

# **West Detour Project**

**Kirkland Lake Gold**

**Meeting: March 31, 2021**

**Second Cree Nation Public Participation  
Meeting**

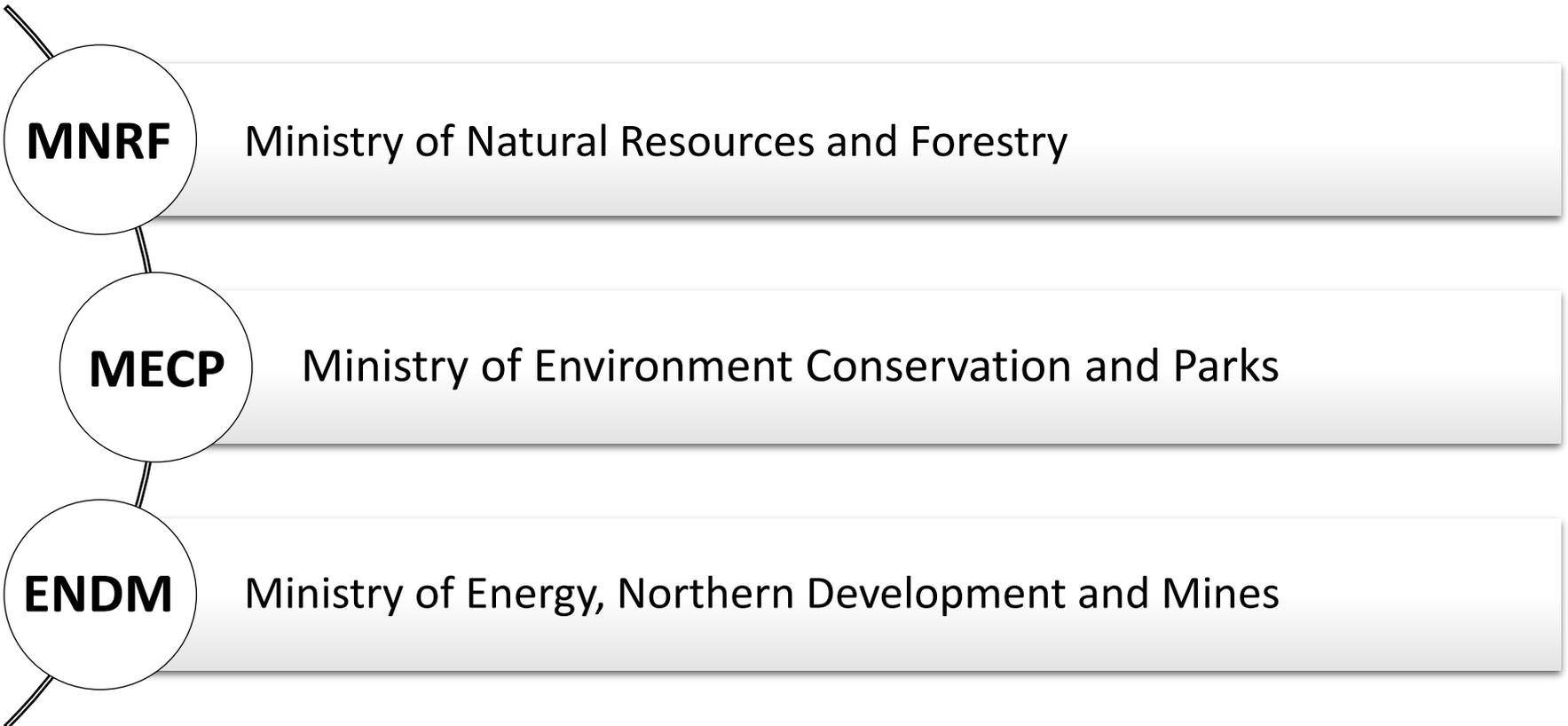
# Introduction

## We are here to:

- Update you on the permits and other approvals required in Ontario for activities associated with the West Detour Project;
- Discuss the specific regulatory processes we are currently involved in;
- Hear from all of you about your communities, your land use and potential concerns with this project.
- Support community members as they learn about the project and share their concerns.
- Support Kirkland Lake Gold in sharing information about their project and helping build the connection between their project plans and our regulatory processes.

# Who We Are...

West Detour Project - Ontario Ministries with current or upcoming authorizations



# Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

## Ontario Environmental Assessment (EA) and the West Detour Project

### Overview:

- MNRF RSFD Class EA is the Environmental Assessment process triggered by the project
- This Class EA process focused on the MNRF permits and approvals related to the West Detour Project
- MNRF screened to a Category "C" Project
- Category C requires an Environmental Study Report (ESR) – comprehensive project description including alternatives and predicted impacts
- Detour Gold submitted the Draft ESR to MNRF, agencies, and Indigenous communities on January 30, 2017
- Consultation for the ESR and MNRF authorizations was coordinated with the Ontario One Window process

### What we heard:

- The Cree Nation raised a number of questions and concerns regarding the West Detour Project in the following themes:
  - Water Impacts
  - Impacts to Species (e.g. caribou)
  - Access
  - Site management and end of mine rehabilitation

# Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

## MNRF Class EA - Category C Project (Six Steps)



# Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

## Ontario Environmental Assessment (EA) and the West Detour Project

### Response:

- Questions were addressed and impacts avoided or mitigated in the ESR, where possible
- Feedback on the ESR has informed the future permitting of MNRF and the other provincial and federal agencies (such as water discharge, fish habitat compensation, and caribou).

### MNRF Next Steps:

- MNRF's Class EA process is now completed
- The ESR provides a high-level project description that will guide subsequent MNRF permits
- Early MNRF permits will allow for tree clearing and scientific collector permits (e.g. sampling and relocation of fish).

### Where additional consultation is needed for MNRF permits – roads:

- Offsetting impacts to caribou on-site will require habitat creation/restoration, on-site and off-site
- A series of forestry access roads are proposed for closure to meet the Endangered Species Act requirements (MECP). Road closure or changes to access conditions (ex. type of vehicle use) is subject to MNRF Public Lands Act.
- When the requested roads are identified. MNRF will be consulting with the Cree Nation (and others) to ensure that we understand road use interests.

# Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

## Potential MNRF permits required for the West Detour Project



### Crown Forest Sustainability Act

(e.g., tree clearing)



### Public Lands Act

(e.g., road construction and road closures, off lease)



### Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act

(e.g., channel dam and diversion)



### Fish & Wildlife Conservation Act

(e.g., collection permits to sample and relocate)

# Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks Mandate

Leading to healthier communities and economic prosperity through protecting Ontario's air, land and water.

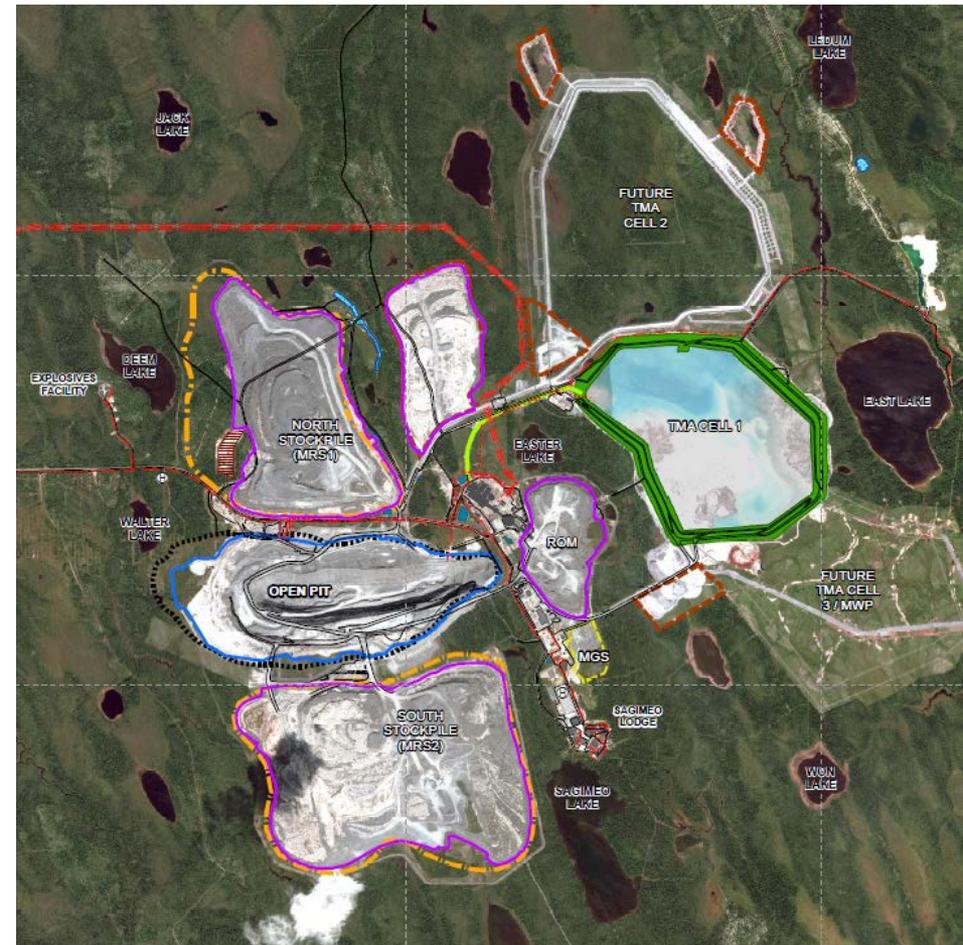
- Responsible for protecting Ontario's air, land and water to help ensure healthy communities, ecological protection and sustainable development for present and future generations.
- The ministry requires permissions for activities that:
  - Release contaminants into the air, land or water
  - Store, transport or dispose of waste
  - Impact species at risk and/or their habitat
- Typical mining sector permissions and approvals include:
  - Sewage/wastewater treatment and disposal
  - Permits to Take Water
  - Air emissions
  - Waste management
  - *Endangered Species Act* authorizations



# Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

## Detour and West Detour Permissions

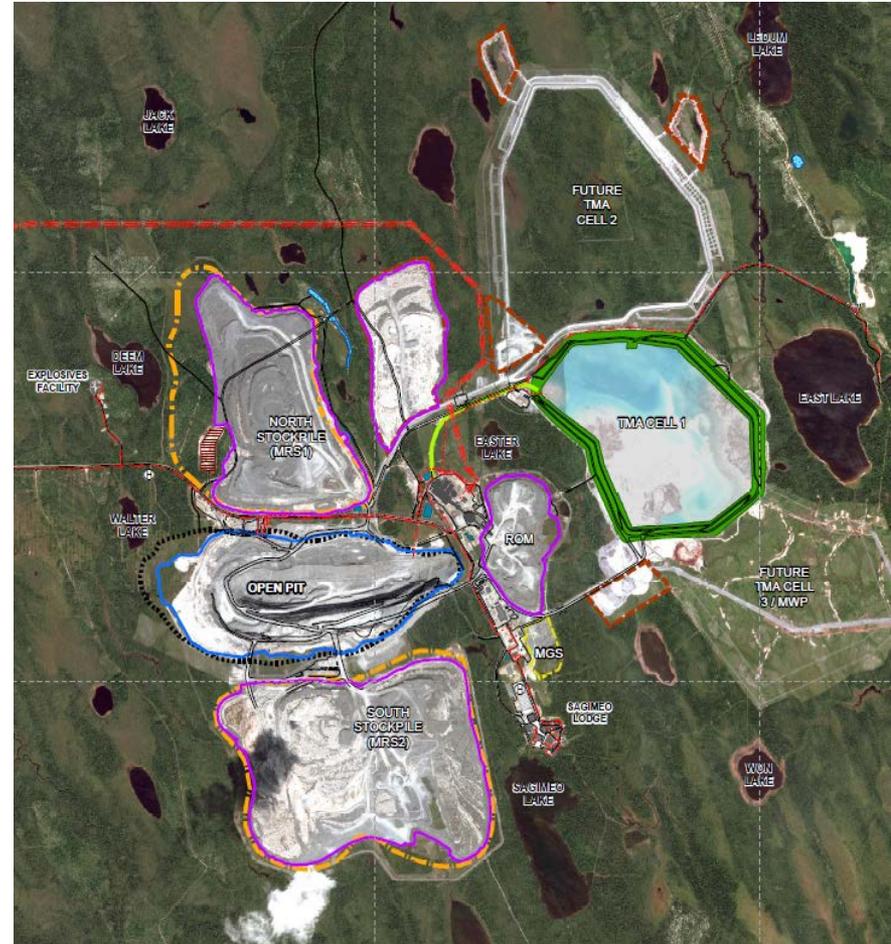
- Detour Lake Mine (current operation)
  - Industrial sewage works
  - Communal sewage (sanitary) x 4
  - Permit to take water x 9
  - Air emissions
  - Waste management
- West Detour Project (proposed operation)
  - Amendments to industrial sewage works approval are required. Kirkland Lake Gold is working on proposed effluent limits that will be included in their application.
  - An amendment to the permit to take water is required and will be reviewed once the application is received.
  - An amendment to the air emissions approval may be required and will be reviewed once the application is received.
  - *Endangered Species Act* application was submitted on January 18, 2021 and is currently under review.



# Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

## Endangered Species Act Application

- West Detour Project (proposed operation) is expected to impact Caribou (Boreal population) and 10.36 km<sup>2</sup> of their habitat
- Under section 17(2)(c) of the *Endangered Species Act*, the Minister of the Environment, Conservation and Parks may issue a permit authorizing a person to engage in an activity that would otherwise be prohibited by the *Endangered Species Act* if:
  - an overall benefit to the species will be achieved within a reasonable time through the conditions of the permit
  - reasonable alternatives have been considered, including alternatives that would not negatively affect the species, and the best alternative has been adopted
  - reasonable steps to minimize negative effects on individual members of the species are required by conditions of the permit
- Providing an overall benefit to a protected species under the *Endangered Species Act* involves improving circumstances for the species in Ontario. Overall benefit is:
  - more than "no net loss" or an exchange of "like for like"
  - grounded in the protection and recovery of the species at risk
  - more than mitigation measures or "replacing" what is lost
- The overall benefit permit application is under review by MECP staff.



# ENDM Role in Regulating Mines in Ontario

## Focus on Closure

- While MNRF and MECP focus on activities relating to either building or operating a mine, ENDM's core mandate is to regulate mine closure.
- Companies are required to prepare a closure plan that must be filed before the mine is developed and starts operating.
- A closure plan covers the rehabilitation measures that the company must complete once the mine site is closed out, in order to bring the lands back to as much of a natural state as possible.
- Our goal is to ensure that mines will be appropriately rehabilitated in alignment with our Mining Code, and in order to help us achieve that goal, we require companies provide appropriate amounts of financial assurance in advance of mine development, so those funds are available to provide for rehabilitation of the mine site on closure, if needed.

Most importantly, this authorization happens before activities on the ground take place.

# Ontario Ministry of Energy Northern Development and Mines (ENDM)

## Notice of Material Change Process (Completed to Date)

- A company is required to submit a Notice of Material Change for changes to the site that will impact an existing Closure Plan. The Notice of Material Change provides details about any new activities which the proponent wishes to carry out or change from a previous Closure Plan.
- As part of reviewing the company's submission, ENDM looks at whether the proposed activities could negatively affect asserted or established Aboriginal or treaty rights. If there is any potential for that, as part of its direction to the company that the proposal requires amendment to an existing Closure Plan, ENDM also provides direction regarding any consultation with Aboriginal communities that may be required.
- Two Notice of Material Changes were reviewed by ENDM in March 2021. Consultation is required and is being delegated to the company:
  - Notice of Material Change for the existing Detour Lake Mine.
  - Notice of Material Change for the West Detour Project expansion.

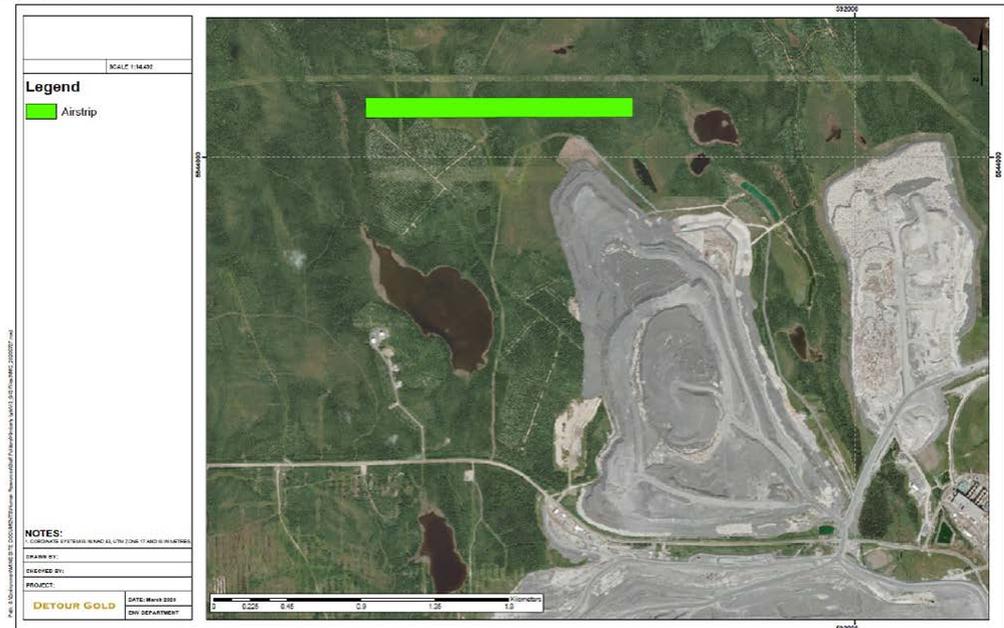
# Ontario Ministry of Energy Northern Development and Mines (ENDM)

## Current Status: In the Consultation Process

### New Proposed Changes to the Site: Notice of Material Change #1

- Process Plant Upgrades
- Assay Lab Facility
- Mine Services Facility Truck Shop Upgrades
- Little Hopper Lodge Upgrades
- **New Airfield (see map) and Access Road**
- Cellular Towers

Figure 6: Proposed location of DLM Airstrip



# Ontario Ministry of Energy Northern Development and Mines (ENDM)

Continued...

## New Proposed Changes to the Site: Notice of Material Change #2



### ***Changes to the Detour Lake Mine Facilities:***

- Western extension of the Detour Lake Mine Main Pit
- Changes to the existing Detour Lake Mine water management system
- Changes to the footprint of the existing and approved Detour Lake Mine stockpiles – Mine Rock Stockpile 2 and Overburden Stockpile 5
- Realignment of a section of the main access road to accommodate the new stockpiles

### ***New Structures / Facilities:***

- Two new open pits - West Pit and North Pit
- Mine rock and overburden stockpiles
- Water management and treatment facilities
- Offsetting / compensation measures for fisheries and Species at Risk
- Additional buildings and support facilities

# Ontario Ministry of Energy Northern Development and Mines (ENDM)

## Pending – Closure Plan Amendment

- Closure Plan Amendment(s) will be required for two Notice of Material Changes that were reviewed by ENDM in March 2021.
- Once consultation with communities has happened, the Director of Mine Rehabilitation will determine whether consultation has been adequate, before making the decision to receive the Closure Plan Amendment for filing. If consultation is determined to not be adequate, ENDM will provide the company with further direction on how to proceed.
- Once the Director determines that no further consultation is required, the Director will receive the final certified Closure Plan Amendment and will make a decision whether to acknowledge receipt of it for filing within 45 days.
- Any additional changes to the site may trigger a new Notice of Material Change in the future – which may trigger a further amendment to the Closure Plan.
- As with most operations in Ontario, closure plans are amended many times throughout the life of the mine or project.

# Questions?