

# WEBEQUIE SUPPLY ROAD (WSR) PROJECT

## Cultural Heritage and Archaeological Resources Study Plan Summary

### OBJECTIVES:

- Identify and consider potential effects on cultural heritage and archeological resources as a result of the Project
- Provide recommendations for minimizing negative effects on cultural heritage and archaeological resources during the construction and operation/maintenance of the Project

### WHAT WILL BE ASSESSED AND HOW WILL THE ASSESSMENT BE DONE?

Based on provincial guidelines and legislation, the following criteria will be identified, inventoried, and assessed:

#### Cultural Heritage Resources

- Known and potential Indigenous and non-Indigenous Built Heritage Resources (BHRs)
  - A BHR is defined as a “building, structure, monument, installation, or any manufactured remnant that contributes to a property’s cultural heritage value or interest as identified by a community, including an Indigenous community” (Government of Ontario, Provincial Policy Statement, 2020).
- Known and potential Indigenous and non-Indigenous Cultural Heritage Landscapes (CHLs)
  - A CHL is defined as a “geographical area that may have been modified by human activity and is identified as having cultural heritage value or interest by a community, including an Indigenous community”. (Government of Ontario, Provincial Policy Statement, 2020). For example, CHL’s could include areas of local or regional historical significance (e.g., historic travel routes) culturally important landscape features (e.g., related to traditional hunting/harvesting areas), or areas of spiritual or teaching significance.
- Designated heritage properties included on federal, provincial, or international registers.



## Archaeological Resources

- Areas with archaeological potential, such as previously identified archaeological sites, water sources, early settlements, elevated topography (e.g., eskers), and well-drained soils.
- Archaeological sites identified by Indigenous communities, including burial sites.
- Known or potential Euro- Canadian archaeological sites.



## Methods

**Three stages of research and data collection** will be undertaken to appropriately establish potential cultural heritage and/or archaeological resources in the study area. These methods include:

- Review of background information sources such as maps, previous assessment reports, and provincial heritage database/register;
- Field data and review; and,
- Indigenous data/information collected through consultation with Indigenous groups or through the formal Indigenous Knowledge and Land Use Program (IKLU) for the Project.



As part of the archaeological scope of work, findings from the **Stage 1** Archaeological Assessment (**desktop research**) will inform the need for a **Stage 2** Archaeological Assessment (**field surveys/review**) at sites that may have archaeological potential.

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During the background research and review stage, efforts will be made to collect data through the **IKLU program** and through consultation with Indigenous communities. With permission from communities, this information will be incorporated into the cultural heritage and archaeological resources assessment, helping to identify and map **BHRs, CHLs**, and areas with archaeological potential. The Project Team will ensure that the information is protected, validated by communities, kept confidential, and appropriately and respectfully integrated into the Assessment.

Once **BHRs, CHLs**, archaeological sites/resources, and areas exhibiting archaeological potential have been identified, an Effects Assessment will be conducted to determine potential direct and indirect effects as a result of the Project, including any recommendations to measures to minimize or avoid effects.



## WHAT INFORMATION IS NEEDED AND HOW WILL IT BE COLLECTED?

The following information will be compiled through the desktop review to provide historical, archaeological, and development context and to identify potential cultural heritage and archaeological resources:

- Regulatory requirements (provincial and federal);
- Local/municipal/regional heritage policies and Indigenous community policies;
- Existing heritage inventories (from provincial, federal, and international heritage registers);
- Previous heritage reporting (any additional studies that have been undertaken in the study area);
- Public stakeholder data (through correspondence with provincial heritage staff);
- Indigenous Knowledge and Community Land Use Plans; and,
- Historical mapping.

## WHAT ARE SOME POSSIBLE WAYS TO REDUCE POTENTIAL NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF THE PROJECT?

Mitigation measures will be developed to minimize or avoid potential negative effects to cultural heritage or archeological resources identified through the **Effects Assessment**. Potential mitigation measures may include, but are not limited to:



- Completing a property-specific heritage Effects Assessment or documentation report;
- Adjustments to routing of the road or location of supportive infrastructure (e.g., access roads, construction camps, etc.,) to avoid known cultural/spiritual/archaeological sites;
- Ensuring a First Nation cultural representative is present during construction activities to monitor mitigation and to avoid/mitigate effects to sites; and
- Monitoring, protecting, relocating, and documenting **BHRs** or **CHLs**, where the features are proposed to be demolished or relocated.



## CULTURAL HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES STUDY AREAS

Spatial boundaries define the geographic extent to consider potential Project effects on cultural heritage and archaeological resources. As such, these boundaries define the study areas for the Effects Assessment. The study areas to be used in the Assessment will be refined and validated with input and feedback from Indigenous communities, as well as guidance from federal and provincial regulators, and other stakeholders.

To capture the potential direct and indirect effects of the Project for each valued component, general study areas have been established (i.e., **Project Footprint (PF)**, **Local Study Area (LSA)** and **Regional Study Area (RSA)**). Background information and historical land use research will be conducted within the larger RSA, while the desktop assessment and field review of known or potential BHRs, CHLs, and areas of archaeological potential will be conducted within the LSA.

The study areas are described below and presented in **Figure 1**.

**Project Footprint (PF)** - The area of direct disturbance (i.e., the physical area required for Project construction and operation). The PF is defined as the 35 m right-of-way (ROW) width for the WSR and temporary or permanent areas needed to support the Project, including laydown/storage yards, construction camps, access roads and aggregate extraction sites.

**Local Study Area (LSA)** - The area where largely direct, and indirect effects of the Project are likely to be measurable. The LSA for cultural heritage and archaeological resources is a 1 km buffer from either side of the centreline of the supply road Alternative 1 and Alternative 2, and 500 m from supportive infrastructure (camps, aggregate/rock source areas, access roads).

**Regional Study Area (RSA)** - Regional Study Area (RSA) - The area where potential, largely indirect and cumulative effects of the Project in the broader, regional context may occur. The RSA for cultural heritage and archaeological resources extends 5 km from either side of the LSA boundaries.



Valued Component/Criteria	Indicators
<p><b>Archaeological Sites and Resources</b></p>	<p>Number of registered archaeological sites displaced or requiring protection</p> <p>Area (ha) with archaeological potential affected associated with Indigenous peoples and/or Euro-Canadians</p> <p>Number/area/type of known burial sites within 300 m</p> <p>Number/area/type of known burial sites displaced</p>
<p><b>Built Heritage Resources and Cultural Heritage Landscapes</b></p>	<p>Number and type of known (or previously recognized) Indigenous or non-Indigenous built heritage features/BHRs affected (e.g., hunting or fish camps) and/or CHLs affected (e.g., hunting/harvesting areas or spiritual or symbolic sites of value or interest)</p> <p>Changes to sites or items of historical or cultural significance, oral histories, cultural values and experiences of being on the land</p> <p>Number of designated Provincial heritage properties affected</p>

