



## COUNCIL ADVISORY: BEST IN CLASS AGREEMENT REACHED BETWEEN ENGLISH RIVER FIRST NATION AND DENISON MINES

Members to vote this August

May 31, 2023

English River First Nation is pleased to advise members that a final deal in principle has been reached with Denison Mines after more than two years of robust negotiations. The agreement acknowledges ERFN as the primary Aboriginal and Treaty Rights holder in the region and commits Denison to:

- 1 Pay ERFN milestone payments, annual royalty payments, and funding to implement the agreement
- 2 Maximize ERFN employment and the use of ERFN businesses in the construction and operation of Wheeler River
- 3 Meaningfully integrate ERFN into the environmental management and monitoring plans and processes at Wheeler River

**“We worked hard to secure the best team to support ERFN through these negotiations. This included strong legal counsel to negotiate the agreement, scientists to conduct our own environmental assessments, and consultants to help understand the impacts and benefits of the Wheeler River project and what a strong deal could look like for the Nation,” says Acting Chief, Jenny Wolverine. “We are confident that based on the size of the project and current best practice we have one of the leading agreements in the entire country.”**

Over the next few months, members will have many opportunities to learn more about the agreement and Denison’s proposed Wheeler River in-situ mining project, as well as weigh in on how some of the benefits can provide the greatest impact for urban and reserve members. This builds on the information that has been shared over the last two years through our website, radio channels, Ancestral Lands committee, and community informational meetings.



Following this engagement process, ERFN Members will then have a chance to convey their support or opposition to the agreement via a ratification vote, tentatively scheduled for the week of August 21st. To make voting accessible to all members there will be an online voting option, as well as in-person voting in Patuanak, La Plonge, and Saskatoon.

Agreement highlights as well as the full written agreement will soon be made available to Band members through a password-protected portal on the ERFN website. Agreement details will also be shared through a series of Zoom webinars and community open houses (see details below). Information sessions offered by Zoom will be translated and broadcast through the radio.

**“We are proud of this agreement, and look forward to sharing the details with our members,” says Wolverine. “Not only does this agreement position ERFN to have influence and power in the operations, environmental management, and economics of the project, it sets a new standard for the industry. The ERFN membership can now democratically decide whether it wishes to accept this deal and thereby provide its Free, Prior, and Informed Consent to the Wheeler River Project.”**

#### Ongoing communication on our official channels

- Information, language resources, updates and quick access to the Wheeler River project site can be found at [erfn.net/denison](https://erfn.net/denison)
- Radio reminders of upcoming information sessions on **88.9 The Patch** and **93.1 The Rez**
- Regular Facebook posts on *the Official English River First Nation Members Page*

For more information and to submit questions visit:  
<https://erfn.net/contact-us-denison-questions/>

**INFORMATION SESSIONS AND ENGAGEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

<b>JUNE</b>	<b>JULY</b>	<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>RATIFICATION WEEK</b>
<p><b>Jun 8</b> <b>Zoom Webinar</b> Agreement Overview #1 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Jul 5</b> <b>Zoom Webinar</b> Technical Presentation by ERFN Science Team 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Aug 2</b> <b>Zoom Webinar</b> Agreement Overview #2 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Aug 21</b> <b>Online polls open</b> on OneFeather platform (online voting will be available all week)</p>
<p><b>Jun 12</b> <b>Open House</b> Saskatoon Travelodge 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Jul 18</b> <b>Open House</b> Patuanak Band Hall 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Aug 17</b> <b>Open House</b> Patuanak Band Hall 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Aug 23</b> <b>In-Person voting</b> La Plonge, Patuanak and Saskatoon</p>
<p><b>Jun 14</b> <b>Open House</b> Patuanak Band Hall 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Jul 19</b> <b>Open House</b> La Plonge Band Office 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Aug 18</b> <b>Open House</b> La Plonge Band Office 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Aug 25</b> <b>Online polls close</b> <b>at 5:00 p.m.</b></p>
<p><b>Jun 15</b> <b>Open House</b> La Plonge Band Office 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Jul 20</b> <b>Open House</b> Saskatoon Travelodge 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Aug 19</b> <b>Open House</b> Saskatoon Travelodge 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.</p>	