Algonquins of Ontario

MODERN TREATIES AND RECONCILIATION CONFERENCE

Renewed Hope – A Journey of Survival, Rebuilding and Self Sufficiency

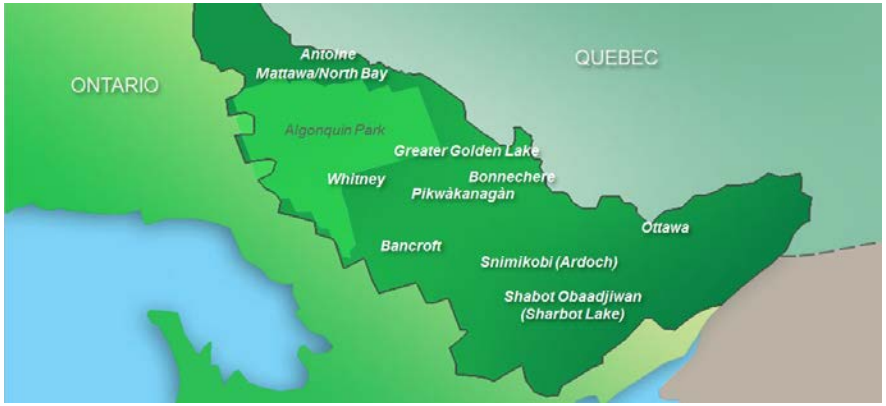
THE SPIRT AND INTENT OF MODERN TREATIES: THE ALGONQUIN EXPERIENCE

Tuesday November 14, 2017

Pending Treaty Claims

- 26 comprehensive claims have been settled since 1973
- 75 additional claims are currently at varying stages of negotiation: 53 in BC; 14 outside of BC and 8 transboundary claims.
  - B.C. – northern area some Treaty 8 adherents but: 203 Indian Act Bands – context 1/3 of Canada's total; 45 in Alberta under three Treaties; 166/203 of these Bands have less than 500 people living on Reserve
  - Algonquins: Ontario/Quebec
  - Mi'qmaq
  - Maritimes?

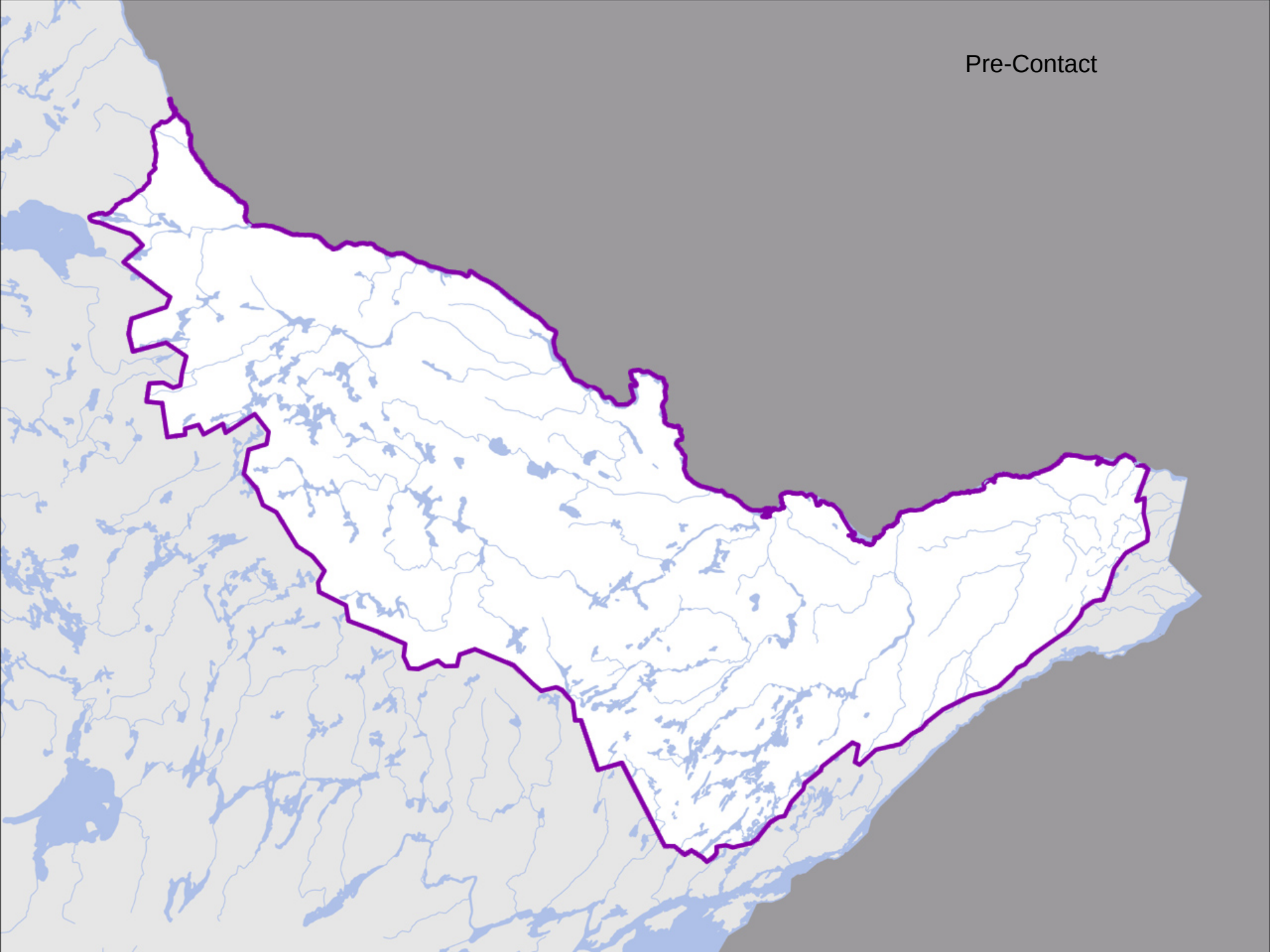
Who are the Algonquins of Ontario?

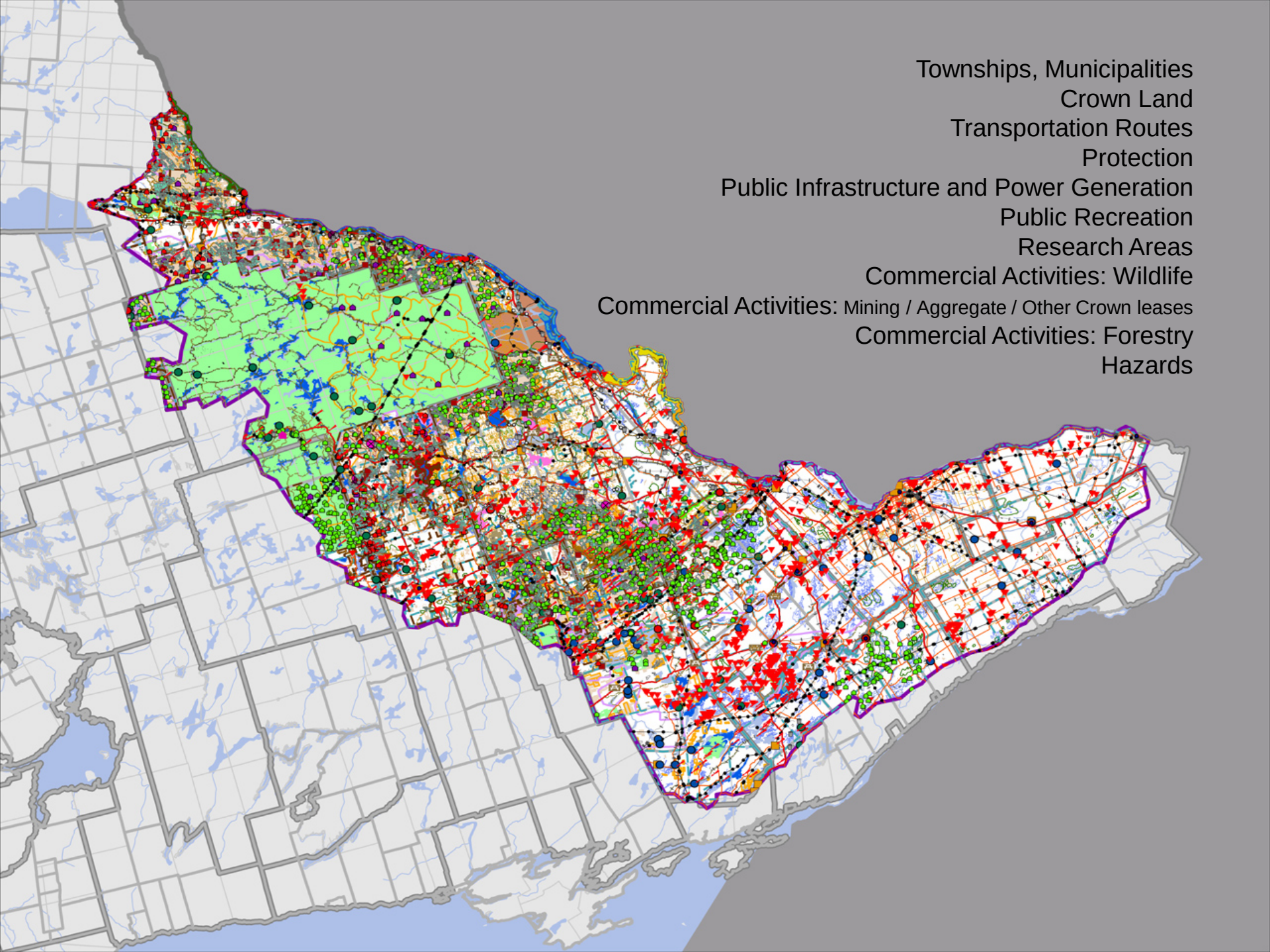


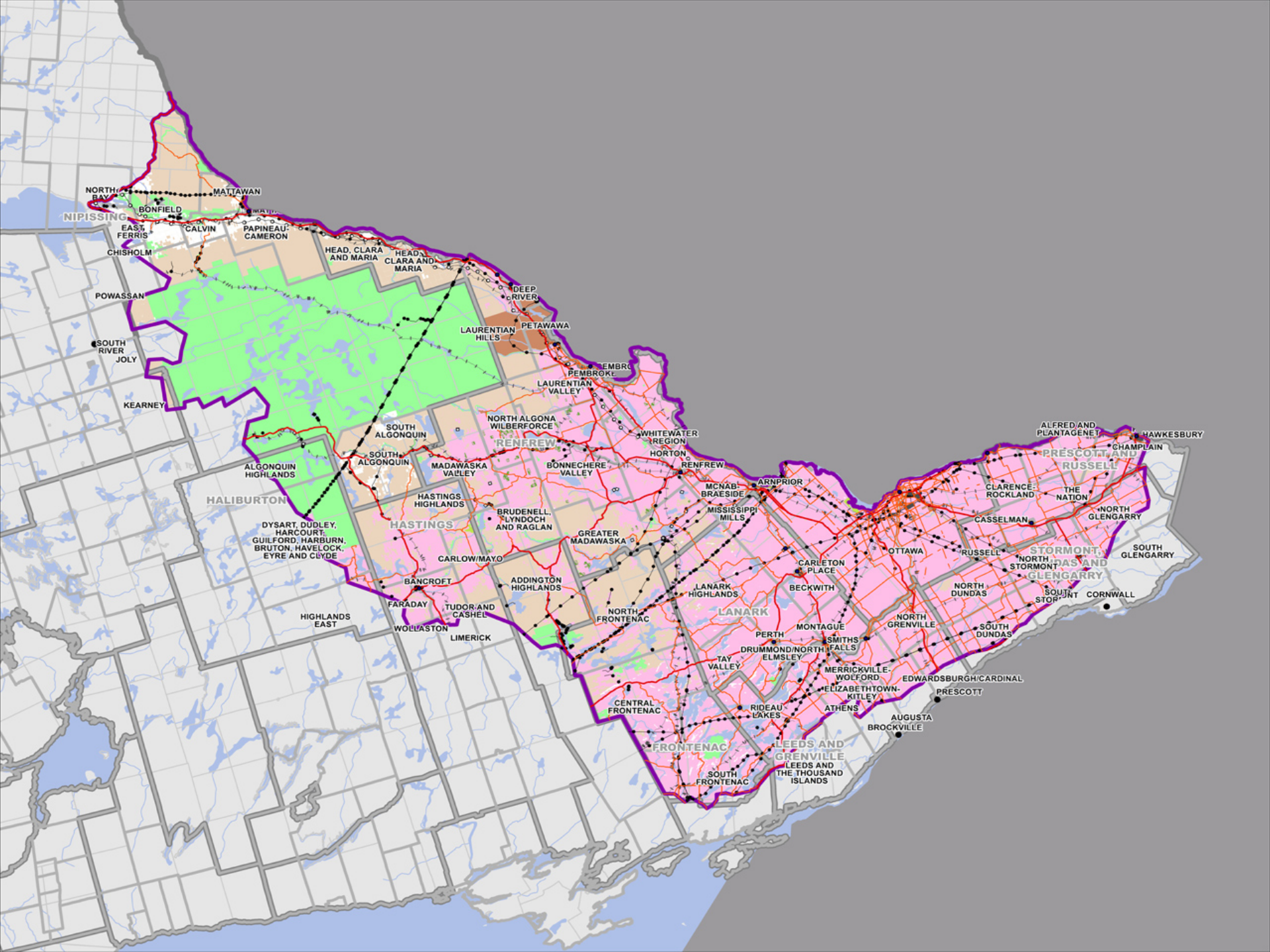
- Algonquins lived in present-day Ontario for thousands of years before Europeans arrived
- Today, the Algonquins of Ontario are comprised of ten Algonquin communities located across the land claim area
- These include the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn First Nation and the Algonquin communities of Antoine, Kijicho Manito Madaouskarini (Bancroft), Bonnechere, Greater Golden Lake, Mattawa/North Bay, Ottawa, Shabot Obaadjiwan (Sharbot Lake), Snimikobi (Ardoch) and Whitney and Area
- There are currently over 7,800 eligible Algonquin Voters determined through the rigorous Algonquin Enrolment and Eligibility Process

Modern Algonquin Treaty Negotiations

- The Algonquin land claim has its earliest foundation from the Royal Proclamation made by King George III in 1763 requiring British officials in the Canadian colonies to respect ownership of Aboriginal “hunting grounds”, including those occupied by the Algonquins
- Algonquin petitions to the Crown seeking recognition and protection for Algonquin land and rights date back to 1772
- The Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn First Nation commenced the modern treaty negotiations by formally submitting the most recent petition in 1983
- The Government of Ontario accepted the claim for negotiations in 1991
- The Government of Canada joined the negotiations in 1992
- Statement of Shared Objectives in 1994 (reaffirmed in 2006)


Pre-Contact


Townships, Municipalities
Crown Land
Transportation Routes
Protection
Public Infrastructure and Power Generation
Public Recreation
Research Areas
Commercial Activities: Wildlife
Commercial Activities: Mining / Aggregate / Other Crown leases
Commercial Activities: Forestry
Hazards


NORTH BAY
MATTAWAN
NIPISSING
BONFIELD
EAST FERRIS
CALVIN
PAPINEAU-CAMERON
CHISHOLM
HEAD, CLARA AND MARIA
HEAD CLARA AND MARIA
POWASSAN
DEEP RIVER
PETAWAWA
LAURENTIAN HILLS
SOUTH RIVER
JOLY
PEMBROKE
LAURENTIAN VALLEY
KEARNEY
SOUTH ALGONQUIN
NORTH ALGONA WILBERFORCE
RENFREW
WHITEWATER REGION
HORTON
SOUTH ALGONQUIN
MADAWASKA VALLEY
BONNECHERE VALLEY
RENFREW
ALGONQUIN HIGHLANDS
HALIBURTON
HASTINGS HIGHLANDS
MCNAB/BRAESIDE
ARNPRIOR
MISSISSIPPI MILLS
BRUDENELL, LYNDOCH AND RAGLAN
HASTINGS
DYSART, DUDLEY, HARCOURT, GUILFORD, HARBURN, BRUTON, HAVELOCK, EYRE AND CLYDE
GREATER MADAWASKA
CARLOW/MAYO
CARLETON PLACE
OTTAWA
BANCROFT
ADDINGTON HIGHLANDS
LANARK HIGHLANDS
BECKWITH
FARADAY
TUDOR AND CASHEL
NORTH FRONTENAC
LANARK
HIGHLANDS EAST
WOLLASTON
LIMERICK
PERTH
MONTAGUE
SMITHS FALLS
DRUMMOND/NORTH ELMSLEY
TAY VALLEY
MERRICKVILLE-WOLFORD
EDWARDSBURGH/CARDINAL
ELIZABETHTOWN-KITLEY
PRESCOTT
CENTRAL FRONTENAC
ATHENS
RIDEAU LAKES
AUGUSTA
BROCKVILLE
FRONTENAC
LEEDS AND GRENVILLE
LEEDS AND THE THOUSAND ISLANDS
SOUTH FRONTENAC
ALFRED AND PLANTAGENET
HAWKESBURY
CHAMPLAIN
PRESCOTT AND RUSSELL
CLARENCE-ROCKLAND
THE NATION
NORTH GLENGARRY
CASSELMAN
RUSSELL
STORMONT, DUNDAS AND GLENGARRY
NORTH STORMONT
SOUTH GLENGARRY
NORTH DUNDAS
SOUTH STORMONT
CORNWALL
NORTH GRENVILLE
SOUTH DUNDAS

Releasing the Preliminary Draft Agreement-in-Principle

- On December 13, 2012, the Algonquins of Ontario (AOO), Canada and Ontario released the Preliminary Draft AIP
- Releasing a Preliminary Draft AIP for public review is unprecedented
- The culmination of many years of negotiations between these three Parties
- The Preliminary Draft AIP was used to support consultation efforts in the Algonquin treaty negotiations and garner feedback from Algonquin Voters, elected officials, stakeholders and the general public

RATIFICATION AND SIGNING OF AGREEMENT-IN-PRINCIPLE (AIP)

- AIP was submitted to Algonquin Voters in February/March 2016 and they authorized the Algonquin Negotiation Representatives to sign it
- On October 18, 2016 formal signing of the AIP was carried out on Parliament Hill with Ministers, Bennett and Zimmer doing so on behalf of their respective governments

Key Elements of the Agreement-in-Principle

- $300 million transfer to the Algonquins of Ontario to a tax free account
- Transfer of not less than 117,500 acres of provincial Crown land to Algonquin ownership plus some, as yet unspecified, Federal Crown land
- Recommended approaches to address:
    - Algonquin harvesting rights, including the right to harvest wildlife, fish, migratory birds and plants
    - Forestry
    - Parks and Protected Areas
    - Algonquin heritage and culture
    - Algonquin eligibility and enrolment

Moving Forward in the Negotiation Process

- Now that the AIP has been signed negotiations are underway towards reaching a final Agreement
- Consultation continues with:
  - Algonquins of Ontario
  - Legal interests and stakeholders
  - Public
- Second Algonquin Ratification Vote by “Beneficiaries”
- Approval by Governments of Canada and Ontario
- Legislation to enable Treaty
- Implementation

Consultation Process
Interim Measures Agreement

- Entered into by the AOO, Ontario and Canada in 2009
- Sets out a one window approach for Canada and Ontario to consult with the Algonquins of Ontario on proposed activities or projects in Algonquin Territory while our negotiations are ongoing
- Establishment of the Algonquins of Ontario Consultation Office in Pembroke , Ontario
- Over 2500 consultation requests have been received since 2006. Of that, over 300 new consultations have been initiated since January 2017, and over 500 projects are currently active.

Ongoing Engagement in Major Infrastructure Projects

Out of the over 500 active files, the AOO are currently engaged in a significant number of major infrastructure projects, including:

- Consultation with the Ministry of Northern Development Mines on **Mining Claims** throughout the Settlement Area and as set out in the *Mineral Exploration and Development Protocol Agreement*
- The designation of **Pimisi Station** as an Algonquin-themed station on the City of Ottawa's Light Rail Confederation Line
- The *Participation Agreement* and *Joint Venture Agreement* between the AOO and Canada Lands Company with respect to the **Rockcliffe Redevelopment Project and 401 LeBreton**
- The **Timiskaming Ontario Dam Replacement Project**, managed by Public Works and Government Services Canada
- Ongoing engagement with **Sustainable Forest License Holders**, including our participation in the Phase II Forest Management Planning efforts with the Algonquin Forestry Authority for forestry operations in Algonquin Provincial Park
- Anticipated **pilot projects** with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry for Petawawa Terrace Provincial Park and Westmeath (Bellows Bay) Provincial Park

Reconciliation

- "Canada is a project on reconciliation"
  - Chief Justice McLachlin to a group of law students

- "The answer lies in the nebulous concept of relationship-building. In other words, it is imperative that governments and Aboriginal communities heed the repeated admonitions from our Courts to make reciprocal, good faith efforts to reconcile their differences."
  - Doug Eyford, Ministerial Special Representative

- Litigation is the death knell of relationship-building. Judicial proceedings are a blunt instrument that tends to expose divisions between parties and deepen hostilities.

- Governments:
  - **Respect**
  - Creative and flexible negotiation processes (mediation/"med-arb" etc.)
  - **Respect**

- "There will have to be compromises on all sides if a just and lasting reconciliation is to be achieved."
  - Justice Vickers

Challenge to Governments and First Nations

*The challenge to First Nations is to put the past pain and grievances and the distrust behind them and be willing to work directly, **AS EQUALS**, with the governments towards a fair and just solution that is built on "compromise", not capitulation, and that is driven by "good faith" actions by those governments in accordance with the "honour of the Crown".*

For More Information…

- Visit the Algonquins of Ontario website: www.tanakiwin.com

- Contact the Algonquins of Ontario Consultation Office:
  - 31 Riverside Drive, Pembroke, ON K8A 8R6
  - Toll free at 1-855-735-3759 or 613-735-3759
  - By email at algonquins@nrtco.net

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