

Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan – Template

IMPACT ASSESSMENT AGENCY OF CANADA
IMPACT ASSESSMENT INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT AND PARTNERSHIP PLAN FOR
THE [Project name]
[Date of Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan]

1. Introduction

On [Month, Day, Year], the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) determined that an impact assessment is required for the [Project name] (“the Project”), pursuant to Section 16 of Canada’s *Impact Assessment Act*.

The Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan outlines opportunities and methods for meaningful engagement and consultation with potentially affected Indigenous peoples throughout the impact assessment process for the Project. The Plan is intended to be flexible and does not preclude the Agency from making changes to the approaches described in this Plan in order to accommodate changes that may occur during the assessment process.

Throughout this Plan, Indigenous community/communities refers to Indigenous peoples connected by Nation, Band, geographical location, community roles and other shared values and identities. Within the context of the impact assessment process, the Agency encourages the active participation of a diversity of Indigenous community members including, but not limited to Chief and Council and other formal administrative bodies.

Throughout this Plan, engagement refers to the spectrum of engagement defined in the Interim Policy Context for Indigenous Participation in Impact Assessment, and consultation refers to the Government of Canada’s duty to consult potentially affected Indigenous peoples.

To complement this broader Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan, community-specific consultation plans may be developed to describe an Indigenous community’s specific objectives for consultation, or any unique features of the impact assessment and consultation process pertaining to that community.

2. Description of the Proposed Project

[Project name]

[Description of the project and impact assessment]

3. Objectives of Indigenous Engagement and Partnership

The plan for Indigenous engagement and partnership on this project addresses:

- Crown consultation on the potential impacts of the project on the exercise of Aboriginal and/or treaty rights
- Engagement with Indigenous communities regarding Indigenous knowledge they may wish to apply when considering potential impacts, or any other cultural considerations and customs that should be taken into account in project decision-making

[List of additional objectives of Indigenous engagement and partnership]

Indigenous communities have identified the following objectives and interests related to engagement in the impact assessment process:

[List of identified objectives of Indigenous engagement and partnership, based on initial feedback during the Planning Phase]

4. Indigenous Communities

The following is a list of Indigenous communities and/or jurisdictions identified by the Agency for Crown consultation related to the impact assessment of the Project, on the basis that the project may adversely impact the exercise of Aboriginal and/or treaty rights:

First Nations, Métis, Inuit

[List of Indigenous communities and jurisdictions that may be directly affected by the project]

In addition, the following communities have indicated an interest in engaging in the impact assessment process, as outlined in the Engagement and Partnership Table in section 6 of this Plan:

[List of additional Indigenous groups that have an interest in the impact assessment]

5. Engagement and Consultation Tools and Methods

During the Planning Phase, Indigenous peoples identified the following means by which to ensure meaningful engagement and consultation in the assessment process:

[List of preferred methods and tools for engagement that have been identified by Indigenous communities]

6. Engagement and Consultation Approach

The table below provides a description of the main phases in the impact assessment process and an explanation as to how the Agency, on behalf of the federal Crown, proposes to engage and consult with Indigenous groups during each phase. This table describes objectives of each phase and engagement methods, including Crown-Indigenous collaboration opportunities throughout the impact assessment process.

Table 6.1 – Table of Indigenous Engagement Approaches and Activities

Process Phase	Objectives of the Phase	Expected Activities (Agency/Other Jurisdiction/Proponent)	Public Participation Tool	Time Lines
Impact Statement	[List of objectives specific to the Impact Statement Phase]	[List of expected activities in the Impact Statement Phase, including who the main actors are]	[List of selected engagement tools]	[Input the duration of activities next to the selected engagement tools listed in the adjacent column]
Impact Assessment	[List of objectives in the Impact Assessment Phase]	[List of expected activities in the Impact Assessment Phase, including who the main actors are]	[List of selected engagement tools] Online comments* on draft Impact Assessment Report	[Input the duration of activities next to the selected engagement tools listed in the adjacent column]
Decision-Making	[List of objectives in the Decision Making Phase]	[List of expected activities in the Decision-Making Phase, including who the main actors are]	-	-
Post-Impact Assessment Decision Phase	[List of objectives in the Post-Impact Assessment Decision Phase]	[List of expected activities in the Post-Impact Assessment Decision Phase, including who the main actors are]	[List of selected engagement tools] Online comments* on potential amendments to Decision Statement	[Input the duration of activities next to the selected engagement tools listed in the adjacent column]

* All comments received throughout Indigenous engagement and consultation activities will be made publicly available on the Agency's Impact Assessment Registry site at <https://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/050/evaluations/?culture=en-CA>. A summary of comments received will also be included in the Impact Assessment Panel Report.

7. Participant Funding

Funding to support Indigenous participation is available. For information about the activities that are eligible for funding or to apply for funding please see the National Program Guidelines and application on the following page <https://www.canada.ca/en/environmental-assessment-agency/services/public-participation/participant-funding-application-environmental-assessment.html>.

8. Federal Agencies' Roles and Responsibilities

The Regulatory Permitting Plan issued at the end of the Planning Phase will describe the permits and authorizations that may be required for the designated project to proceed as well as a list of federal authorities with an interest in the Project. For the purpose of the impact assessment and consultation process, Table 8.1 below identifies the federal participants who may have specialist or expert information or knowledge with respect to the designated Project, and wish to participate in the impact assessment process.

Table 8.1 – Federal Departments and Agencies' Roles and Responsibilities

Federal Agency	Roles and Responsibilities	Areas of Expertise
[List of Federal Agencies]	[Roles and responsibilities of the federal agency]	[Area of expertise provided by the federal agency]

9. Contact Information

The Agency office designated for administering the impact assessment of the Project is:

[Include contact information of the Agency's regional office overseeing the impact assessment]