



# Municipal Breakout – Discussion



# Discussion Questions / Key Feedback Requested

**Your insights are important. The IESO is requesting the following:**

1. How **can the IESO better support municipalities** in making informed decisions about proposed projects? Are there **specific tools, resources, or types of information** that would be most helpful?
2. Is the **timing of the Pre-Engagement Confirmation Notice appropriate** for your planning process? Was the information provided about the notice clear and sufficient? If not, what additional details would you need?
3. Is the **format and content of the prescribed form clear and easy to complete?**
4. Do you have any **concerns about the proposed deadline for issuing the Municipal Support Confirmation**? What changes would make this process more efficient or practical for your municipality?

# Municipalities: Key Partners in Ontario's Energy Future

Municipalities are central to meeting future electricity needs and ensuring reliable access for Ontarians.

Local decisions shape the future of the electricity system

- Municipal governments determine if their community will host electricity projects and oversee local development approvals

Without municipal support Ontario may not secure the resources needed to meet growing electricity demand

Ongoing engagement is critical to ensuring a reliable and sustainable energy future

# Municipal Feedback Informing the LLT RFP

Feedback	Response
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>IESO should use similar community engagement requirements as the LT2 RFP. Consistency helps municipalities with limited capacity evaluate energy projects effectively.</li><li>IESO should encourage developers to engage as early as possible with the municipality</li><li>Community engagement requirements design should take key election dates and the potential impact of elections on local decision making into consideration</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>✓ The IESO has proposed a similar approach to community engagement requirements as the LT2 RFP whereby the IESO will empower municipalities and proponents to define appropriate engagement processes and will use support confirmations to verify that engagement meets municipal expectations and that the municipality supports project submission.</li><li>✓ The IESO continues to encourage early engagement with municipalities and is proposing a change to the timing for delivering of the Pre-Engagement Confirmation Notice. Under LT2, it was required to be delivered at least 60 days prior to Proposal submission; for LLT, it must be delivered at least 60 days prior to the date of the Municipal Support Confirmation. This <u>60-day period is the minimum RFP requirement; communities may require more time after receiving the notice to decide on issuing support.</u></li><li>✓ The IESO initially proposed that the Municipal Support Confirmation (MSC) be dated no later than August 21, 2026, as reflected in recent draft documents. Following further engagement with AMO, the IESO has decided to remove the “no-later-than” limitation around when the MSC can be issued. This provides municipalities who can act after that date the ability to do so. Proponents remain responsible for coordinating with municipalities to understand any implications of the 2026 Municipal election and to ensure that the MSC is obtained prior to Proposal submission.</li></ul>

# Municipal Feedback Informing the LLT RFP

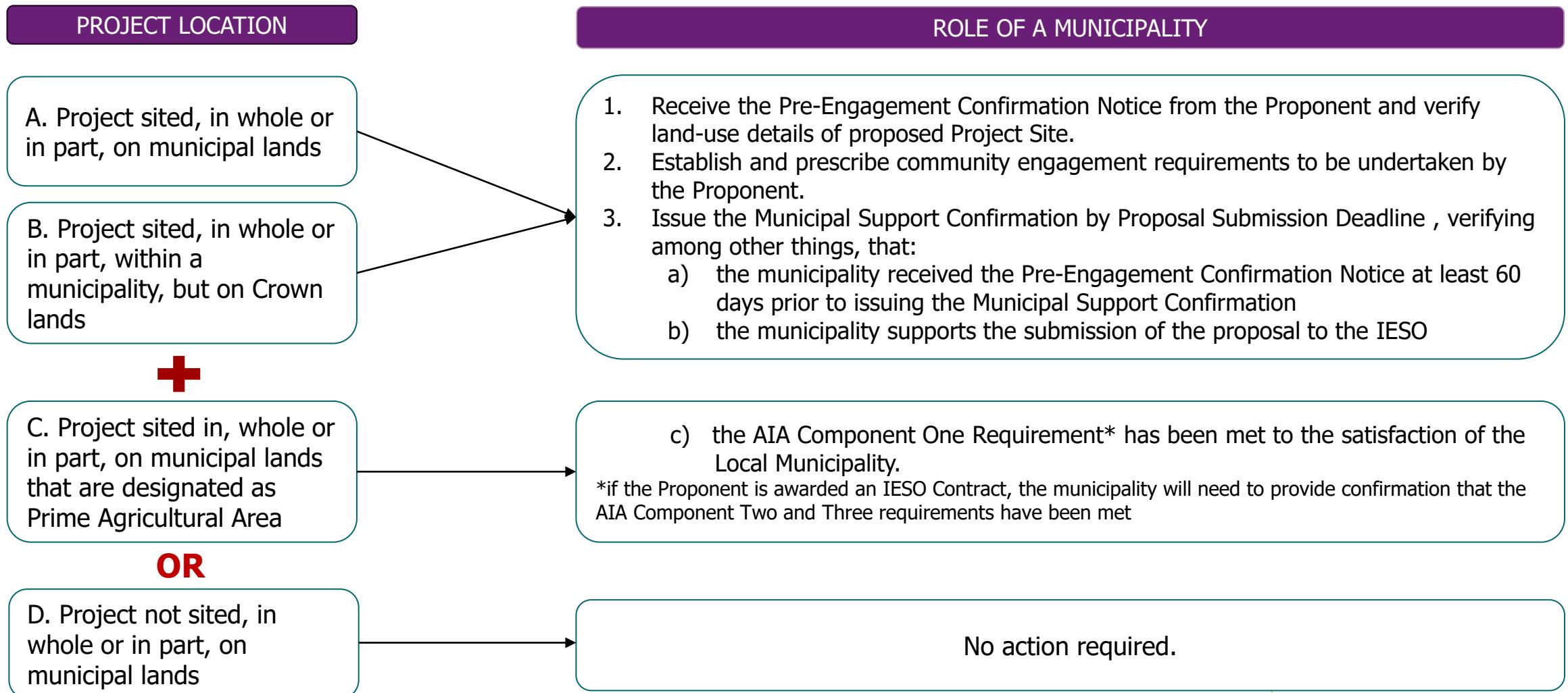
## Feedback

- Municipal Support Confirmations should be issued after all approvals are granted due to concerns that municipality may face real or perceived risks should a project be denied a contract or other permits.
- The municipal elections may create some challenges related timing for Municipal Support Confirmations; the IESO should plan outreach and training for newly elected councils after the 2026 municipal election.
- Municipalities want clearer alignment between IESO RFP timelines and provincial source water protection approvals and that Proponents provide municipalities with complete information on source water and Indigenous engagement.

## Response

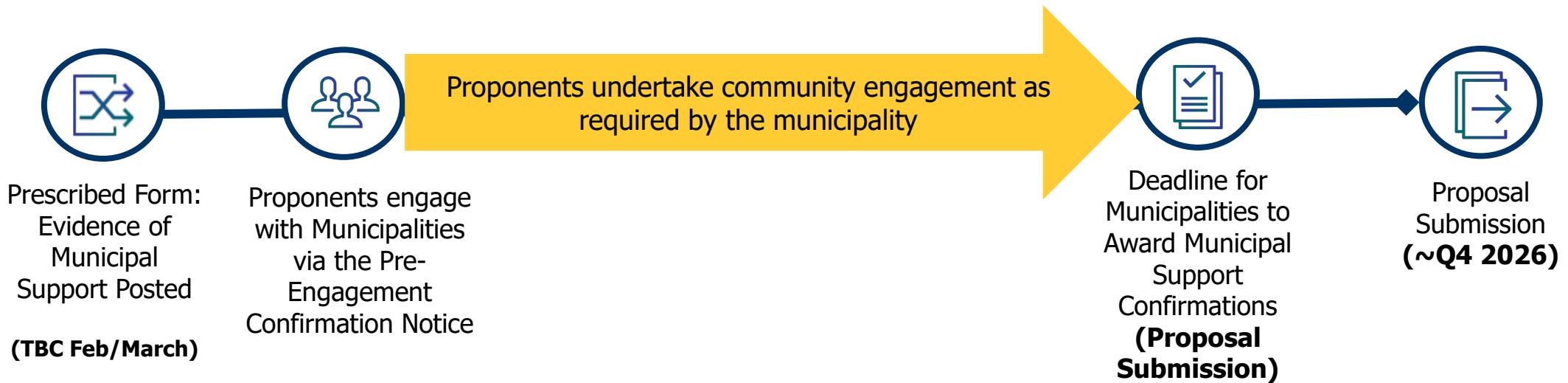
- ✓ The Municipal Support Confirmation is meant to confirm that the municipality supports the submission of the project to the IESO; an MSC does not guarantee that a project will be awarded an IESO contract and does not supersede any applicable Laws and Regulations. Municipalities can decide what activities need to be completed prior to issuing municipal support for a project.
- ✓ Key dates have been considered and have been reflected in the IESO proposed deadlines for municipal support confirmations as communicated in this webinar. The IESO can confirm that it is working on post-election outreach plans to build awareness with incoming councils.
- ✓ As part of municipal engagement efforts, Proponents should consult the source protection plan for the municipality and be prepared to discuss this with the municipality, if applicable. Project developers are required to follow all applicable Laws and Regulations.
- ✓ Proponents will be encouraged to provide municipalities with updates on their progress with Indigenous engagement, especially in instances where Indigenous communities may be unsupportive of projects.

# Role of Municipalities



# LLT Community Engagement Overview with Timelines\*

The IESO has encouraged Proponents to engage with communities early. To help municipalities anticipate the process, an example activity timeline snapshot is provided below.



\*These timelines are approximate and are subject to change depending when final policy direction is received from the Ministry, and when final RFPs and Contracts are posted.

# Future Engagement

The IESO will continue engaging municipalities on the LLT RFP with plans to:

- 1) Release usable Prescribed Form: Evidence of Municipal Support**
- 2) Release another set of draft procurement documents** incorporating feedback and issue final documents prior to procurement launch
- 3) Provide support materials** including:
  - i. Municipal Guide
- 4) Host a Q&A engagement** after final documents are posted covering RFP components like rated criteria points; may include relevant ministries (TBD)

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# Next Steps

- The **IESO invites written feedback by February 13, 2026.** All written feedback should be submitted to [engagement@ieso.ca](mailto:engagement@ieso.ca).
- The IESO will continue engaging prior to the release of final Long Lead-Time RFP and contract.
- To stay informed, please subscribe to receive email communications at [www.ieso.ca/subscribe](http://www.ieso.ca/subscribe).

# Thank You

## STAY INVOLVED

-  Learn more at [www.ieso.ca/learn](http://www.ieso.ca/learn)
-  Subscribe to updates at [IESO.ca/subscribe](http://IESO.ca/subscribe)
-  Download the IESO's Municipal Toolkit
-  Join an engagement

## CONTACT

-  [IndigenousRelations@ieso.ca](mailto:IndigenousRelations@ieso.ca)
-  [CommunityEngagement@ieso.ca](mailto:CommunityEngagement@ieso.ca)

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