Environment and Climate Change Canada
Environnement et Changement climatique Canada

FEDERAL CONTAMINATED SITES MANAGEMENT

Engagement with Nations in the Eastern Region

FCSAP Secretariat
February 28, 2023

Environment and Climate Change Canada's 50th anniversary
50e anniversaire d'Environnement et Changement climatique Canada
Meteorological Service of Canada's 150th anniversary
150e anniversaire du Service météorologique du Canada

Canada

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

- Purpose & Objectives
- Introduction to Contaminated Sites
- Federal Contaminated Site Programs in Canada
- What is the Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan?
  - Progress to date (Phases I to IV)
  - Program renewal (Phases V, VI)
  - Collaboration with partners
- Federal Sites in Eastern Region
  - ON / ATL
- Additional information

PURPOSE OF ENGAGEMENT

PURPOSE:

To carry out meaningful engagement in determining how Indigenous governments can be further involved in the:

- *Management of federal contaminated sites;*
- *Federal program delivery process, and*
- *Prioritization of sites to better support their communities.*

ENGAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

To gain insight from First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples on:

1) ***Identifying priorities & gaps related to the management of federal contaminated sites;***
2) ***How to become further involved in the contaminated sites prioritization & delivery process;***
3) ***Identifying information, training and tools to assist communities in actively participating in the management of federal contaminated sites; and***
4) ***The inclusion of other voices throughout all phases of engagement.***

WHAT IS A FEDERAL CONTAMINATED SITE?

According to the definition adopted by the Government of Canada, a contaminated site is defined as a site at which substances occur at concentrations:

1) above background levels and pose or are likely to pose an immediate or long-term hazard to human health or the environment, or

2) exceeding levels specified in policies and regulations.

What are federal contaminated sites?

- On lands owned or leased by the federal government
- On non-federal lands for which the gov't has accepted responsibility

FEDERAL CONTAMINATED SITE PROGRAMS IN CANADA

The 3 main programs that support & fund the clean-up of federal contaminated sites across Canada are:

- Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan **(FCSAP)**
- Contaminated Sites On-Reserve Program **(CSOR)**
- Northern Contaminated Sites Program **(NCSP)**

WHAT IS THE FEDERAL CONTAMINATED SITES ACTION PLAN (FCSAP)

- Established by the Government of Canada in 2005, **FCSAP** provides funding to federal departments, agencies and consolidated Crown corporations (referred to as custodians) to manage the contaminated sites they are responsible for.

FCSAP Objectives

- Reducing risks to human health and the environment
- Reducing associated environmental liabilities from sites

- FCSAP uses a standardized approach to examine risks to human health and the environment to prioritize sites for action
  - **Class 1 sites (high priority for action)**
  - **Class 2 sites (medium priority for action)**
  - **Class 3 sites (low priority for action)**

FCSAP PROGRAM

SITE APPROACH

FCSAP 10-STEP PROCESS

Step 1: Identify Suspect Site

Step 2: Historical Review (Phase I ESA)

Step 3: Initial Testing (Phase II ESA)

Step 4: Classify Site (Optional)

Step 5: Detailed Testing (Phase III ESA)

Step 6: Reclassify Site

Assessment Phase

Step 7: Develop Remediation/Risk Management Strategy

Step 8: Implement Remediation/Risk Management Strategy

Step 9: Confirmatory Sampling and Final Report

Step 10: Long-Term Monitoring

Remediation Phase

FEDERAL CONTAMINATED SITES APPROACH – AN OVERVIEW

- **IDENTIFY SUSPECT SITES**
  - Identify potentially contaminated sites on the basis of past or current activities on or near the site.
- **ASSESSMENT**
  - Conduct environmental site assessments to determine the nature and extent of contamination and to determine whether remediation or risk-management activities are required.
- **REMEDIATION**
  - Develop and implement the site-specific plan that addresses contamination issues.
- **LONG-TERM MONITORING**
  - If required, conduct long-term monitoring to ensure that remediation and long-term risk-management goals are achieved.

FEDERAL CONTAMINATED SITES INVENTORY (FCSI)

The federal government keeps an inventory of federal contaminated sites; this inventory is:

- Publicly available
- Updated annually
- Accessible at: https://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/fcsi-rscf/home-accueil-eng.aspx

ACHIEVEMENTS TO DATE

After 17 years of FCSAP (2005-2022)

$5.0 billion investment

- World-class contaminated sites management industry in Canada

2,600 sites with remediation

- 1,800 fully remediated

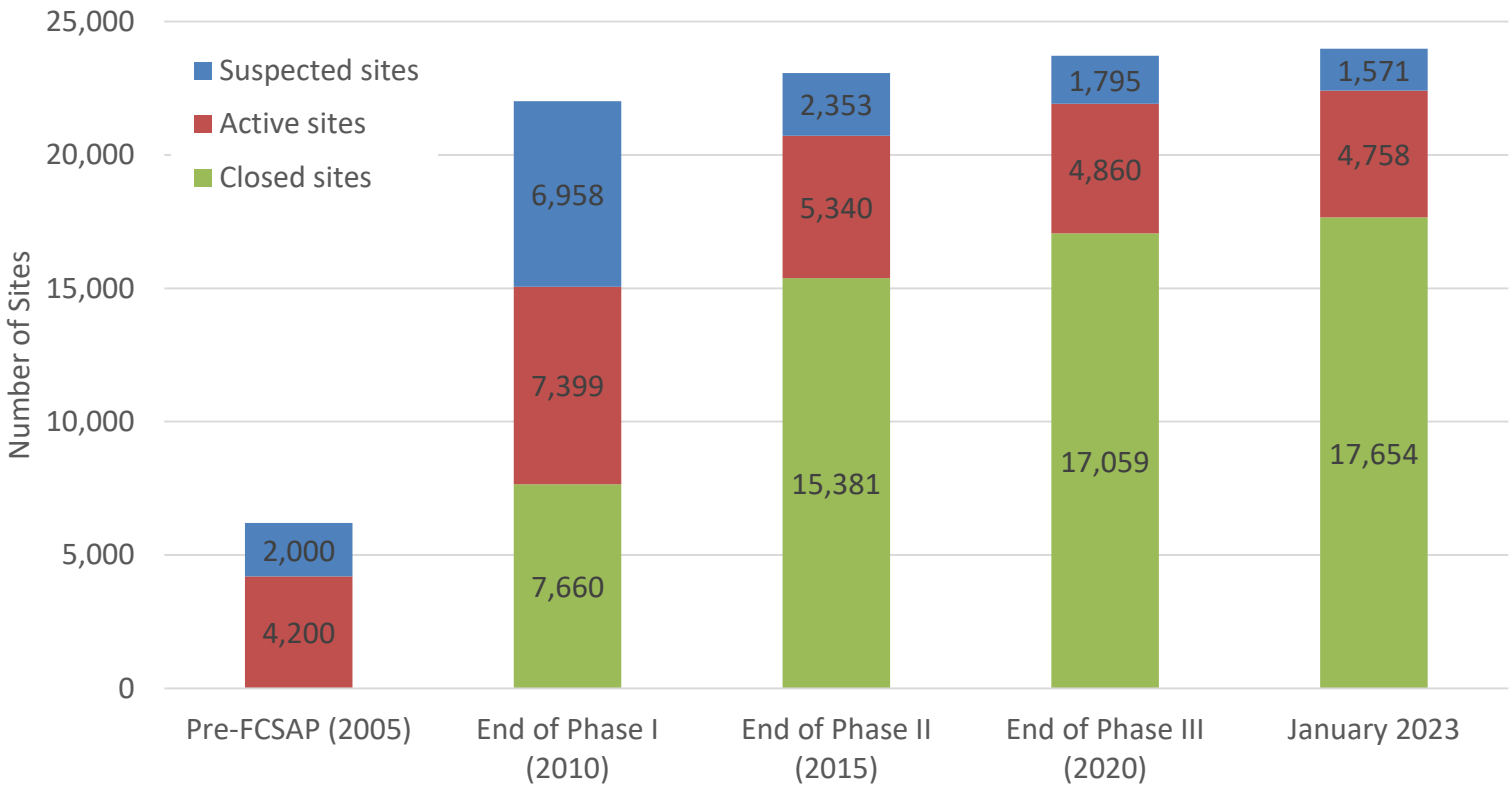
Skills development and job training

- 24,800 direct jobs; $2.3 billion spent in Canada's North

Science development

- 88 environmental quality guidelines, technical guidance, tools

PROGRESS ON FEDERAL INVENTORY OF SITES (2005-2022)



FCSAP PROGRAM RENEWAL 15 YEARS (2020-2035)

- Program renewed for another 15 years (2020-2035)
- Divided in three 5-year phases (IV, V and VI)
- Phase IV (2020-2025) with a Budget of $1.16B

FCSAP PHASE IV (2020-2025) WHAT'S NEW?

- **Expanded Site Eligibility Criteria:**
  - Class 2 & 3 sites on reserve lands or impacting Indigenous communities in the North

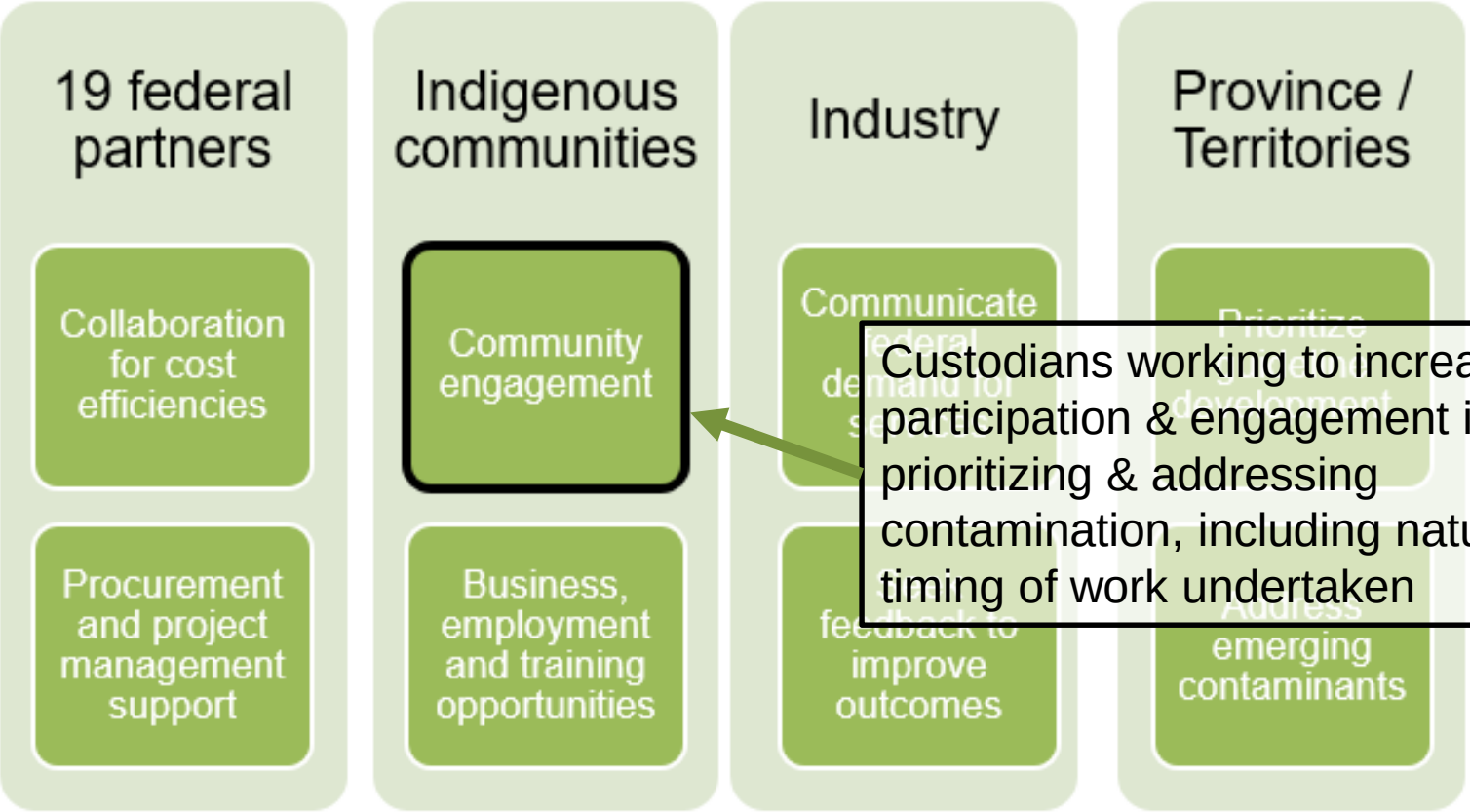
- **Federal sites that have been contaminated *after 1998* are now eligible for FCSAP remediation funding if:**
  - they are located on First Nations reserves or impacting Indigenous communities in the North
  - they are being transferred by federal custodians to Indigenous Services Canada for addition to First Nations reserves
  - they have been or will be inherited by the government as the "custodian of last resort"

FCSAP PHASE IV (2020-2025) PRIORITIZATION CRITERIA

Custodians are required to prioritize their FCSAP funding to:

1) **Class 1 sites & ongoing Class 2 sites** (sites with remediation expenditures prior to April 1, 2020)
2) **New Class 2 & Class 3 sites**, if:
   - they are located on First Nations reserves or impacting Indigenous communities in the North
   - they can be bundled with a Class 1 or ongoing Class 2 site

COLLABORATION WITH INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES & STAKEHOLDERS



Custodians working to increase participation & engagement in prioritizing & addressing contamination, including nature & timing of work undertaken

FCSAP INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- **2018 Engagement Sessions**
  - Preparing for Phase IV

- **2019 What We Heard Report**
  - **Recommendations**
    - Improved information sharing & regular updates
    - More direct involvement in all aspects & stages of the remediation process
    - Accelerate clean-up of sites in Indigenous communities
    - Increased socio-economic benefits and participation
    - Clarification of federal, provincial/territorial and municipal roles & coordination at non-federal sites
    - Prevent future contamination events

  - **Implementation Measures**
    - ✓ Increased local engagement with Indigenous groups in prioritizing sites on reserve lands & northern communities
    - ✓ Expansion of site eligibility & prioritization of Class 2 and 3 sites
    - ✓ Strengthen coordination efforts where federal sites intersect with those of other parties
    - ✓ On separate track, ISC & ECCC have been engaging with First Nations to identify a path forward on addressing the environmental protection gap on First Nation reserve lands

- **2020/21 & Beyond: Follow-up & Outreach Sessions, 2023 Engagement**

FCSAP INDIGENOUS ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

- **2022 FCSAP Engagement Guidance**
  - Based on recommendations and lessons learned from the 2018 What We Heard Report
  - Focuses on identifying priorities and bridging gaps in the management of federal contaminated sites that impact Indigenous groups in Canada
- **GOC Mandate Letter Commitment**
  - *"Identify, and prioritize the clean-up of, contaminated sits in areas where Indigenous Peoples, racialized and low-income Canadians live".*
  - Improved collaboration and engagement with Indigenous partners will help shape the program to address this commitment.

EASTERN REGION

FEDERAL CONTAMINATED SITES

PAST FCSAP INVESTMENTS (2005-2022)

	Ontario	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	PEI	Newfoundland
INVESTMENTS	$334M	$18M	$61M	$6M	$73M
Assessment Sites (AS)	1,318	537	793	163	1,165
Remediation Sites (RS)	378	75	240	49	315
(AS) Closed or Fully Assessed	1,106	496	724	154	1,092
(RS) Closed or Fully Remediated	254	63	22	46	315

FUTURE PLANNED FCSAP INVESTMENTS (2023-2025)

	Ontario	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	PEI	Newfoundland
INVESTMENTS	$119M	$6M	$8M	$1	$4M
Assessment Sites (AS)	15	5	2	0	0
Remediation Sites (RS)	108	35	2	7	53
(AS) Closed or Fully Assessed	12	4	56	0	0
(RS) Closed or Fully Remediated	57	21	36	5	41

FEDERAL CONTAMINATED SITES & CUSTODIANS

Federal Contaminated Sites	Ontario	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	PEI	Newfoundland
Suspected	148	32	21	8	113
ACTIVE	745	138	345	27	510
Closed	3,038	857	1,445	282	1,525
Total Sites	3,931	1,027	1,811	317	2,148

Custodians with Sites	Ontario	New Brunswick	Nova Scotia	PEI	Newfoundland
Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)	2,054	622	1,094	274	1,736
Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	715	38	43	0	0
National Defence (DND)	354	135	445	0	69
Transport Canada (TC)	201	0	0	11	110
Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)	161	41	0	0	0
Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)	0	107	80	0	72
Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC)	0	0	54	6	97
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC)	0	0	0	6	0
Parks Canada Agency (PCA)	0	0	0	6	0
Other Custodians	446	84	131	14	64

EASTERN REGION

CASE STUDIES

CASE STUDY #1 - WASTE OIL PIT REMEDIATION PROJECT IN WASAUKSING FIRST NATION

Location: Wasauksing First Nation, Ontario
Custodian: Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)

The Waste Oil Pit Remediation Project, completed in November 2019, involved the remediation of four waste-oil pits through the removal of 8,855 tonnes of contaminated soil. The project site lies in Wasauksing First Nation on Parry Island on the eastern shore of Georgian Bay.

Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC) awarded the remediation design work to a consultant specializing in providing environmental services to First Nation, Inuit and northern communities. The project team consisted of

- Wasauksing First Nation members
- ISC, PSPC,
- environmental consultants and contractors.

The success of the Project was mainly due to the great collaboration between parties.

Source: FCSAP Annual Report 2019-2020 - https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2022/eccc/En1-43-2020-eng.pdf

CASE STUDY #2 - GOOSE BAY REMEDIATION PROJECT

Location: 5 Wing Goose Bay, Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador
Custodian: Department of National Defence (DND)

In 2009, DND launched the Goose Bay Remediation Project to reduce potential risks to human health and the environment posed by contamination at the base. Most of the contamination was attributed to the past handling and storage of various substances over decades of military activities.

Since 2004, the Goose Bay Remediation Project has engaged stakeholders in discussions about the causes, effects and remediation of the contamination at Goose Bay. Participants in these discussions included local residents; Indigenous groups (Innu, Métis and Inuit); local environmental organizations; regional, national and international industry representatives and science and engineering experts; and all levels of government.

Source: FCSAP Annual Report 2019 - 2020
https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2022/eccc/En1-43-2020-eng.pdf

QUESTIONS

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THANK YOU!

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE ECCC FCSAP SECRETARIAT AT:

FCSAP.PASCF@EC.GC.CA

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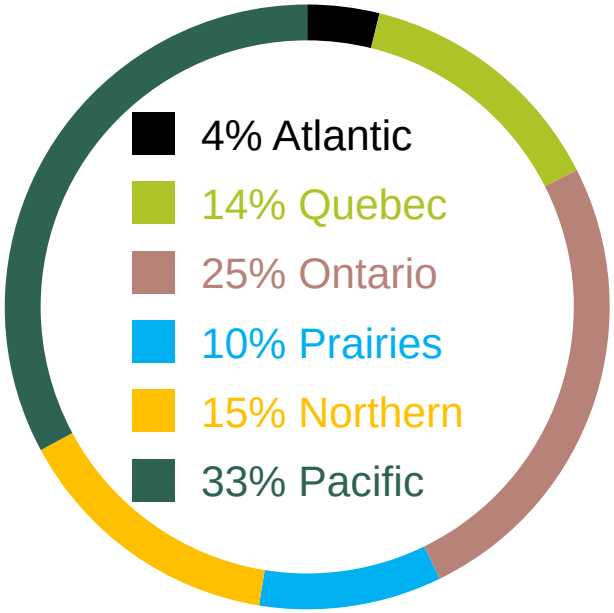
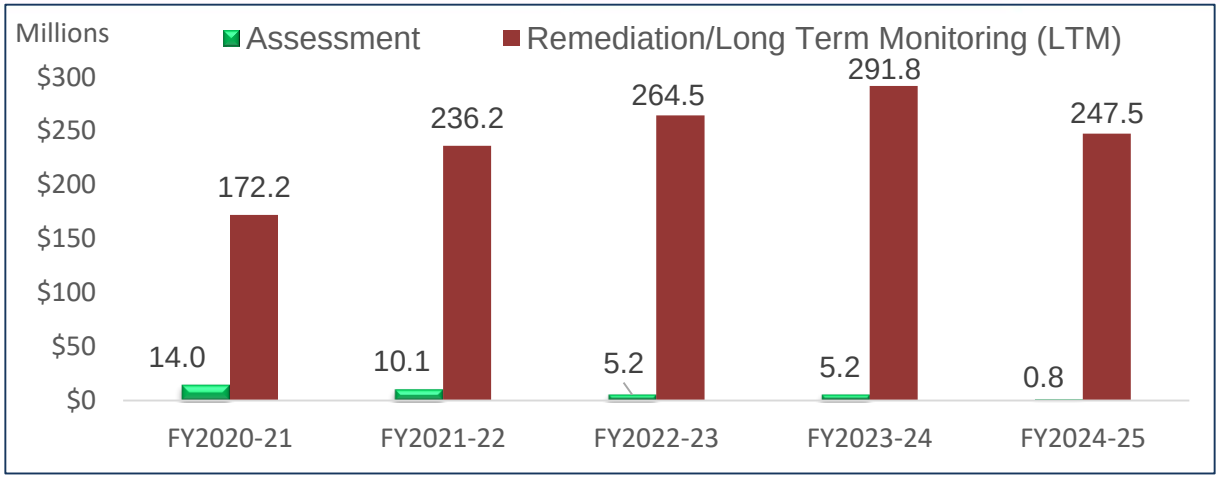
Canada

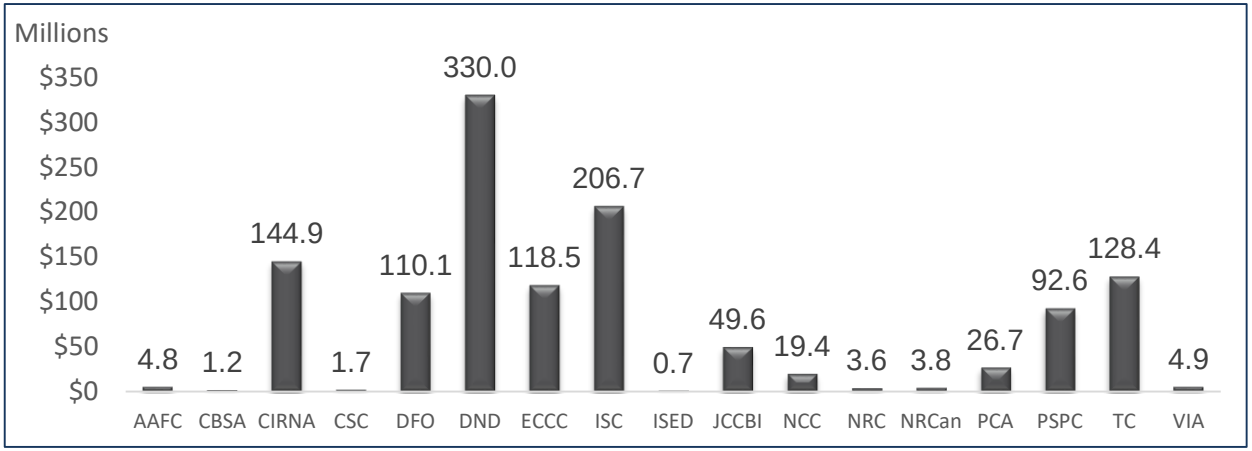
ANNEX

NATIONAL OVERVIEW OF FCSAP PHASE IV FUNDING

$1.2B	306	1275
Funding	Assessment Sites	Remediation & LTM Sites







Source: FCSAP Secretariat (April 2020)

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FCSI now has **23,983 sites** on it (as of January 2023). These include:

- **4,758 sites** that are being **actively** assessed or remediated;
- **1,571 sites** where contamination is only **suspected** but assessments have not begun;
- **17,654 sites** that have been **closed** after remediation was completed or after assessments found that there were no elevated risks.

FCSAP PHASE IV (2020-2025) FEDERALLY FUNDED SITES

- **Funded Sites in Phase IV:** https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/federal-contaminated-sites/action-plan.html