

# IAAC ASSESSMENTS, By the Numbers

## Planning Phase: 19

- Planning Phase (Ongoing): 6
- Planning Phase (Ended): 13
  - Impact Assessment Not Required: 4
  - Proponent Terminated: 1
  - Impact Assessments Required (Notice of Commencement issued): 6
  - Impact Assessments Required (Substituted): 2

## Impact Statement Phase 6

- Agency-led Assessments 4
- Review Panel 1
- Integrated Review Panel 1

## Substituted Assessments (British Columbia) 2

## Regional Assessments 3

- Regional Assessments Completed 1
- Regional Assessments Planning 2

## Strategic Assessments 1

- Strategic Assessments Completed 1

## Requests for Assessments: 49

- **Requests to Designate Projects** 41
  - Projects Designated 5
  - Designation Request (Ongoing) 3
- **Requests for Regional Assessments** 7
  - Requests Accepted 2
  - Request for Regional Assessments (Ongoing) 0
- **Request for Strategic Assessments** 1
  - Request for Strategic Assessments (Ongoing) 0

## Anticipated for Next Nine Months (Apr-Dec):

• Receipt of Project Descriptions: 8-14

• Projects Entering Impact Statement Phase: 4-5

• Receipt of Impact Statements: 2

• Projects Entering Impact Assessment Phase: 0

• Impact Assessment Decisions: 1

## Ongoing CEAA 2012 Assessments: 42

- Agency-led: 30
- Substituted: 7
- Review Panel: 5

## Anticipated Environmental Assessment (EA) Decisions: 7-9

(February 1, 2022- October 31, 2022)

## EA Decisions (since August 2012) 38

EA Decisions (since August 2019) 14

## List and status of RA/SAs and Designation requests

**Status of Regional and Strategic Assessments, and Requests for these Assessments**

All Regional and Strategic Assessments, as well relevant requests for, including their status and all related documents, are included on the dedicated IAAC webpage on [Regional and Strategic Assessments](#). The table below provides an overview of the **three regional assessments (RA)** and **one strategic assessment (SA)**, as well as the **seven requests for RAs** and **one request for a SA**.

<b>Regional Assessments (3)</b>		
<b>Regional Assessment</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Decision date</b>
<a href="#">Ring of Fire Area in Northern Ontario</a>	Planning in Progress	
<a href="#">St. Lawrence River Regional Assessment</a>	Planning in Progress	
<a href="#">Offshore Oil and Gas Exploratory Drilling East of Newfoundland and Labrador</a>	Post-RA Activities	04/06/2020
<b>Minister's Response to Request: RA Warranted (2)</b>		
<a href="#">Ring of Fire (ON) x3 – EJSC, James Bay Lowlands, WCS</a>	RA warranted	10/02/2020
<a href="#">St. Lawrence River Regional Assessment</a>	RA warranted	15/07/2021
<b>Minister's Response to Request: RA Not Warranted (5)</b>		
<a href="#">Coal Development in Southwest Alberta</a>	RA not warranted	16/06/2021
<a href="#">Western Energy Corridor</a>	RA not warranted	21/06/2021
<a href="#">Toronto Danforth area including lands on the west side of the Don River</a>	RA not warranted	19/07/2021
<a href="#">Radioactive Disposal in the Ottawa Valley</a>	RA not warranted	30/07/2021
<a href="#">Regional Assessment of Infilling in Halifax Harbour</a>	RA not warranted	30/11/2021
<b>Strategic Assessments (1)</b>		
<b>Strategic Assessment</b>	<b>Request Status</b>	<b>Decision date</b>
<a href="#">Strategic Assessment of Climate Change</a>	Completed, ECCC developing technical guidelines	08/2019
<b>Minister's Response to Request: SA Not Warranted (1)</b>		
<a href="#">In Situ Decommissioning of Nuclear Facilities</a>	SA not warranted	05/07/2021

## List and status of RA/SAs and Designation requests

**Status of Requests to Designate Physical Activities and Ministerial Responses<sup>1</sup>**

All designation requests are posted on IAAC's Registry when the request is received and deemed to be an official request. Related documents, including the Minister's Response, are also available on the Registry. The table below includes the **41 designation requests under the *Impact Assessment Act***, including ongoing requests and related correspondence. Under CEAA 2012, the Agency received 35 requests.

<b>Designation Requests: Ongoing (3)</b>		
<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>Response date<sup>2</sup></b>
<a href="#">Lambert La Ronge Peat Harvest Project</a>	Ongoing	06/05/2022
<a href="#">Tenas</a>	Ongoing	21/06/2022
<a href="#">Northern Pulp Mill Transformation and Effluent Treatment Facility Project</a>	Ongoing	30/05/2022
<b>Minister's Response: Designation Warranted (5)</b>		
<a href="#">Fording River</a>	Project designated by the Minister	18/08/2020
<a href="#">Highway 413 (GTA West)</a>	Project designated by the Minister	03/05/2021
<a href="#">Tent Mountain Coal Mine Expansion</a>	Project designated by the Minister	28/06/2021
<a href="#">Coalspur Vista Coal Underground Mine</a>	Projects designated by the Minister <sup>3</sup>	29/09/2021
<a href="#">Coalspur Vista Coal Mine Phase II Expansion</a>	Projects designated by the Minister <sup>2</sup>	29/09/2021
<b>Minister's Response: Designation Not Warranted (30)</b>		
<a href="#">Goldboro Gold Mine*</a>	Designation not warranted	12/12/2019
<a href="#">Reid Road Reservoir Quarry*</a>	Designation not warranted	12/12/2019
<a href="#">Rycroft Alternative Water Hub Facility*</a>	Designation not warranted	12/12/2019
<a href="#">Xplornet Telecommunications Tower*</a>	Designation not warranted	12/12/2019
<a href="#">600 Creek Drainage Network*</a>	Designation not warranted	13/12/2019
<a href="#">Atwater Drainage Network*</a>	Designation not warranted	13/12/2019
<a href="#">Blackbird Creek Drainage Network*</a>	Designation not warranted	13/12/2019
<a href="#">Brooksby Drainage Network*</a>	Designation not warranted	13/12/2019
<a href="#">Dry Lake Drainage Network*</a>	Designation not warranted	13/12/2019
<a href="#">Lang Creek West Drainage Network*</a>	Designation not warranted	13/12/2019
<a href="#">Saline Lake Drainage Network*</a>	Designation not warranted	13/12/2019

<sup>1</sup> All Ministerial Responses listed were issued under the IAA. Those denoted with an \* were requested under CEAA 2012.

<sup>2</sup> Anticipated dates of Ministerial responses.

<sup>3</sup> December 20, 2019, Minister's response for the existing Vista Coal Mine Phase I Project (open-pit surface coal mine) – designation not warranted: [Minister's Response](#); July 30, 2020, Minister's response for the Vista Coal Underground Mine Project and Vista Coal Mine Phase II Expansion Project – designation warranted: [Minister's Response](#); September 29, 2021, the Minister re-designated these physical activities following the July 2021 Federal Court decision to quash the designation order.

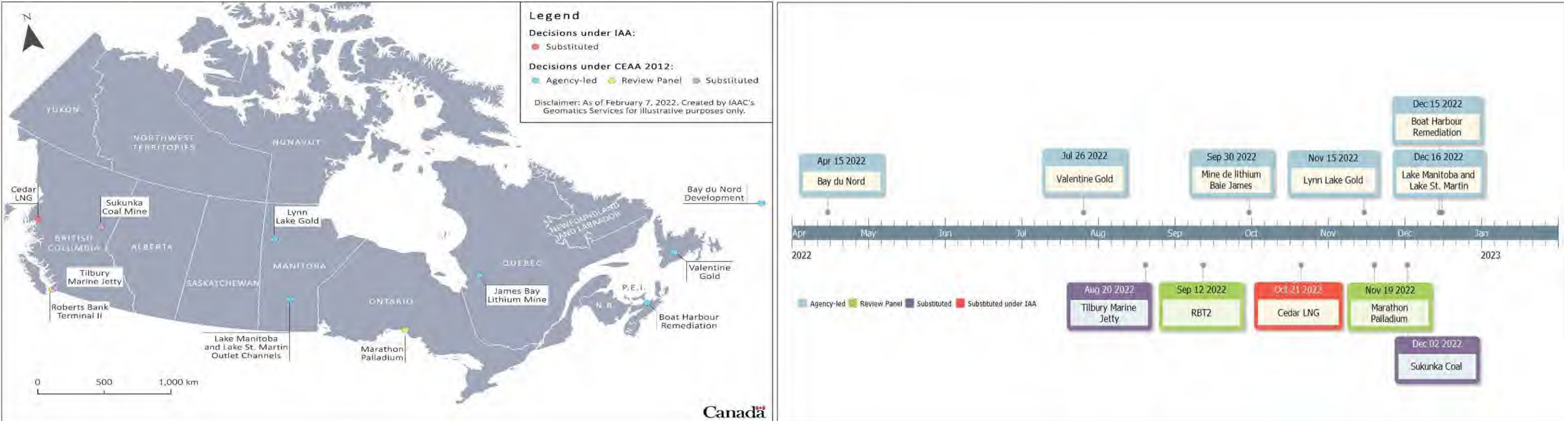
## List and status of RA/SAs and Designation requests

<a href="#">Vipond Drainage Network*</a>	Designation not warranted	13/12/2019
<a href="#">Wascana Block A Drainage Network*</a>	Designation not warranted	13/12/2019
<a href="#">Northern Pulp Replacement Effluent Treatment Facility*</a>	Designation not warranted	16/12/2019
<a href="#">West Path Delivery Projects</a>	Designation not warranted	27/05/2020
<a href="#">CanPacific Potash - Project Albany</a>	Designation not warranted	26/08/2020
<a href="#">Surrey-Langley Sky Train</a>	Designation not warranted	28/09/2020
<a href="#">Vivian Sand Processing Facility Project and Vivian Sand Extraction</a>	Designation not warranted	16/11/2020
<a href="#">Great Sandhills Railway Switching Operation at North West Terminal</a>	Designation not warranted	19/01/2021
<a href="#">Ontario Line</a>	Designation not warranted	16/04/2021
<a href="#">Bradford Bypass</a>	Designation not warranted	03/05/2021
<a href="#">Town of Erin Urban Centre Wastewater Treatment Plant</a>	Designation not warranted	26/05/2021
<a href="#">CP Logistics Park: Vancouver</a>	Designation not warranted	04/11/2021
<a href="#">Pitt Meadows Road and Rail Improvements Project</a>	Designation not warranted	04/11/2021
<a href="#">Lake Diefenbaker Irrigation Expansion Projects</a>	Designation not warranted <sup>4</sup>	04/11/2021
<a href="#">Touquoy Gold Mine Expansion</a>	Designation not warranted	05/11/2021
<a href="#">Meltech Industrial Building</a>	Designation not warranted	21/11/2021
<a href="#">Vivian Sand Project (reconsideration)</a>	Designation not warranted	07/12/2021
<a href="#">PADCOM Potash Solution Mining</a>	Designation not warranted	14/02/2022
<b>Minister's Response: Minister Cannot Designate (4)</b>		
<a href="#">Broadway Subway</a>	Minister cannot designate per subsection 9(7) limitation	28/09/2020
<a href="#">Highway 101 Twinning Phase II Aboiteau and Bridges</a>	Minister cannot designate per subsection 9(7) limitation	11/05/2021
<a href="#">Long Pond Development</a>	Minister cannot designate per subsection 9(7) limitation	03/08/2021
<a href="#">The Ottawa Hospital Civic Campus Project</a>	Minister cannot designate per subsection 9(7) limitation	08/02/2022
<b>Ministerial Correspondence Related to a Previous Requests and Responses (3)</b>		
Canso Spaceport	Complete	11/02/2021
Bradford Bypass	Complete	10/02/2022
Vivian Sand Facility	Ongoing	

<sup>4</sup> Minister's response notes in its reasons that there is insufficient information to determine a number of considerations, including the applicability of the Physical Activities Regulations. The Agency is requiring further information from the Proponent; the Agency has committed to evaluating this information without a new designation request.



ANTICIPATED ASSESSMENT DECISION-MAKING - 9 MONTH LOOK AHEAD (APRIL – DECEMBER 2022)



Project Name	Bay Du Nord (NL)	James Bay Lithium Mine (QC)	Valentine Gold (NL)	Sukunka Coal (BC)	Tilbury Marine Jetty (BC)	Roberts Bank Terminal 2 (BC)	Cedar LNG (BC)	Lynn Lake Gold (MB)	Marathon Palladium (ON)	Boat Harbour Remediation (NS)	Lk. Manitoba and Lk St. Martin (MB)
Project Type	Offshore Oil & Gas	Lithium Mine (Critical Mineral)	Gold Mine	Metallurgical Coal Mine	LNG Transport Jetty	Marine Terminal	LNG Processing Facility and Terminal	Gold Mine	Palladium Mine (Critical Mineral)	Waste Management and Remediation	Water Management
Capital Investment	\$10.9 Billion (life of project)	\$507 million	\$662 million (life of project)	\$443.7 million	\$260 million	\$2.5 billion (for construction)	\$2.5 billion	\$493 million	\$1.067 billion (life of project)	\$311 million	\$540 million
Next Ministerial Decision*	April 2022	September 2022	July 2022	December 2022	August 2022	September 2022	October 2022	November 2022	November 2022	December 2022	December 2022
Assessment Type	Agency-led	Agency-led (jointly with Cree)	Agency-led	Substituted (province-led)	Substituted (province-led)	Review Panel	Substituted under IAA (province-led)	Agency-led	Joint Review Panel	Agency-led	Agency-led
Current Status / Next Milestone	GIC extended Minister's Significance decisions by 40 days (April 15)	EA Report to Minister in April 2022.	Review of proponent responses and submit EA Report to Minister June 2022	BC submits report to IAAC in June 2022	EA Report to Minister July 2022	Comment Period on Draft Conditions and responses to Information Request March 2022	BC submits IA Report to Minister by late Summer 2022	Submission of outstanding information April 2022	Start of public hearings March 2022	Review of proponent info – Outstanding info still required from proponent	Submission of outstanding information May 2022
Provincial Status	No provincial EA	Provincial EA under James Bay Agreement	Provincial EA, approved	BC leading substituted EA, ongoing	BC leading substituted EA, ongoing	BC EA to be concluded after federal decision	BC leading substituted IA, ongoing	Provincial EA, ongoing	Joint Review, ongoing	No provincial EA. NS funding. Proponent is a NS Crown corp	Provincial EA, ongoing
Key Issues / Considerations	Noise on marine mammals; GHGs; Cap on Oil & Gas	Cumulative effects of road traffic and water management	Surface and groundwater quality	SARA (Southern Mountain Caribou); Selenium; Impacts on Indigenous rights	Cumulative effects of marine shipping (Southern Resident Killer Whale; Indigenous rights)	Cumulative effects on Southern Resident Killer Whale; Salmon; Biofilm; Impacts on Indigenous rights	Cap on Oil & Gas; Indigenous-led project; Marine shipping	SARA (Woodland Boreal Caribou); Air; Ground and surface water; Indigenous impacts	SARA (Woodland Boreal Caribou); Water quality and quantity; Impacts to Indigenous rights	Lack of support from Pictou Landing First Nation for disposal location	Effects to fish and fish habitat; Impacts on Indigenous communities

Note: As of March 22, 2022

\*Dates contingent on the timing and quality of project information from proponents

## **IMPACT ASSESSMENT AGENCY OF CANADA MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH NATURAL SCIENCES AND ENGINEERING RESEARCH COUNCIL OF CANADA**

### **Question: What is the objective of the Agency's MOU with NSERC?**

#### **Response:**

The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) entered into a three-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC) in October 2021. Through this mechanism, the Agency can provide funding to recipients of NSERC scholarships conducting research related to impact assessment.

The funding is supplemental. It is provided to existing NSERC award holders at the post-graduate and/or post-doctoral levels.

For the 2021–22 fiscal year, the first year of the partnership, the Agency provided supplemental funding for 15 projects for a total of \$155,000 (\$150,000 in grants transferred (\$10,000 for each recipient) plus \$5,000 in operating funds). The funds went to students at different universities across Canada, conducting research on a variety of different environmental topics of importance to impact assessment, such as impacts on marine mammals, protecting biodiversity, and remediation.

#### **Background:**

The Agency's MOU with NSERC contributes to the implementation of the Agency's Research Program. This program aims to support the new impact assessment system by providing research and evidence related to the field of impact assessment, forging partnerships (e.g., with institutions, organizations, governments, other federal departments, etc.), and disseminating knowledge, while also allowing NSERC to provide additional funding to successful applicants. The amount of funds transferred through this agreement is subject to the availability of Agency grant funding in a given fiscal year. The payments that NSERC made with this funding to the researchers (listed in the table to the right) will be in NSERC's awards database and proactively disclosed on the Government of Canada website this summer. The Agency's transfer of funds to NSERC "for research in the field of impact assessment" is published in the TBS Supplemental Estimates C publications.

IAAC supplement recipients	
Tenure institution	Title
Alberta	Optimizing the coupling of persulfate oxidation and microbial degradation for the remediation of oil sands naphthenic acids
Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue	Quantification de l'utilisation des structures linéaires par les prédateurs du Caribou forestier.
Laurentian	Connectivity by design: protecting biodiversity in fragmented habitats
Victoria	Nearshore habitat use, estuarine residency, and conservation priorities for Pacific Salmon in the Salish Sea.
Simon Fraser	Sound Marine Management: Integrating Marine Bioacoustics into Habitat Protection, Spatial Planning, and Policy.
British Columbia	Linking Caribou population trends to nutritional landscapes following habitat alteration
Carleton	Measurement and Mitigation of Methane and Black Carbon Emissions in the Oil and Gas Sector
Dalhousie	Balancing ecological, social and economic outcomes in Nova Scotia's lobster fisheries
British Columbia	Cumulative impacts of climate change and habitat alteration on migratory shorebirds
Saskatchewan	Geochemical implications of soil covers on oil sands sulfide tailings
New Brunswick	Validating the ability of autonomous, mobile, undersea gliders to detect North Atlantic right whale prey populations using a multi-frequency echosounder
University College Dublin	Exploring the role of native tundra legumes in restoring soil health and ecosystem functioning at degraded mining sites in Northern Canada
McMaster	Perturbations in ovarian function associated with exposure to petroleum-derived polycyclic aromatic compounds
Dalhousie	Whale Watching from the Stars: Surveying baleen whales in the Gulf of St. Lawrence using VHR satellite imagery
Ottawa	Génétique du paysage et mouvement des tortues et poissons évoluant au sein de systèmes aquatiques anthropisés