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MEDIA ADVISORY

## Tuesday, June 13, 2023

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## FOUR RIVERS ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES HOSTS WATER & ENVIRONMENT GATHERING 2023

**THUNDER BAY, ON:** Four Rivers Environmental Services Group (Four Rivers) today, announced they are hosting the Water & Environment Gathering 2023 It is scheduled to take place from June 13 – 15, 2023 at in Thunder Bay at the Fort William Historical Park in the traditional territory of Fort William First Nation.

The Matawa Water Futures (MWF) project was developed through the Global Water Futures project to advance Indigenous-informed water science to support decision-making and water stewardship in the Matawa First Nation (MFN) homelands and traditional territories in Northern Ontario. The objective for the end of the MWF project is to hold a large water-themed gathering, inviting all MFN communities to attend to celebrate the value and sacredness of water, as well as share observations and scientific knowledge about the water, and share progress in water and environmental stewardship programs.

A vital piece that has supported this project over the years has been the relationships built within our communities, as well as those relationships built with other nations and organizations. In keeping with this appreciation of fostering and maintaining relationships, we have invited Indigenous groups and environmental organizations around Canada, as well as New Zealand, who are working in water and environmental initiatives or programs, overall advancing Indigenous stewardship within their own homelands to attend this gathering.

This gathering is an opportunity to: (1) To share knowledge and learn from each other about water relationships, values and perspectives, as well as water & environmental stewardship practices and policies and (2) Facilitate opportunities for collaboration and relationship-building.

Members of the media are cordially invited to attend.

Date: Wednesday, June 14, 2023

Time: 1:00 – 4:00 pm EST

Location: Fort William Historical Park, Thunder Bay, Ontario

-30

**For more information, please contact** Carol Audet, Matawa Communications Manager at (807) 632-9663 or by email at <u>caudet@matawa.on.ca</u>.