

October 26, 2021

Notice of Biigtigong Nishnaabeg First Nation Confidential Session for the Marathon Palladium Project

On July 24, 2021, the Biigtigong Nishnaabeg First Nation (BNFN) submitted its technical review submission for the Marathon Palladium Project (Project) to the Joint Review Panel and requested that the submission be kept in confidence in accordance with the Sections 45 of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, 2012* and the Panel's *Final Procedures for Requesting Confidentiality* (CIAR #904).

On August 16, 2021, the Joint Review Panel (the Panel) responsible for assessing the potential environmental effects of the proposed Project granted the request of BNFN for confidentiality over BNFN's Technical Review Submission (Submission) for the Project (CIAR #916).

On August 23, 2021, the Panel invited BNFN to a confidential pre-hearing session (Session) on September 16, 2021 to provide additional details on their Submission (CIAR #920).

On September 16, 2021, the Panel attended the Session while following the Covid-19 Safety Protocols (CIAR #918) that were developed for the health and safety of everyone involved. The day started with an opening ceremony near the proposed mine site followed by presentations at Biigtigong Community Hall. The purpose of the session was to provide members of the BNFN an opportunity to present further information with respect to BNFN culture and how the Project may affect the BNFN, as described in the Submission. Following the presentations, there was a boat ride on the Biigtig Zibi (Pic River).

Those in attendance included: the Panel and members of the Secretariat; the Chief of Biigtigong Nishnaabeg First Nation, Elders, community members and council, Biigtigong legal counsel, and staff; the CEO and representatives from GenPGM; and, the Impact Assessment Agency's Crown Consultation Coordinator and supporting staff.

Everyone participating in the day's events was required to sign a Confidentiality Undertaking. In accordance with the Confidentiality Undertaking, any materials created related to the meeting will remain held as confidential. In its final report, the Panel will describe how any confidential information has been considered and used in its conclusions and recommendations.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

Debra Sikora, Panel Chair

Cc: Laurie Bruce, Member

Gay Drescher, Member