



**Community Hydroelectric Power Plant Project  
Information and Consultation meeting in Témiscamingue**

**April, 2025**

# Meeting Agenda & Objectives

## **Word of Welcome**

**About the Onimiki Project**

## **Project Update**

**Consultations and Environmental Assessments**

## **Local Benefits**

**Preliminary Timeline and Next Steps**

## **Question Period**

## **Meeting Objectives**

- Share a project update
- Explain the project rationale
- Present the information and consultation process
- Answer your questions

# Our Partners

The Onimiki Renewable Energy L.P. project is 100% community based. The objective is to develop a truly promising project that will benefit First Nations and all citizens of the MRC de Témiscamingue.



Kebaowek First Nation  
(20 %)



Wolf Lake First Nation  
(20 %)



MRC de Témiscamingue  
(40 %)



**Pekuakamiulnuatsh  
Takuphikan**

Première nation des  
Pekuakamiulnuatsh (20 %)

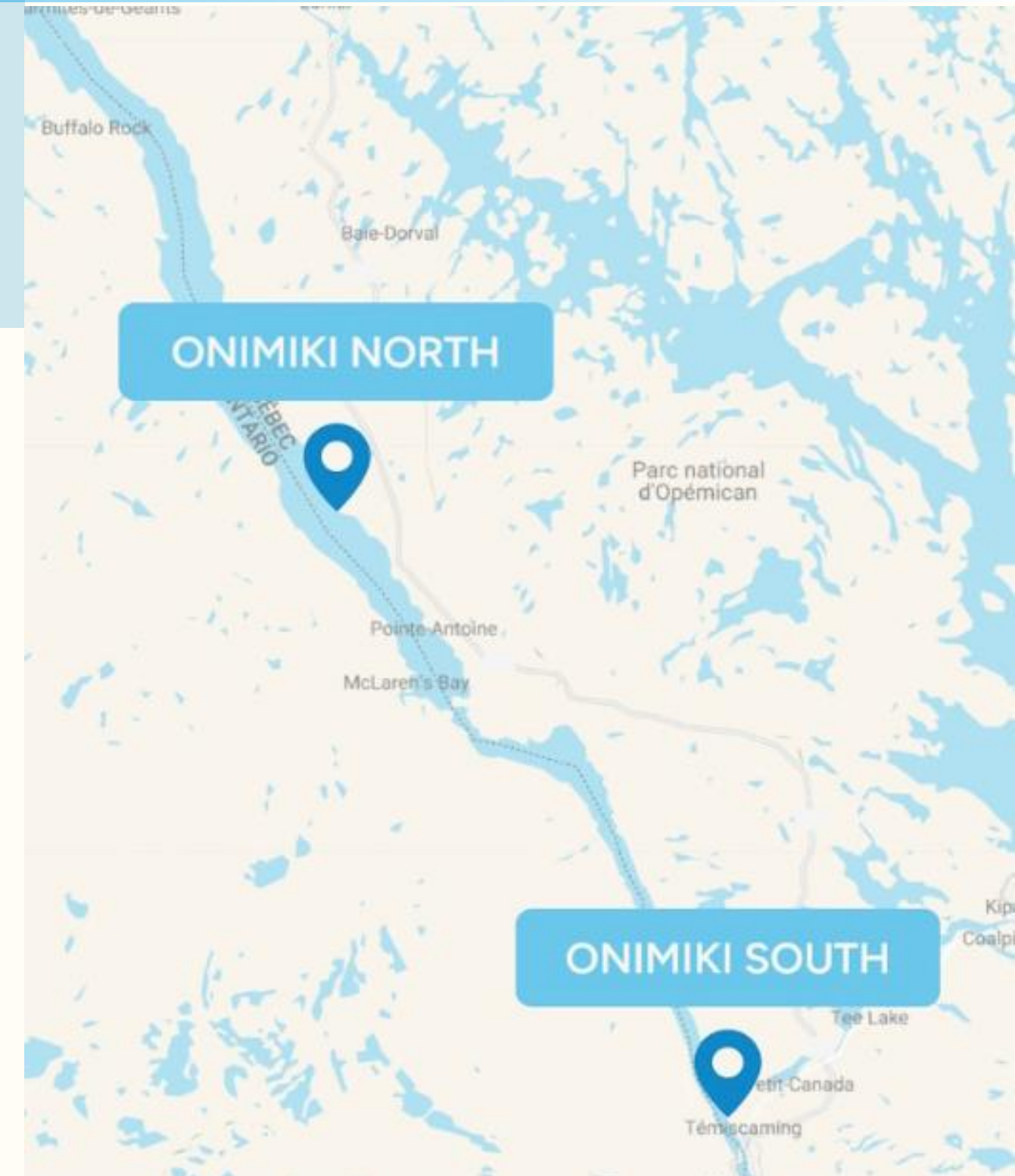


# About the Onimiki Project

# The Onimiki Project

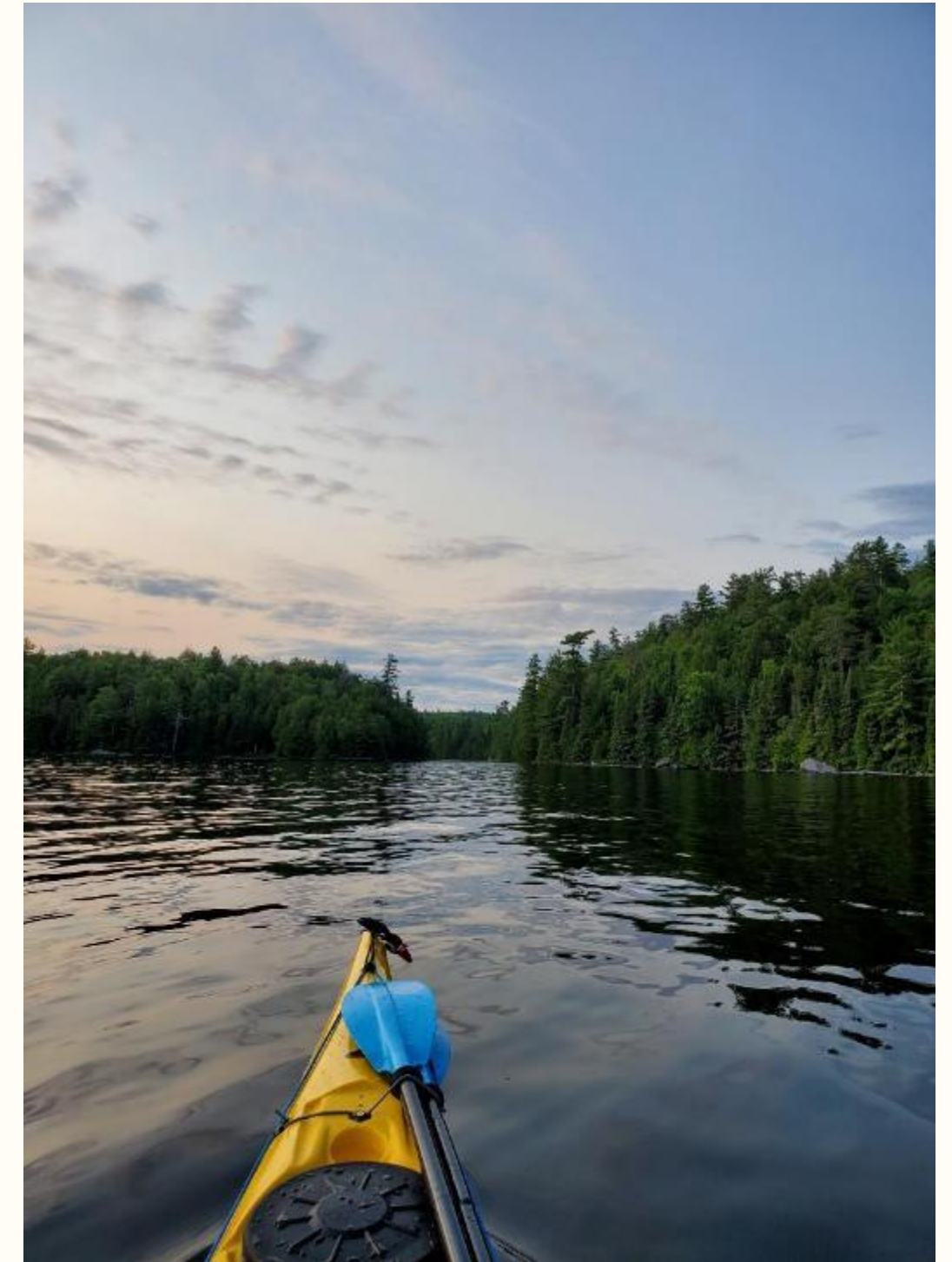
The proposed project by Onimiki Renewable Energy has been designed with consideration for the feedback gathered during community consultations.

- Onimiki South: a 7 MW power station in Témiscaming
- Onimiki North: a 60 MW power station (*located 30 km north of Témiscaming and 15 km south of Laniel - near Pointe McMartin*)
- Cost estimate: \$475 million (*preliminary estimate based on comparable projects*)



# A Project Adapted to its Host Environment

- **A reduced project of 67 MW** (compared to Hydro-Québec's abandoned 132 MW Tabaret Project).
- **Current management of Kipawa lake maintained:**
  - *Maintenance in summer - emptying in fall and winter.*
  - *The ministries concerned remain responsible for existing agreements.*
- **Maintenance of the current minimum flow of 15 m<sup>3</sup>/s in the Kipawa River**, as targeted by the Direction générale des barrages du Québec.
- **Mitigation measures discussed with the community** to reduce impacts.
- **Community-led project.**
- **Net cash is returned to the partners** and reinvested in community development.



# A Favorable Context

## **Hydro-Québec's 2035 Action Plan – Towards a decarbonized and prosperous Québec**

### **Priority #3: Increase our power generation capacity**

Identify and launch the best projects that will enable us to generate more electricity to support Québec's ambitions and remain open to all options available to us.

### **Priority #4: Partnerships with Indigenous communities**

Work towards economic reconciliation with First Nations and Inuit, in collaboration with the Québec government.

## **The benefits of the Onimiki Project**

- Use of existing reservoir (no land flooding).
- Stable power thanks to hydroelectricity.
- A commercial framework with Hydro-Québec, rather than a call for tenders, which encourages project development.
- Guaranteed production during winter peak periods - savings for Quebec:
  - *During peak periods, Hydro-Québec often has to import electricity from Ontario or the United States. This electricity can cost up to 120¢ per kWh, 10 times more than the cost of new electricity supplies. (Radio-Canada, January 20, 2024).*

# About Parc national d'Opémican

Onimiki Renewable Energy and its partners are aware of the importance of Parc national d'Opémican to the environment and the community, and take into account the park's integrity at every stage of the project's development.

**The proposed infrastructure is located outside of the park's boundaries.**

The project's potential effects to the park's natural environment and recreational potential will be detailed in the impact study in accordance with current legislation (Loi sur la qualité de l'environnement, Loi sur les Parcs).

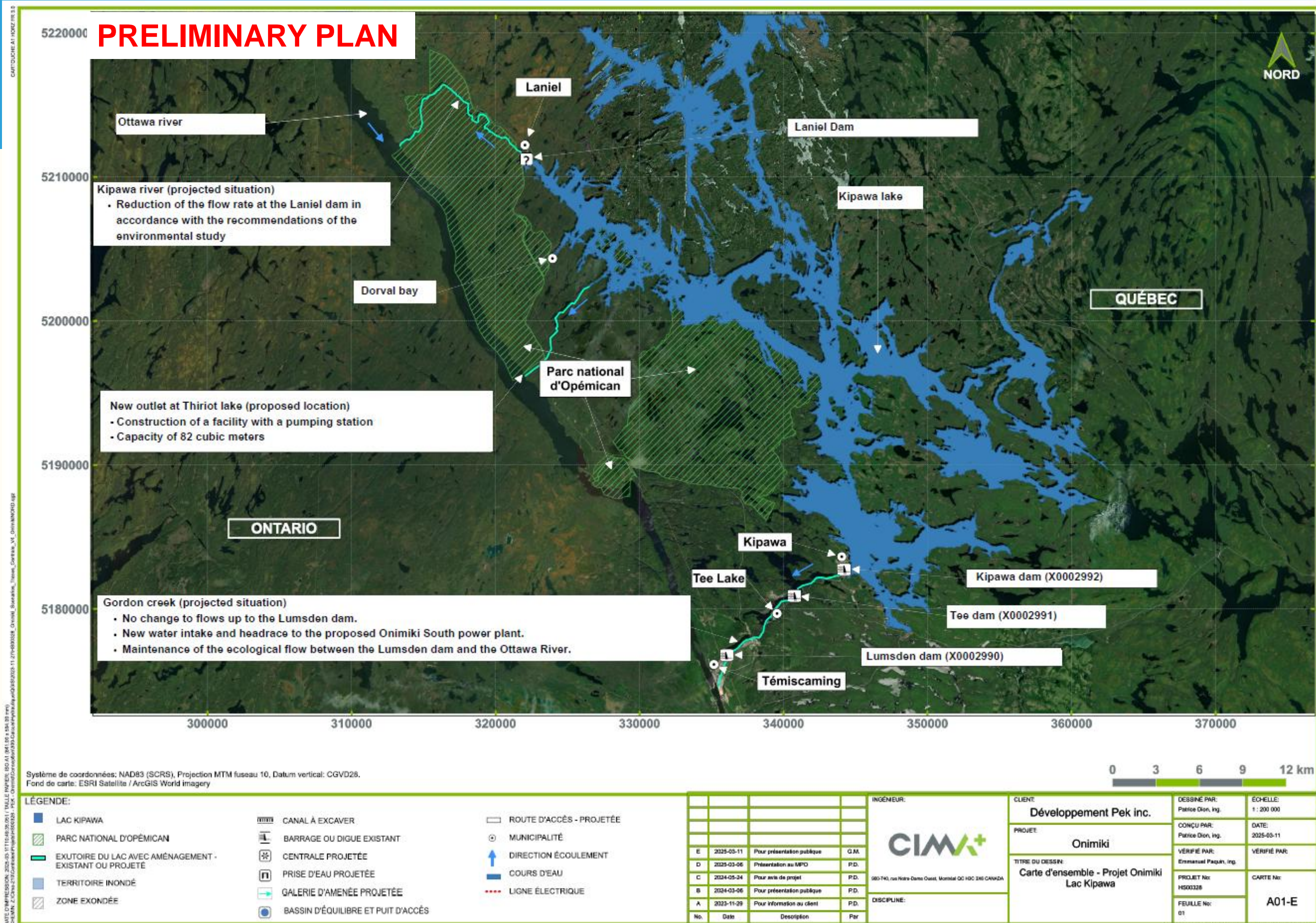






# Project Update

# Project - Overview



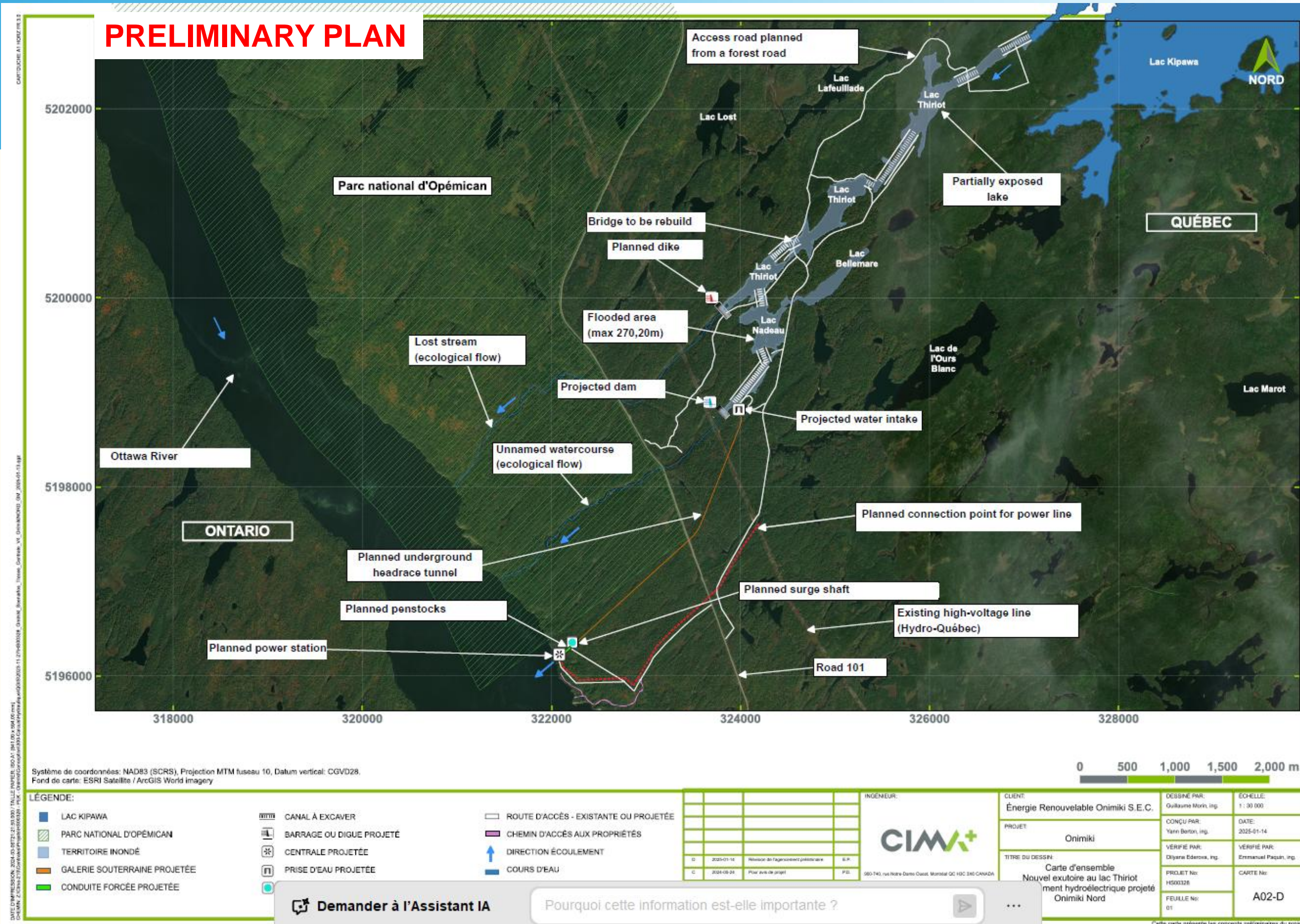
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Information and consultation meeting – April, 2025



# Onimiki North - overview

## Highlights

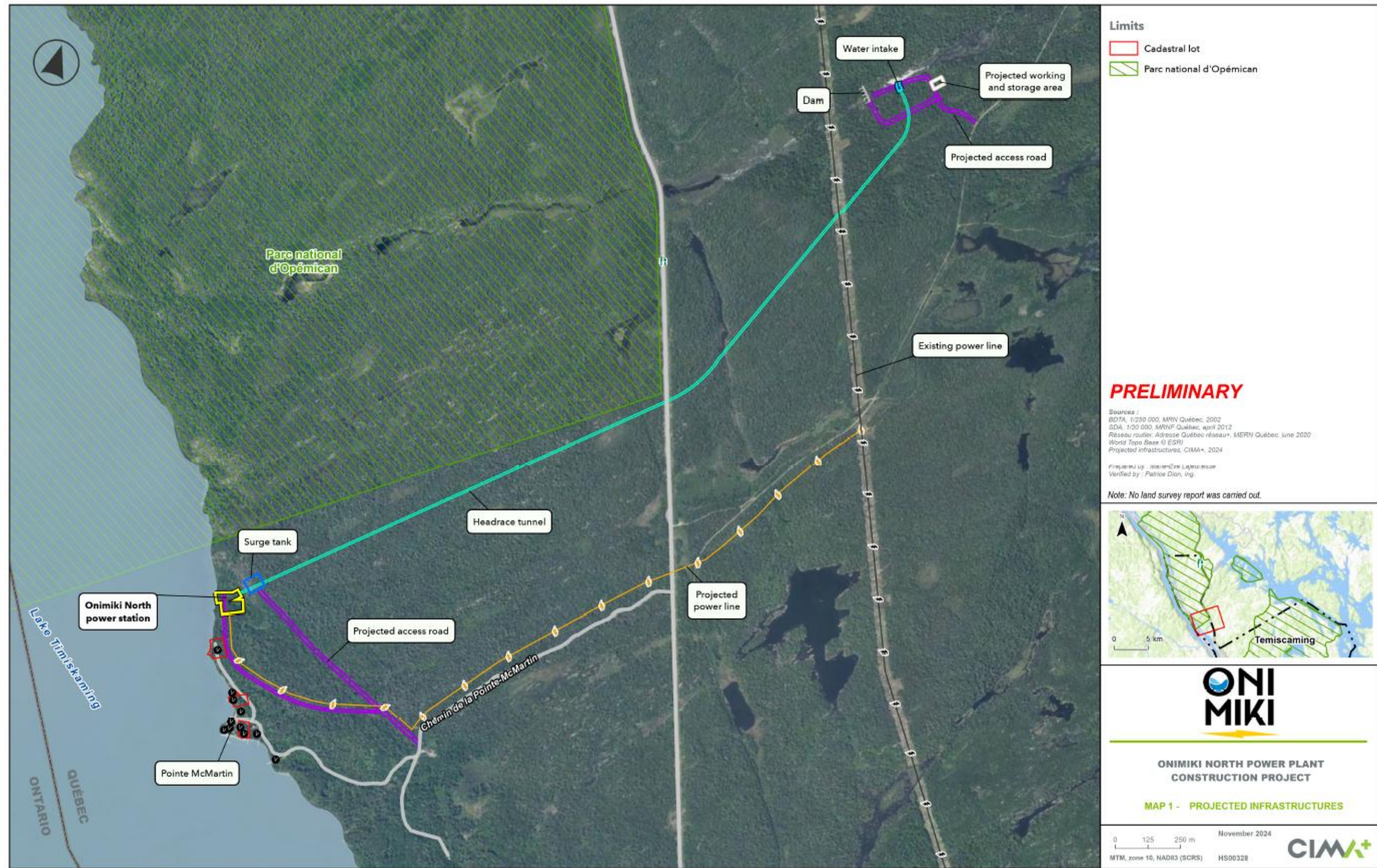
- A new outlet between Kipawa Lake and Témiscamingue Lake.
- A series of short canal sections (9) linking Kipawa lake, Thiriot lake and Nadeau lake.
- No major flooding between Kipawa lake and the proposed water intake. Some sections would be partially exposed.
- Management of Kipawa lake according to historical conditions.
- Ecological flow maintained in the Kipawa River (*aesthetic flow to be discussed with the community*).



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# Onimiki North - Preliminary Plan

- A 3.2-kilometre underground headrace that avoids Parc national d'Opémican.
- A power station on the shores of Lake Témiscamingue.



# Onimiki North - *Dam and Water Intake*



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# CENTRALE ONIMIKI NORD / ONIMIKI NORTH POWERHOUSE



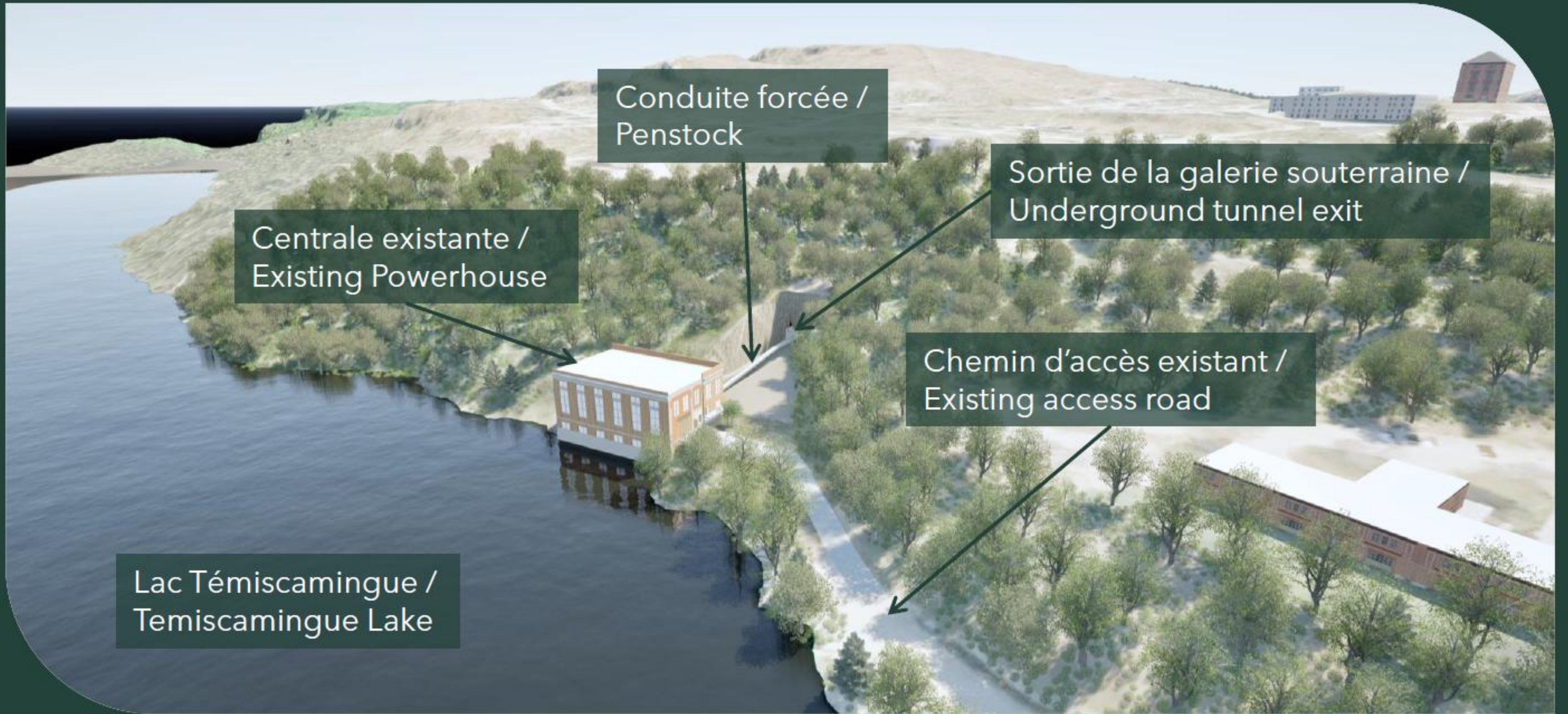
# Onimiki South – Highlights



- The reuse of the old power plant is the current studied option.
- Flow levels between Kipawa dam and Lumsden dam (from Moulin Lake, Tee Lake, Jadot Lake, Aux Brochets Lake) remain the same (between 6.8 and 18 m<sup>3</sup>/s).
- An ecological flow (at all times) and an aesthetic flow (according to a calendar and schedule) are to be defined in Gordon Creek (between Lumsden dam and Témiscamingue lake).
- Discussions are planned regarding impact mitigation (e.g. marina relocation, construction, aesthetic flow).
- Virtually constant production year-round.



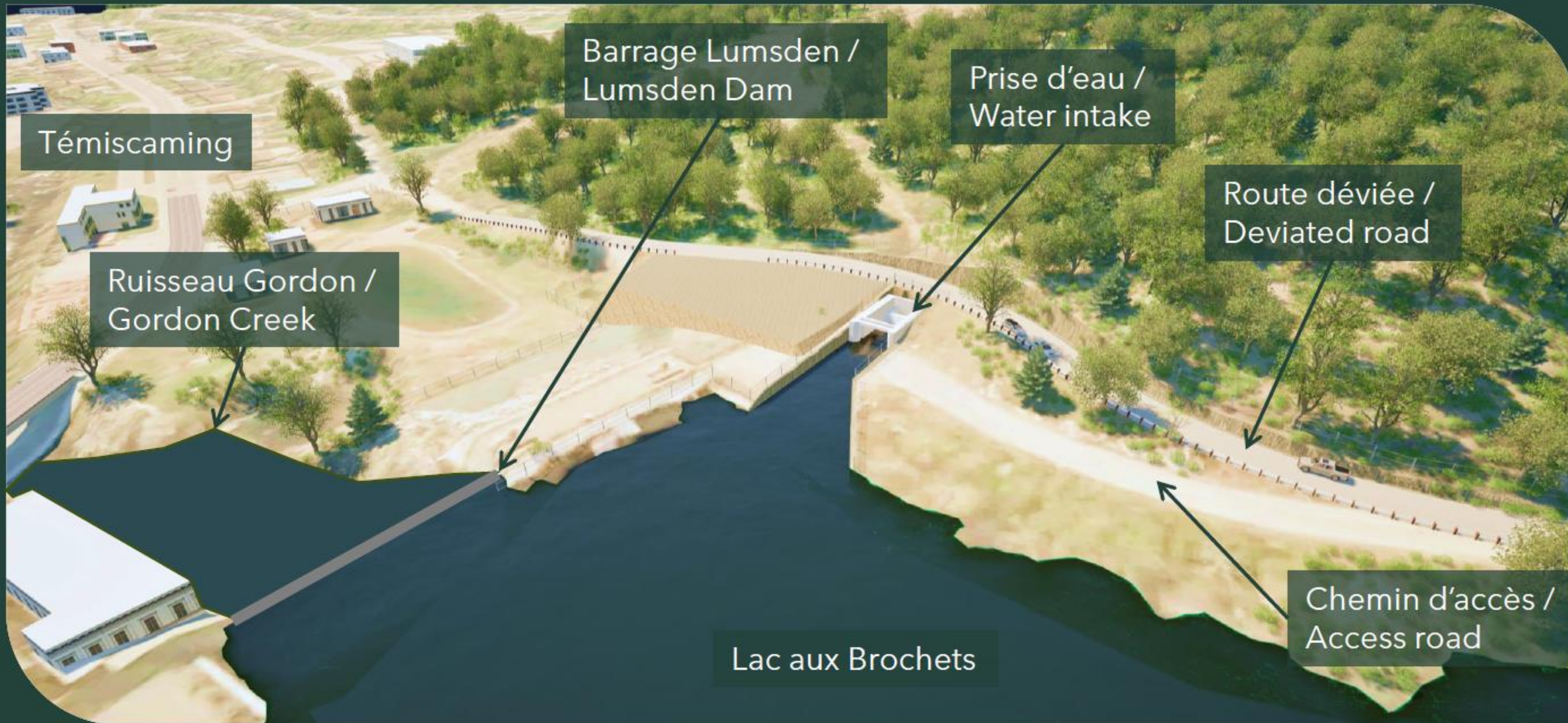
# CENTRALE ONIMIKI SUD / ONIMIKI SOUTH POWERHOUSE



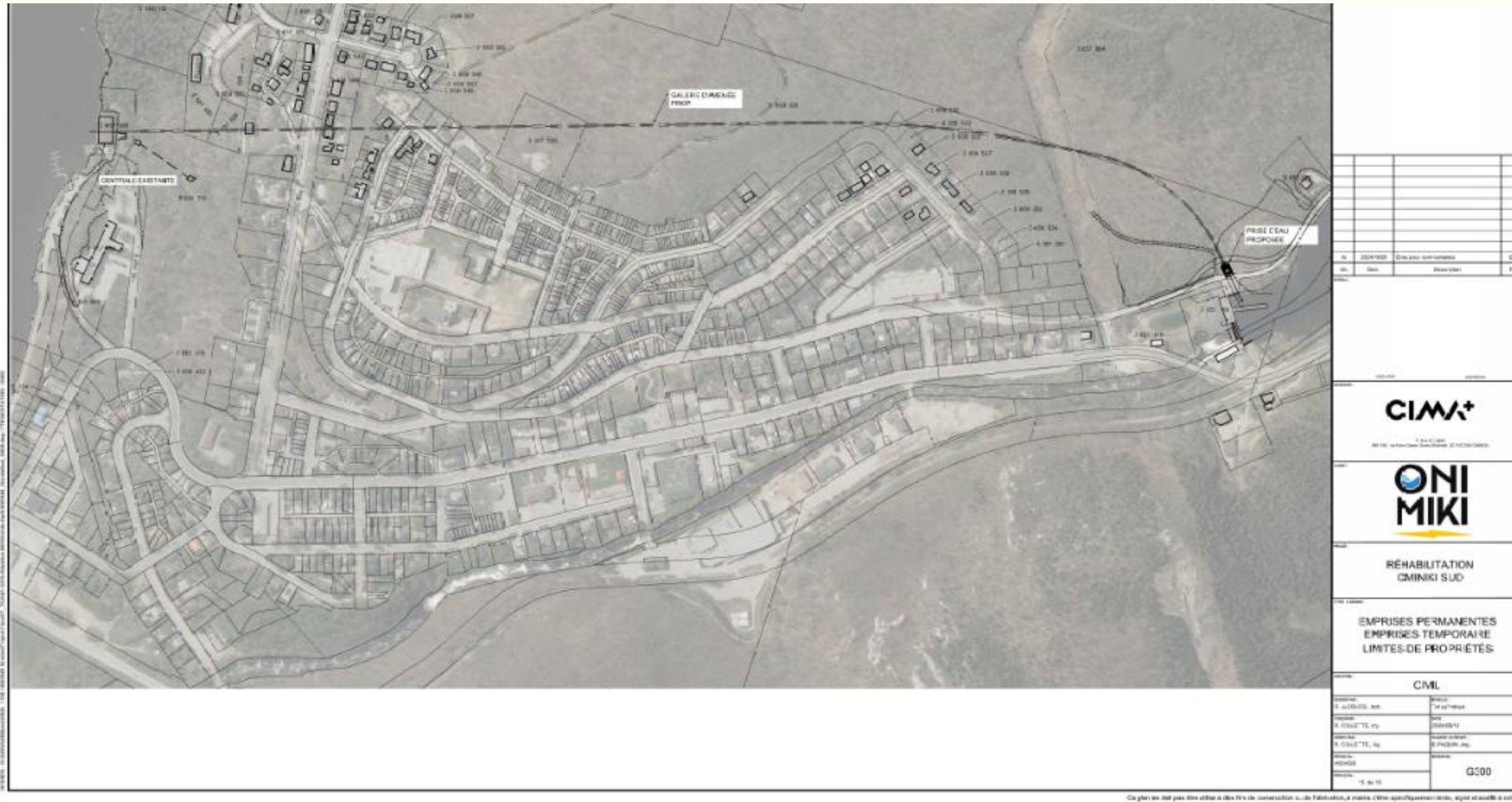




# PRISE D'EAU ONIMIKI SUD / ONIMIKI SOUTH WATER INTAKE



# Onimiki South (Underground Intake Gallery)



- Excavated 30 metres underground, in bedrock, there will be no impact on residents once the plant is commissioned. The preliminary route avoids several residences.
- Expected impacts during construction due to blasting, ventilation equipment and the transportation of excavated material.



# Kipawa Lake Kipawa River

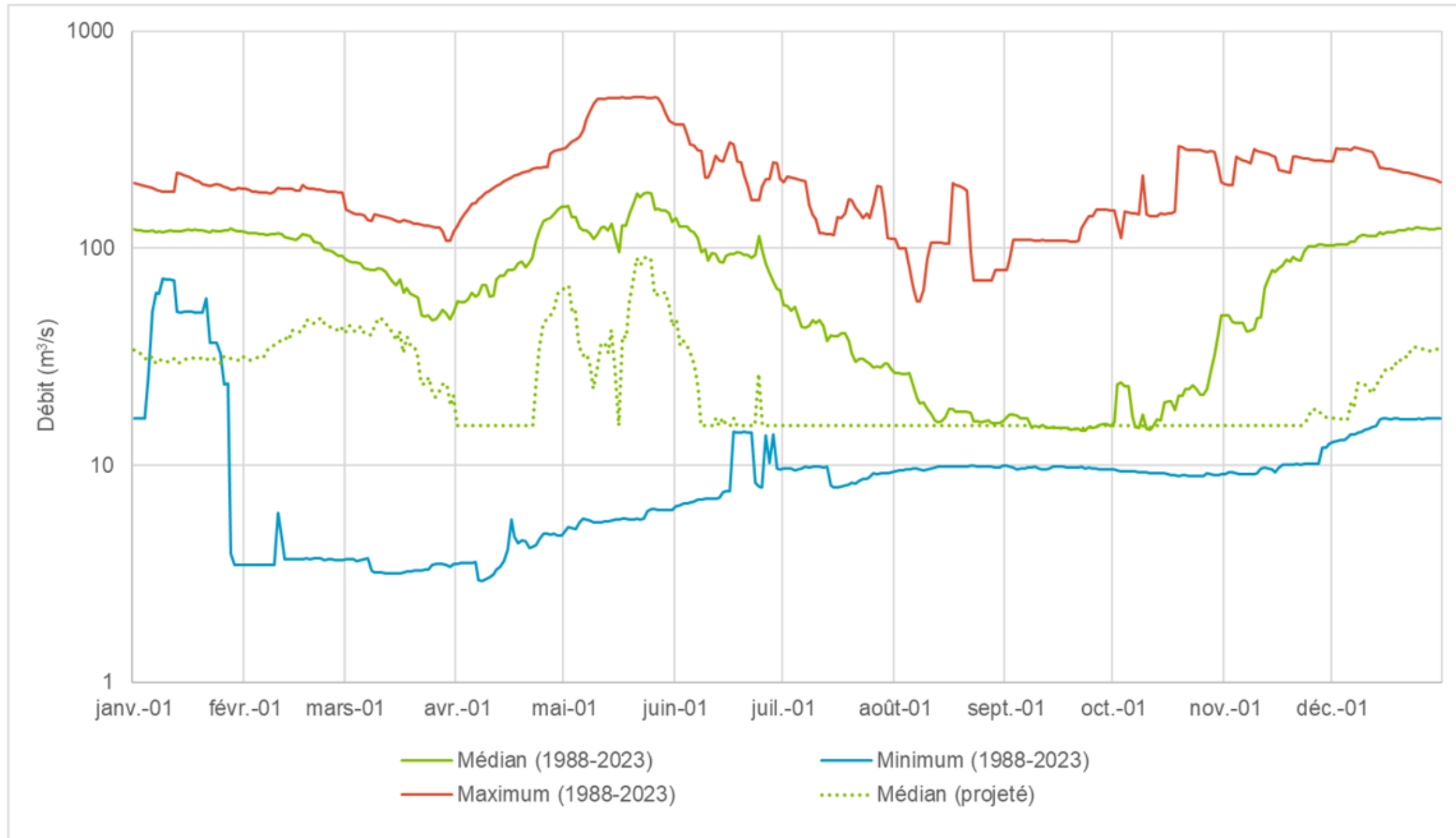
# Kipawa Lake Management - Current Situation

Dates	Action
December 1 <sup>st</sup> to March 31 <sup>st</sup>	Emptying the reservoir to make room for the spring flood
From the end of the flood until September 1 <sup>st</sup>	Management of the reservoir level
September 1 <sup>st</sup> to October 1 <sup>st</sup>	Lowering for fish spawning
October 1 <sup>st</sup> to December 1 <sup>st</sup>	Rise after fish spawning

- **Controlled by two retaining structures:** the Laniel dam on the Kipawa River and the Kipawa dam on the Gordon Creek reach.
- **Responsible authority:** The structures are managed by the Direction générale des barrages (DGB) of the ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs (MELCCFP), in accordance with the water levels set out in the Kipawa Lake Joint Management Plan and safety study documents.
- **Order of priority for Lake Kipawa outlets :**
  - 6.8 to 18 m<sup>3</sup>/s discharged at Kipawa dam, into Gordon Creek since 2011.
  - Minimum flow of 15 m<sup>3</sup>/s maintained in the Kipawa River.
  - All excess flows are discharged at the Laniel dam on the Kipawa River.

# Kipawa river flows

Hydrogrammes de la rivière Kipawa en situations actuelle et projetée



\*L'hydrogramme projeté suppose un débit de conception de 82 m<sup>3</sup>/s à Onimiki Nord et 13,5 m<sup>3</sup>/s à Onimiki Sud

Préparé par: Patrice Dion, ing., M.Sc.A. (OIQ 5069719)



Date: 17/09/2024

## Post-development management

- Management of the Kipawa lake remains unchanged, under the responsibility of the Direction générale des barrages.
- Discharge of 6.8 to 18 m<sup>3</sup>/s at Kipawa dam via the Gordon Creek reach.
- Maintenance of at least 15 m<sup>3</sup>/s in the Kipawa River.
- Available flow is directed to the Onimiki North power station (up to a maximum of 82 m<sup>3</sup>/s).
- Excess flow is discharged into the Kipawa River.

# La grande chute – flow : 15 m<sup>3</sup>/s

- The flow rate of 15 m<sup>3</sup>/s is the current minimum flow rate set by the Direction générale des barrages du Québec. Onimiki Renewable Energy uses this flow as a base assumption to determine the ecological flow to be maintained after development.
- Environmental studies will determine the right ecological flow rate to maintain biodiversity.





# Consultations and Environmental Assessments

# Community Pre-Consultations

## Objectives

- Enable the host communities to better understand the project.
- Address concerns to minimize impacts.
- Integrate local knowledge.
- Maximize spinoffs.
- Improve the project's design and, if necessary, incorporate these modifications directly into the Impact Study.

## Communities and organizations we met

- Kebaowek First Nation
- Wolf Lake First Nation
- Timiscaming First Nation
- Les Amis de la Rivière Kipawa
- Association des riverains des Lacs Tee et du Moulin
- Comité municipal de Laniel
- Conseil régional de l'environnement de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue
- Organisme de bassin versant du Témiscamingue
- Parc national d'Opémican – SÉPAQ
- Tourisme Abitibi-Témiscamingue
- Société de développement économique du Témiscamingue
- Résidents de la Pointe McMartin
- Municipalité de Béarn
- Municipalité de Kipawa
- Ville de Témiscaming



# Environment

**Onimiki Renewable Energy wants to develop a project that takes into account all environmental, social and economic concerns.**

**All environmental aspects will be well documented in the Impact Study.**

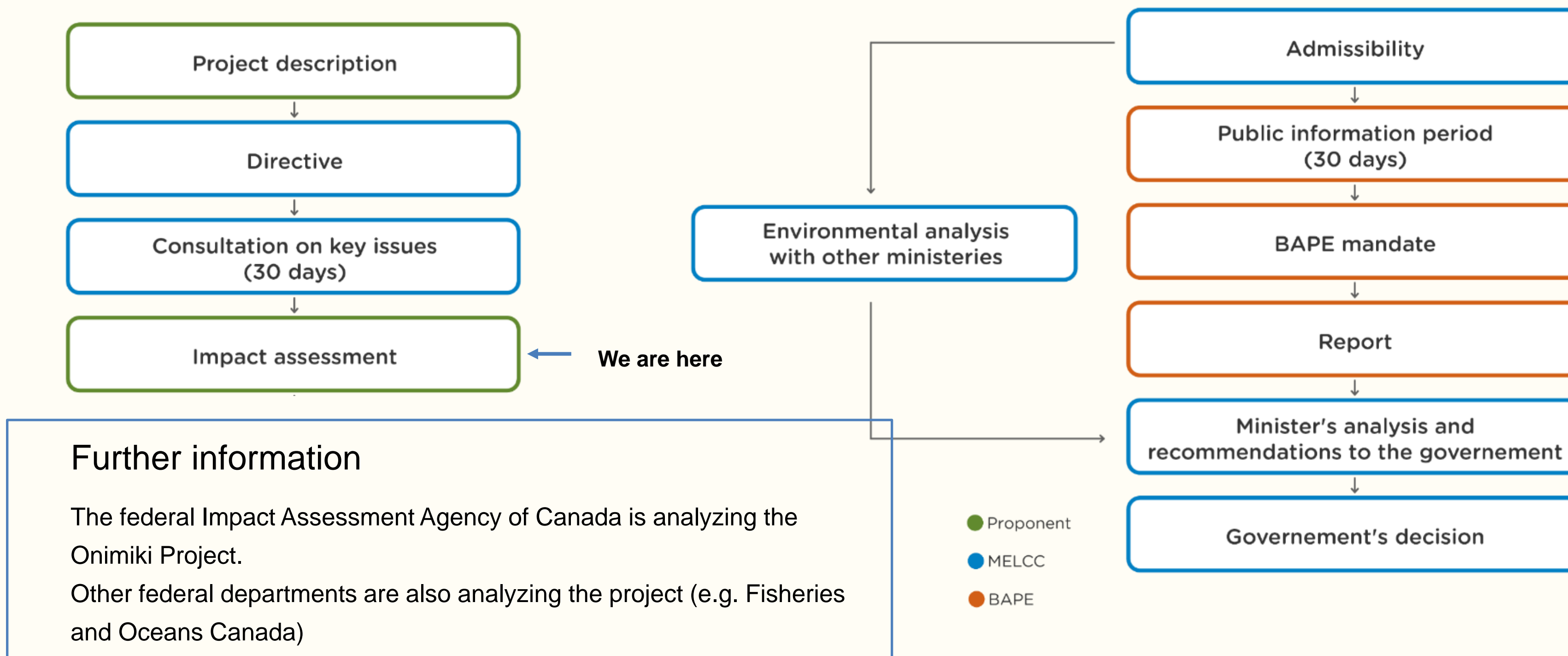
The project's development will be consistent with the practice of traditional activities and First Nations' ancestral rights, all local activities (tourism, recreation, sports) and the maintenance of biodiversity.

The project will have to go through all the regulatory steps to obtain the necessary authorizations.

## Some examples of topics to be studied

- Project compatibility with Parc national Opémican activities
- Water flow and quality
- Wildlife
- Flora
- Greenhouse gas emissions
- Human environment
- Impacts of climate change

# Regulatory Process





# Local Benefits

# A Major Investment For Our Future

Investment	Estimated net cash (after debt payment)
Total : 475 M\$	Year 1 : 7,9 M\$
	Year 5 : 11,9 M\$
	Year 10 : 17,3 M\$
	Total after 10 years : 125 M\$

- Municipalities and First Nations have access to advantageous financing programs and rates.
- Onimiki Renewable Energy has a commercial framework with Hydro-Québec that allows the partners to confidently advance the project. The sale price will be negotiated by mutual agreement.
- Net cash generated increases annually.
- An independent economic study will be carried out to validate the benefits.

# Supporting the Local Economy

## Preliminary Estimates *(based on previous projects)*

- ✓ 36 months of construction
- ✓ 1,400,000 hours worked
- ✓ An average of 225 workers over 36 months
- ✓ Invitations to tender published on the SEAO site
- ✓ 20 to 30 construction contracts between \$1 million and \$100 million
- ✓ Local purchasing of goods and service

Regional economic development organizations and First Nations economic development departments will be called upon to maximize spin-offs and job creation.





# Preliminary Timetable and Next Steps

# Preliminary Next Steps

## 2025

- **Information and consultation process**
- **Delivery of environmental reports**
- Geotechnical surveys
- Discussions on maximizing economic benefits
- Start of detailed engineering
- **Impact Study drafting**

## 2026

- **Impact Study submittal** (end of 2025 or beginning of 2026)
- **Environmental assessment process**
- Permits and authorization requests
- **Energy purchase contract negotiation with Hydro-Québec**
- Calls for tenders and contract awarding
- **Preconstruction**

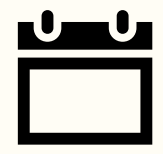
## 2027-2028

- **Construction**
- Monitoring committee

## 2029

- End of construction
- Commissioning
- Connection to the Hydro-Québec grid
- Monitoring committee

# Next Pre-consultation Steps



## Public meeting in english Open to all

Tuesday April 22 2025 at 6h30 PM  
Le Centre Salle Dottori  
20 Humphrey Road, Témiscaming



*Additional public and targeted meetings will be planned over the course of 2025.*



## Participatory Workshops (in person and online)

### Workshop 1

**April 23 2025 at 6:30 PM**  
Salon Desjardins  
20 Humphrey,  
Témiscaming

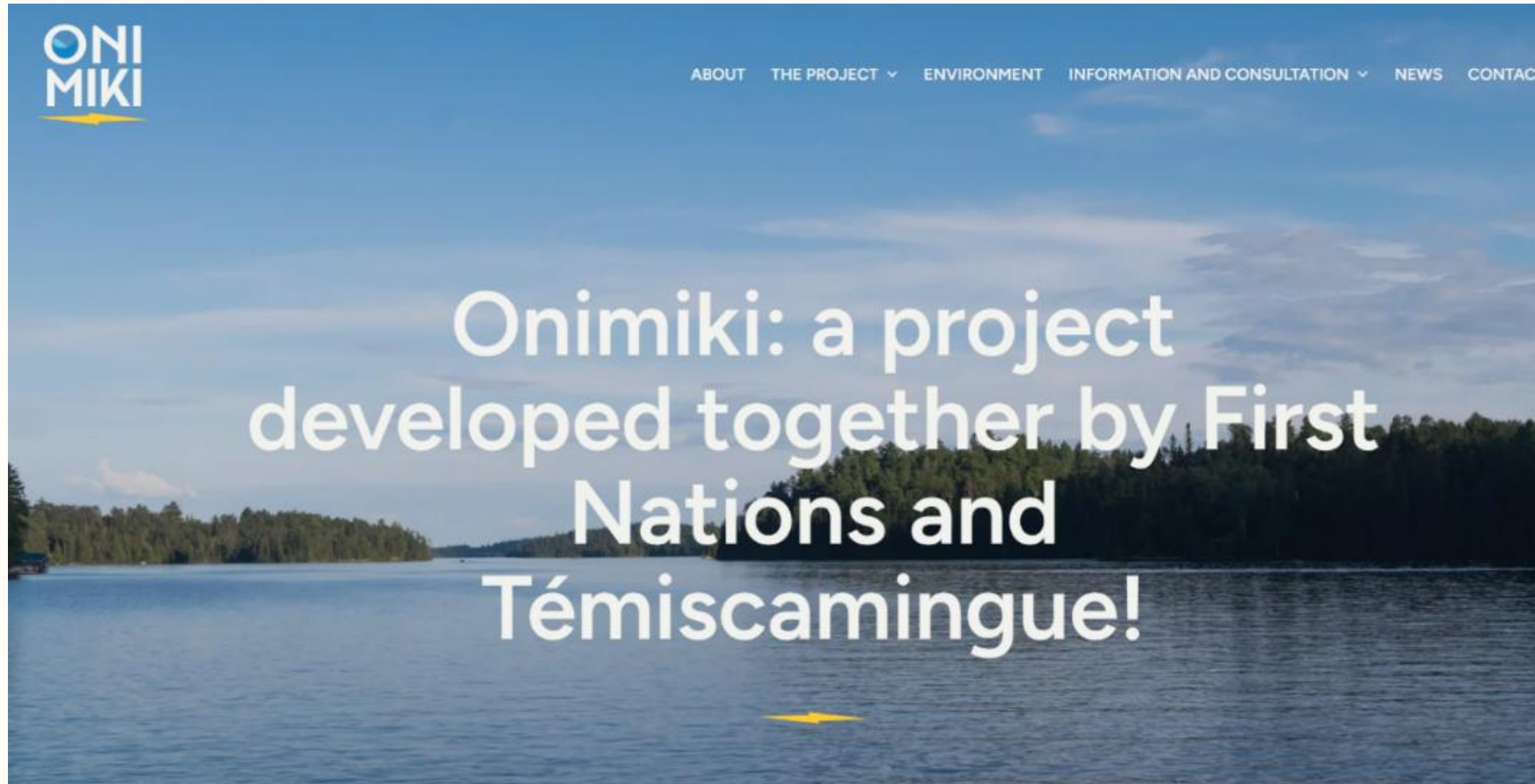
### Worshop 2

**June 9 2025 at 6:30**  
Salon Desjardins  
20 Humphrey,  
Témiscaming

- Participatory public workshops will provide an opportunity to dive deeper into the issues specific to the project.
- The workshops will be open to all. People will be asked to register.
- Workshop topics will be defined following ongoing meetings.
- Experts will be invited per the topics selected.



# Information and communications



**Website :** [www.onimiki.ca](http://www.onimiki.ca)

**Facebook :**

[www.facebook.com/projetOnimiki](https://www.facebook.com/projetOnimiki)

**Newsletter :**

[www.onimiki.ca/newsletter](http://www.onimiki.ca/newsletter)

**Email :** [contact@onimiki.ca](mailto:contact@onimiki.ca)



**THANK YOU  
MEEGWETCH**