



Impact Assessment
Agency of Canada

Agence d'évaluation
d'impact du Canada

President

Président

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July 15, 2021

Dear Members of the Indigenous Advisory Committee:

Thank you for the advice you have provided to the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) on Indigenous Knowledge, Collaboration and Cooperation, and Assessing Impacts on Rights. We are carefully considering your advice and I am confident that it will inform and influence our work for the better.

As we enter the third year of the Indigenous Advisory Committee's (IAC) mandate, I look forward to building on the momentum this Committee has established. There are three key areas in which I would most value IAC's ongoing input and support this year:

1. **Indigenous Knowledge Tools in Impact Assessment:** Advice and input on tools to support practitioners dealing with Indigenous Knowledge (e.g., standards for reviewing Indigenous knowledge in proponent submissions, templates for confidentiality agreements).
2. **Further Work on Collaboration Agreements:** Advice to the Agency on a model Collaboration Agreement approach that integrates IAC's "Principles to Inform Collaboration Agreements Between Indigenous Nations and the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada."
3. **Assessing Impacts on Rights:** Advice to proponents, the Agency and practitioners on working with Indigenous communities during the planning phase.
4. **Emerging Issues:** Providing timely advice to respond to emerging issues identified by the Agency as well as on any key emerging issues identified by the Committee.

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The Agency is also keenly interested in the joint work being pursued with the Technical Advisory Committee on western science and Indigenous knowledge, and is looking forward to discussing how the two committees can build on this collaboration in the coming year.

I look forward to receiving your collective advice in these priority areas. Your work is critical to the continued success and improvement of Canada's impact assessment processes, and in our continued efforts towards reconciliation with Indigenous peoples.

Sincerely,

David McGovern