMMENTS

You are encouraged to participate in the study and to provide comments to the study team. If you wish to have your name added to the study mailing list, have any comments, questions or concerns, and/or are unable to access the online PIC 3 materials provided on the study website, please contact one of the following study team members:

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Please visit the project website, **www.swingbridgestudy.ca**, to review study information including notices, background information and PIC displays. Other study materials will also be provided on the study website, as they become available. Comments and questions to the study team can be submitted on the study 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.