Working Together

City of Markham & Eabametoong First Nation
Eabametoong First Nation Partnership

• January 2016, the City was introduced to Eabametoong First Nation (EFN), a community with the aspirations of building a healthy community economically, socially and culturally
• EFN is a community that is facing many challenges
• Partnership between City of Markham and EFN – establish an accord which will enhance our two communities through collaboration, interaction and exchange
• Markham can provide guidance, training and strategic support on the following issues:
  – Technology
  – Economic
  – Healthy community building
  – Environmental sustainability
• EFN can facilitate the expansion of the City of Markham’s understanding and representation of First Nation culture and practices
Eabametoong First Nation

- Eabametoong First Nation, also known as Fort Hope, is an Ojibway First Nation in the Kenora District, Ontario, Canada
- Population of approximately 1,500 people and is mainly a cash economy with limited employment opportunities
- Located 300 kilometers northeast of Thunder Bay, on the shore of Eabamet Lake in the Albany River system
- Accessible only by airplane, water, or by ice roads in the winter
Eabametoong First Nation
Eabametoong First Nation Delegation Visit

• On Tuesday, May 10, 2016, an Eabametoong First Nation delegation consisting of Chief Elizabeth Atlookan, Grand Chief Andy Yesno, Councillor Louie Sugarhead, Dr. Jennifer Dockstator and Ken Caplan visited the City of Markham

• City representatives and external guests provided the delegation a City tour and afternoon discussion
Eabametoong First Nation Delegation Visit

[Images of a delegation visit to Markham, including meetings, flag raising, and cultural events.]
On Going Legacy Projects identified by EFN

- Education
- Health Care
- Youth Engagement and Skills Development
- Banking
- Sustainability
- Energy
- Water
- Food Security
- Connectivity
- Housing and Innovative Community Planning
- Economic Development and Business
Legacy Projects: Education

• The John C. Yesno Education Centre in Fort Hope provides education for children from junior kindergarten to grade nine.
• Following grade nine, students must leave Fort Hope to attend high school in Thunder Bay.
• This transition has often proved problematic for youth because of social disruption.
Legacy Projects: Healthcare

- Fort Hope has a nursing station where first aid is provided through Health Canada.
- More serious medical treatment requires fly-out to Thunder Bay or Sioux Lookout.

Norman Shewaybick's 1,000 km Oxygen Tank Walk  
EFN Nursing Station
Legacy Project: Youth Engagement and Skills Development

• There is a need to provide meaningful opportunities to engage and enhance the lives of youth.
Legacy Project: Sustainable Community

- Energy
- Water
- Food Security

Inuvik Community Greenhouse, Northwest Territories
Legacy Projects: Housing and Innovative Community Planning

- There is a housing shortage with overcrowding and many houses are in need of repair.
- There are 26 serviced lots ready to go but funds are unavailable for construction.
Legacy Projects: Economic Development

- There is a need for sound business development and hopes for cultural tourism to become a primary economic source.
How We Can Work Together

• Enter into a Partnership Agreement to promote community and cultural exchange between the two communities and to encourage activities that will promote collaboration and partnership
• Celebrating Canada’s 150th birthday in 2017
• Sharing the teaching, values and culture of the Eabametoong First Nation with Markham residents
• Arts and exhibits to feature in our Varley Art Gallery
• First Nations Educational Programming at our Markham Museum
• Potential Legacy Project Partnerships
Children arriving at school
Eabametoong Adult Education Centre
John C. Yesno Education Centre (JK-Grade 9)
EFN Municipal Building
Eabamet Lake
QUESTIONS