

*(Iteration of Dec. 9/15)*

## **Preliminary Draft Committee Terms of Reference**

### **Name:**

Nipigon Bay Partnership

-Nipigon Watershed Liaison Partnership

Superior Watershed Partnership – Nipigon Division

### **Members:**

- Open to all individuals and organizations supporting the goals and objectives of the partnership
- The communities of Nipigon, Red Rock, Lake Helen and Rocky Bay may each appoint one member to the partnership for a term of two years. This term can be renewed or a new representative selected by each of these organizations. These four members shall advertise every two years for potential new candidates within their respective organizations for membership in the partnership. These four members will select up to eight of these candidates for membership on the committee. Representatives of government agencies such as MNRF Fisheries Zone 6 may be invited to participate in meetings, as the Partnership sees fit. Environment Canada, the Ontario Ministry of Environment and Climate Change, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry and the Lake Superior National Marine Conservation Area will serve as ex-officio members of the committee

### **Mission:**

- Restore and protect the ecological integrity of the Nipigon Bay Watershed

### **Objectives:**

#### **A**

- Support implementation of the Lake Superior Lakewide Action and Management Plan and the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement
- Support and/or lead projects which restore, rehabilitate or protect the Nipigon Bay Watershed
- Undertake actions, outreach and education programs to understand, measure and mitigate the impacts of climate change on the Nipigon Bay Watershed
- Undertake actions which monitor, assess and rehabilitate watershed streams, rivers and lakes

- Increase knowledge and community capacity for care of the Nipigon Bay watershed
- Encourage sustainable development in watershed communities

## B

- Work within the social, cultural, economic and environmental context of the Nipigon/Red Rock/Lake Helen/Rocky Bay area
- Encourage partnership with organizations having mutual interests
- Endeavour to be open and inclusive of all communities and sectors of society
- Actively encourage aboriginal participation, ensure inclusion of traditional knowledge
- Actively encourage youth and student participation
- Undertake regular and open communication with Nipigon Bay watershed residents about environmental topics of interest within the watershed
- Provide opportunities for open public engagement about environmental topics of interest within the watershed

## **Deliverables**

### (Specific outputs)

- Water quality which is drinkable, swimmable and fishable
- Healthy and diverse watershed fish/aquatic populations
- Healthy and diverse watershed terrestrial wildlife populations
- Nipigon Bay Watershed environmental monitoring data supporting ecosystem restoration and protection
- Implementation of projects which support the chemical, biological and physical integrity of the Nipigon Bay Watershed ecosystem
- Active public outreach to support the goals of the organization
- Assistance in transforming the Nipigon Bay Remedial Action Plan into an ongoing environmental organization after delisting of Nipigon Bay
- Assistance to government agencies and to Nipigon Bay residents and communities in ensuring RAP environmental monitoring goals are met
- Assistance to government agencies and to Nipigon Bay residents and communities in ensuring the results of RAP environmental monitoring are communicated to Nipigon Bay residents, and communities in a timely manner

## **Scope / Jurisdiction**

1. The primary focus of the Partnership will be Nipigon Bay and the rivers and streams flowing into Nipigon Bay, including the Nipigon River up to and including the Pine Portage Dam.
2. The focus of the Partnership will be the Nipigon Bay watershed. Residents of all communities, sub-watersheds and geographic areas of the Nipigon Bay watershed

are welcome to become full members and participants in the Partnership. This includes residents and communities on Nipigon Bay, the Nipigon River, Lake Nipigon and other sub-watersheds. Representatives of the various geographic areas and sub-watersheds must act to bring their concerns, ideas, points for discussion and to the committee and to put in place solutions, projects and partnerships to address concerns raised.

The jurisdiction of the organization will encompass matters affecting the ecosystem of the Nipigon Bay Watershed. The Partnership will act as a liaison to local communities and residents as well as to federal and provincial government agencies. Decisions and positions of the committee are not binding.

### **Resources and Budget**

- Any funds remaining from the Nipigon Bay PAC
- Funds and resources from other partners supporting the goals of the organization including funds and resources from individuals, other organizations including environmental groups, businesses, industries, municipalities, First Nations, educational institutions and government agencies
- Grants including TD Friends of the Environment, EcoAction, Great Lakes Sustainability Fund, etc.

### **Governance**

- The Board of Directors of the Partnership will strive for consensus on decisions. In cases where consensus is not arrived at a recorded vote shall be taken with 50% plus 1 majority winning the vote
- A total of 9 members of the partnership shall comprise the board
- The board shall be comprised of a Chair, vice-chair, treasurer, secretary 5 at large members (9 total)
- The Partnership will strive to have in place a board which represents a geographical balance between Nipigon Bay, Nipigon River, Lake Nipigon, other areas of the Nipigon Bay Watershed
- Quorum – those members present, 5 minimum

### **Schedule of Meetings:**

- 4 times/year (one per season) or as require

### **By-laws**

- **To be developed**

### **Reporting**

The Partnership shall report annually to members and to the communities of Nipigon, Red Rock, Lake Helen and Rocky Bay. The committee may also report to partners, stakeholders, supporting organizations, funders and government agencies, as they see fit..

**Website: [www.infosuperior.com](http://www.infosuperior.com)**

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