



December 15, 2023

Update to LSRCA Board of Directors

(Please note this presentation from an outside party does not comply with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, and we apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.)

# Fixed Link Project Update



Presented By:  
Michael Jacobs, Fixed Link Project Manager  
Georgina Island Fixed Link Secretariat

# CHIPPEWAS OF GEORGINA ISLAND FIRST NATION

## COUNCIL RESOLUTION




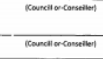
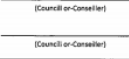

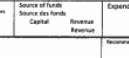
### FEBRUARY 17, 2021

#### The Chief and Council...

1. **Reaffirm that ancestors used a natural land link**
2. **Reaffirm the loss of the land link during Trent Severn construction**
3. **Confirmation that there is not a single, safe, secure and reliable all weather transportation method currently**
4. **Confirmation that the community feels unsafe crossing the Lake during the winter months**
5. **Confirming that community members have lost their life attempting to cross the Lake**
6. **Affirming that climate change is affecting the Lake and making crossing unpredictable**
7. **Affirming that a safe, secure and reliable all weather transportation method is of paramount importance**
8. **Affirming that research has indicated that a Fixed Link, comprised of causeway and bridge will offer safe passage**
9. **Affirm that the GIFN Members, through consultation and engagement have directed the Council to proceed with the planning, design and construction of a Fixed Link as the most desired solution**

#### And therefore resolved:

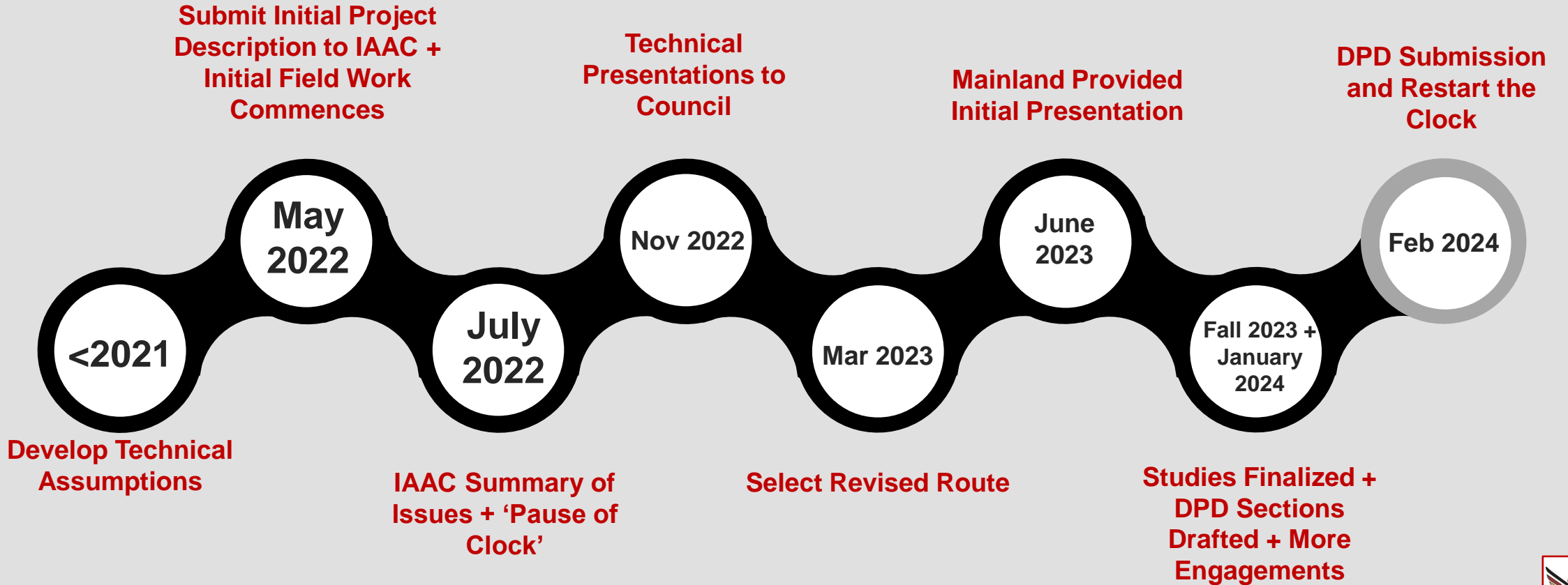
- **The Chief and Council of the Georgina Island First Nation intend to build a Fixed Link that will connect Georgina Island to the mainland**
- **The Chief and Council desire to complete the Impact Assessment by December 31, 2024**
- **The Chief and Council intend to have the Fixed Link operational by December 31, 2026**

 <b>Indian and Northern Affairs Canada</b> / <b>Affaires Indiennes et du Nord Canada</b>		17-02-21-895 <small>100-100-100-100-100</small>	
<b>BAND COUNCIL RESOLUTION</b> <b>RESOLUTION DE CONSEIL DE BAND</b>			
<small>Note: The words "from our Band Funds", "capital" or "revenue", whichever is the case must appear in all resolutions requesting expenditures from Band Funds.          Note: Les mots "des fonds de notre bande", "capital" ou "revenu", selon le cas doivent apparaître dans toutes les résolutions portant sur des dépenses à venir de fonds de bande.</small>			
The council of the <b>CHIPPEWAS OF GEORGINA ISLAND FIRST NATION</b>		Capital account Compte Capital \$ _____	
Date of duly convened meeting Date de l'assemblée dûment convoquée		Revenue account Compte Revenu \$ _____	
D-1 M Y-A 16 02 2021		Cash free balance - Solde disponible \$ _____	
<b>DO HEREBY RESOLVE:</b>			
<b>WHEREAS</b> our ancestors had been able to travel between Georgina Island and our traditional territories on the mainland using the natural land link; and			
<b>WHEREAS</b> the natural land link was lost with the flooding of Lake Simcoe for the construction of the Trent Severn Waterway; and			
<b>WHEREAS</b> there is not a single, safe, secure and reliable all weather transportation method between our island and the mainland; and			
<b>WHEREAS</b> our transportation method, the Aazhaawe ferry, cannot operate during winter months and experiences breakdowns making it an unreliable and potentially hazardous mode of transportation; and			
<b>WHEREAS</b> our community feels unsafe crossing the lake during the winter over an uncertain ice structure whether by foot or using airboats, snowmobile, all terrain and utility terrain vehicles and cars; and			
<b>WHEREAS</b> many community members have lost their lives attempting to cross the Lake; and			
<b>WHEREAS</b> climate change is making water levels in Lake Simcoe unpredictable for transportation; and			
<b>WHEREAS</b> a safe secure and reliable all weather transportation method is of paramount importance for the health and safety of our community; and			
<b>WHEREAS</b> studies have indicated that a Fixed Link, comprising of a causeway and bridge, will offer a safe passage between Georgina Island and the mainland during all seasons, increase economic development, tourism, employment, health and safety for our community; and provide better opportunities for our youth to participate in educational and recreational programs on the mainland while protecting the health, cultural, social and economic well-being of our community; and			
Quorum <u>3</u>			
 (Council or Councillor)		 (Council or Councillor)	
 (Council or Councillor)		 (Council or Councillor)	
 (Council or Councillor)		 (Council or Councillor)	
<b>FOR DEPARTMENTAL USE ONLY - RESERVE AU MINISTRE</b>			
Expenditure - Dépenses	Authority Under Act / Autorisation de la Loi sur les Indiens	Source of Funds / Source des Fonds	Expenditure - Dépenses
	Capital	Capital	Capital
Recommending officer - Recommandé par		Recommending officer - Recommandé par	
Signature	Date	Signature	Date
Approving officer - Approuvé par		Approving officer - Approuvé par	
Signature	Date	Signature	Date
80-5 (12-89) 7530-21-036-8582		Canada	



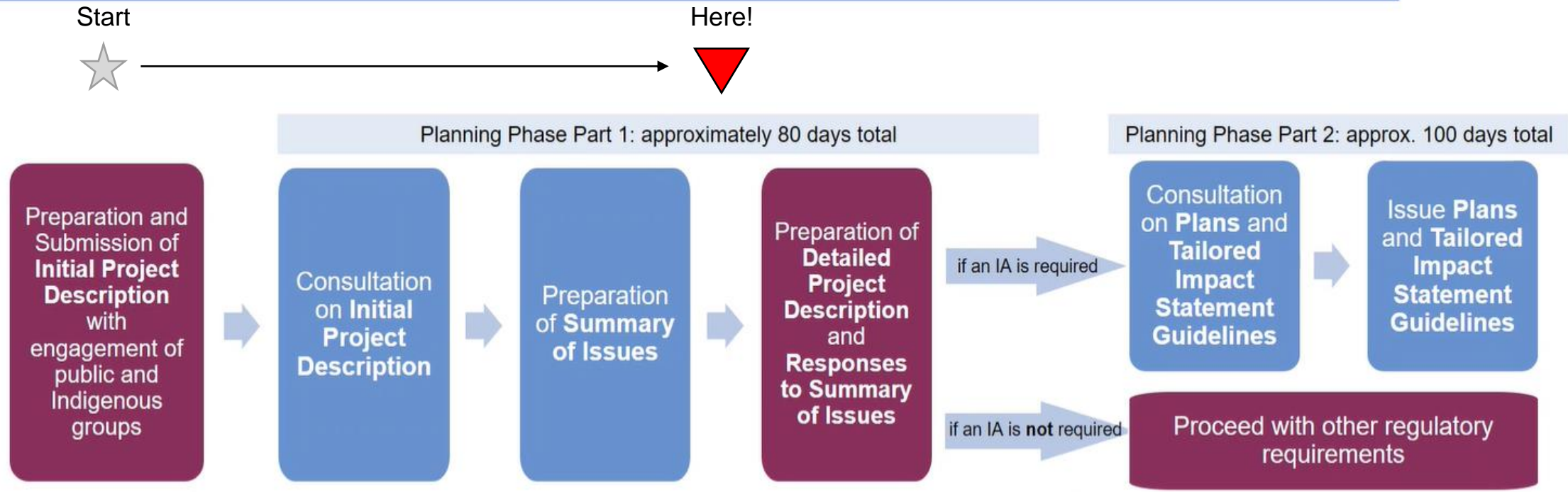


# FIRST NATION UPDATE TIMELINE



# THE IMPACT ASSESSMENT AGENCY OF CANADA PROCESS

## Steps of Planning Phase → 180 days



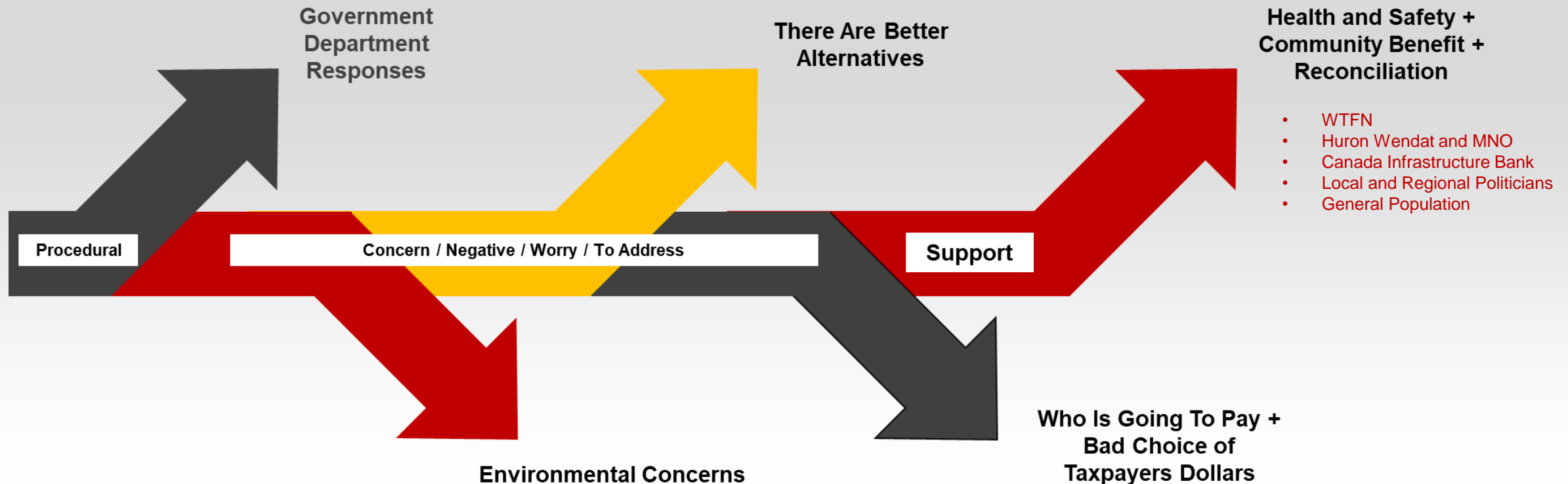
Blue boxes represent Agency activities; purple boxes represent proponent activities.

# IMPACT ASSESSMENT AGENCY OF CANADA SUMMARY OF ISSUES

<https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/83539/contributions>

## • 72 Comments Received

- Many of the comments were in opposition (normal and expected)
- IAAC had an internal meeting on how to handle the many positive comments
- Lessons from the comments:
  - *“the comments show that GIFN needs to educate people about how the First Nation and the transportation system work”*
  - *“the comments raise some valid points that we should understand better”*







## **From the Comments: We Improved Project Understanding**

- GIFN retained technical teams to provide independent expertise intended to better understand the whole project.
- 17 different disciplines with multiple deliverables
- Began In Q1 of 2022 and will continue into Q1- Q2 of 2023
- Total Investment to Date (>\$2.0 M)
- Reports are publicly available on [www.gifixedlink.com](http://www.gifixedlink.com)



# Investment in Disciplines and Deliverables

## Archaeology (Complete)

- Stage 1 Archaeological (Marine & Land)

## Air Quality (Complete)

- Air Quality Baseline Conditions and Impact Assessment Study

## Bridge Engineering and Design

- 5% Design to be Complete Prior to DPD; 25% Complete By June 30

## Civil Engineering (ES Complete)

- Erosion and Sediment Control Plan
- Drainage/Sediment Control/Volumes

## Contamination (Complete)

- Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessment (ESA)
- Completed

## Ecology

- Terrestrial & Aquatic Existing Conditions Report
- Tree Survey & Arborist Report
- Fish and Fish Habitat Surveys
- Breeding Bird Surveys
- Species At Risk (SAR) Assessment
- Water Quality Impact Studies (Intake Protection Zone)
- Ecological Land Classification (ELC) and Botanical Inventories
- Wildlife Surveys
- Natural Environment Baseline Condition and Impact Assessment Report

## Geophysical and Seismic Survey

- Marine & On-land Geophysical Surveys
- Magnetometer Survey
- Bathymetry Survey
- Coastal Engineering Plan

## Geotechnical (ES Complete)

- Geotechnical Report
- Water Boreholes

## Hydrogeological (Surveying Delayed)

- Water Well Survey
- Hydrogeological Baseline Conditions and Impact Assessment Report

## Heritage

- Cultural Heritage Report

## Health Impact Assessment

- Review Health Impacts of Current Transportation System

## Noise

- Noise Baseline Conditions and Impact Assessment Report

## Coastal Engineering

- Chief and Council has not approved this report due as they would like some highly technical eyes to review
- (Anticipated prior to Town Hall)

## Spills (Engineering)

- Accidental Spills and Malfunctions Assessment Assumptions complete; Formal completion to align with Bridge Engineering and Design

## Stormwater Management (Engineering)

- Storm Water Management Report
- Formal completion to align with Bridge Engineering and Design

## Traffic/Transportation

- Transportation and Traffic Impact Study

# Other Work In Progress

## Project Work Ongoing



- **7 Generations Financial Assessment**
  - Examine the costs currently associated with Transportation
  - Develop a financial model that extrapolates 75 years of those financial costs to determine what it would cost the community over the life span of the bridge
  - Allow the community to understand the financial investment required as well as the financial implications to future generations by spending First Nation resources today

**sussex**

- **Nation to Nation negotiations continue**



- **Additional Research to Support Engagement Requests**
  - A more robust examination of alternatives
    - Current ferry analysis needs assessment + Review of community submissions
  - A more robust / updated socio-economic evaluation



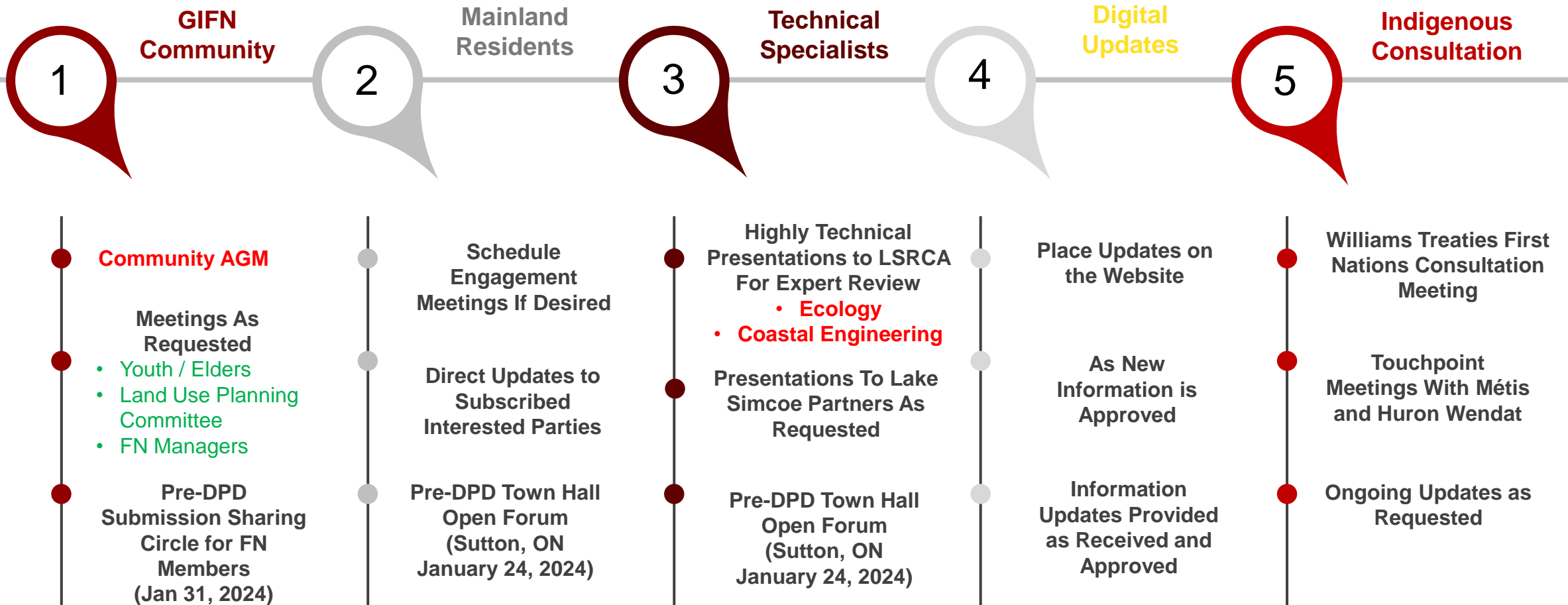
# WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED HAS BETTER DEFINED OUR DEVELOPMENT ASSUMPTIONS

- Due to environmental reviews, the Fixed Link will follow the yellow path and connect:
  - The 'West Property' west of Lee Farm Road to the
  - Current ferry landing and road infrastructure on the mainland
- Current assumptions remain for a causeway, bridge (10m), causeway
- As investments increase, the First Nation Council has approved to move to a 25% design
  - To 'fix' the assumptions for more community understand and improve cost certainty.



# Engagement Plans

Prior to the Submission of the DPD



# Documenting Issues and Impacts

- GIFN have invested time and money to understand the project and the impacts it will have on the community and the natural world.
  - The IAAC process was selected by GIFN to ensure that all voices were heard and documented as part of this major project.
- There will be information pieces in response to what we have heard and will continue to hear this fall either prior to or as part of the DPD Submission
- Subscribe for updates at:
  - [www.gifixedlink.com](http://www.gifixedlink.com)
- Follow the IAAC Comments and Issues:
  - <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/83539/contributions>





Chi-Miigwetch for your time and interest in furthering the discussion on the Fixed Link Project!

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