

# FEDERAL CONTAMINATED SITES MANAGEMENT

ECCC Mandate Letter  
Commitment

FCSAP Secretariat  
February 28, 2023



Environment and  
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et  
Changement climatique Canada

Canada 

# MANDATE LETTER COMMITMENT OVERVIEW

- December 2021 letter from the Prime Minister to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change - Minister Guilbeault

**“Identify, and prioritize the clean-up of, contaminated sites in areas where Indigenous Peoples, racialized, and low-income Canadians live.”**

- Recognize the ‘right to a healthy environment’ in federal law through changes to the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act*
  - Every Minister has been directed to implement the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)
-

# MANDATE LETTER COMMITMENT OVERVIEW



Mandate  
Commitment to:  
“Identify and  
prioritize the clean-  
up of contaminated  
sites in areas where  
Indigenous,  
racialized, and low-  
income Canadians  
live”

Canada



Sites **already** eligible for FCSAP funding:

- All Class 1, 2, 3 federal sites on reserve lands, federal additions to reserve lands, and in the territories, regardless of when the contamination occurred
- Assessment and clean-up of high priority (i.e. Class 1 and ongoing Class 2) legacy (i.e. pre-1998) federal contaminated sites that happen to be in a community linked to the mandate commitment
- In addition to FCSAP, CIRNAC’s Northern Abandoned Mines Program addresses the 8 largest contaminated sites in the territories

# MANDATE LETTER COMMITMENT POTENTIAL APPROACH



Mandate  
Commitment to:  
“Identify and  
prioritize the clean-  
up of contaminated  
sites in areas where  
Indigenous,  
racialized, and low-  
income Canadians  
live”

Canada



Focus on **federal** contaminated sites

- Sites meeting the Mandate Letter criteria may be eligible for FCSAP funding, however currently may not be a priority for funding or there may not be enough funding and capacity in government and partners to advance work at all of these sites



## Identifying possible federal sites

- **CONTINUE** Sites on reserve lands, in the Territories
- **NEW** Use Statistics Canada data at granular level to identify places with high-prevalence (greater than 25%) of (1) Indigenous Peoples (in addition to reserves and territories), (2) visible minorities and (3) low-income Canadians



**Preliminary results of possible sites for action: Indigenous 2,640; racialized 260; and low-income 960**

# **OPEN DISCUSSION**

**How would you like to be involved in the planning, identification and prioritization of sites identified in the Mandate Letter Commitment?**

**For non-reserve sites, has past dialogue between federal custodians and Indigenous communities resulted in sites being prioritized for clean-up, for reasons like importance for traditional resources?**

---