

ANISHINABEK NATION



Agricultural Advisory Committee
Inaugural Meeting
June 29, 2020

Background on the OMAFRA TPA

- In 2018-2020, a TPA was signed with OMAFRA.
- The goal of the project is to provide OMAFRA and the Anishinabek communities with education, awareness, and technical and policy support concerning the Province's initiatives relevant to their participation in the agri-food system, including but not limited to the Agriculture, Aquaculture and Food Processing in the North strategy and related initiatives; the Canadian Agricultural Partnership programs, and agri-environmental initiatives such as the Soil Health and Conservation Strategy.



Regional Framework

- AN has been working with the Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs through the Regional Framework.
- Reps of each member community attend a Table corresponding to their region (Northeast, Lake Huron, Southeast, Southwest.)
- Regional Round Tables are held quarterly.
- These tables improve ability of communities to benefit from agriculture and aquaculture initiatives in the territory.
- Tables provide opportunities for information exchange, identification of issues and development of solutions to challenges.
- It is also to provide opportunities for AN Communities to provide feedback, including concerns and interests, to the Province regarding initiatives that may include proposed policy, programs, legislation and regulations. Along with knowledge sharing and discussion of the Province's agri-food initiatives, this project aims to explore AN Community involvement in education and awareness, economic development, and environmental stewardship as they relate to the agri-food system.



Asset Inventory Project Overview

- Funding for this project was provided by the Indian Agricultural Program of Ontario through the Indigenous Economic Development Fund-Community Economic Grant Program.
- Project Objectives: The objective of the online food map is to serve as a marketing tool which could result in business attraction and expansion, identification of potential markets and allow for increased networking opportunities. One objective is to identify opportunities for increased purchase of local goods resulting in enhancement of local economies. The map will enable First Nation community businesses to grow and network with other food service businesses in other regions of Ontario.



Asset Inventory Project Steps

- 1. Establish an Agricultural Working Group to guide development of the Agricultural Asset Inventory and Strategic Plan.
- 2. Identify information requirements for a community survey.
- 3. Develop outreach materials
- 4. Initiate community and business outreach.
- 5. Database development
- 6. Map creation
- 7. Agricultural Advisory Committee 2nd Meeting (Strategic Planning Session)
- 8. Develop strategic plan goals/objectives
- 9. Develop Draft Strategic Plan Outline



Agricultural Advisory Committee Role

- Participate in 2 (one-day) meetings to be held at the AN Main Office (North Bay) or alternate central location (to be held virtually)
- Assist with the development and execution of a community survey to engage AN staff in member communities to identify agricultural assets, goals and opportunities.
- Provide input into the development of an agriculture strategic plan for the Anishinabek Nation, by soliciting input from AN community members regarding agricultural goals, opportunities and capacity building initiatives.



Asset Inventory Community Mapping

- Community mapping will include creation of a map of AN reserves that include at minimum the following:
 - Schools, daycares, senior's residences
 - Food related businesses (restaurants, caterers, etc)
 - Contaminated sites
 - Water wells
 - Soil types (mapping of Class 1, 2 and 3 agricultural Lands)
 - Other agricultural initiatives (community gardens, maple bushes, etc)



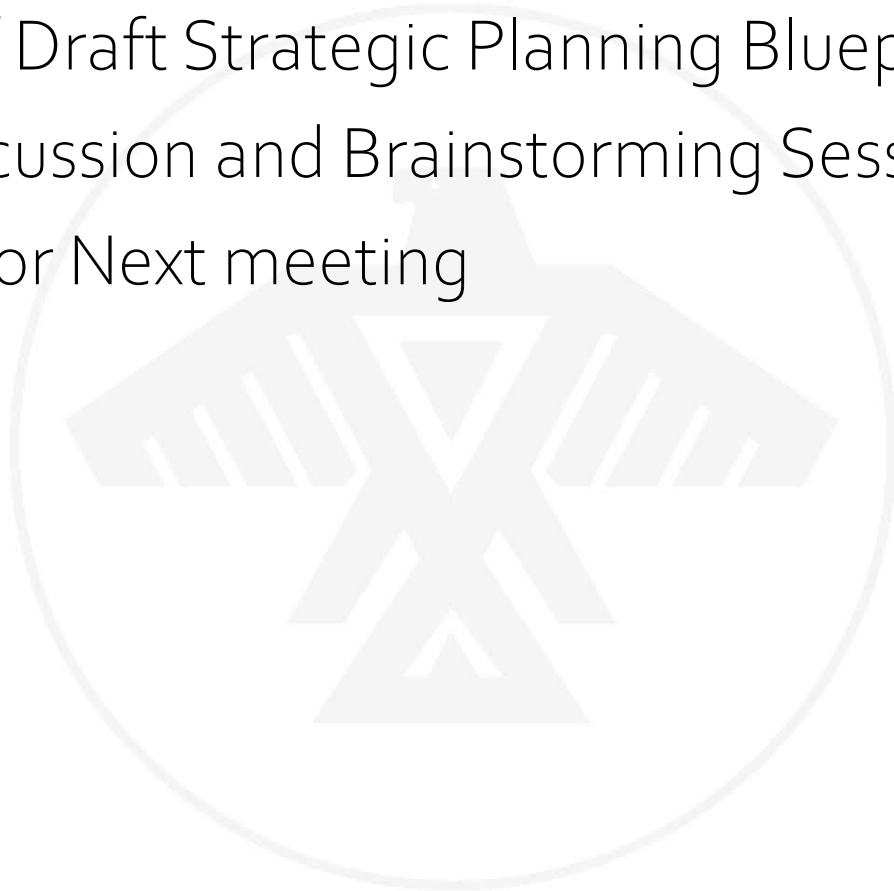
Community Questionnaire

- A community questionnaire will be sent to each of our 39 member communities and we will be following up with community staff.
- Are there additional questions we should be asking communities to assist them in agricultural and food related development?
- Do you have any additional comments on the Draft Questionnaire?



Strategic Planning Blueprint

- Sharing of Draft Strategic Planning Blueprint
- Open Discussion and Brainstorming Session
- Planning for Next meeting



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