



Federal Contaminated Sites Management
2023 Indigenous Engagement – In-Person Session
Yellowknife - NWT Region

AGENDA

April 25th

9:00am – 4:00pm (MST)

Location: [Chateau Nova Hotel, Yellowknife](#)

Facilitator:

The Centre for Indigenous Environmental Resources Inc. (CIER)

Co-hosts

Crown-Indigenous Relations & Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) – NWT Extended Waste Sites Management Committee (WSMC), Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan (FCSAP) Secretariat

Presenters:

Environment & Climate Change Canada (ECCC), Crown-Indigenous Relations & Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC), Procurement Assistance Canada (PAC)

Participants:

Indigenous Partners & organizations across the Northwest Territories

Meeting Objective:

To enhance information sharing and engagement with Indigenous partners regarding the management of federal contaminated sites, and identify opportunities for increased collaboration.

| TIME | TOPIC | LEAD(S) | DOC(S) |
|---------------|--|---|------------------------|
| 1 9:00 am | Opening Remarks & Introductions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome Housekeeping Opening Prayer Round of Introductions (all attendees) Engagement Overview & Objectives | CIER, CIRNAC & FCSAP Secretariat | Agenda |
| 2 9:40 am | Community Perspectives on Federal Contaminated Sites Management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Discussion | CIER & Indigenous Partners | Discussion Guide |
| 3 10:00 am | Overview of Federal Contaminated Sites' Programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Presentation by FCSAP Secretariat <i>(15 min)</i> FCSAP Program, Contaminated Sites On-Reserve Program (CSOR), and Northern Contaminated Sites Program (NCSP) | ECCC | FCSAP Secretariat Deck |

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| | 10:20 am | BREAK (Refreshments Provided) | | |
| 4 | 10:30 am | Northern Contaminated Sites Program Overview (NCSP) & Regional Perspectives <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by Crown-Indigenous Relations & Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) <i>(30min)</i> | CIRNAC | CIRNAC Deck / Open Discussion |
| 5 | 11:30 am | Discussion of FCSAP Program – Phase IV (2020-25) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback on the FCSAP program & general management of federal contaminated sites <i>Current Program</i> | CIER & Indigenous Partners / GOC | Discussion Guide / <i>Breakout Groups</i> |
| | 12:00 Noon | LUNCH (Provided) | | |
| 6 | 1:30 pm | Discussion of FSCAP Program - Phase V (2025-30) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback on the FCSAP program & general management of federal contaminated sites <i>Moving Forward</i> | CIER & Indigenous Partners / GOC | Discussion Guide / <i>Breakout Groups</i> |
| 7 | 2:15 pm | Socio-Economic Opportunities & Procurement <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation by PSPC/PAC <i>(15 min)</i> • Open Discussion | PSPC-PAC | PSPC-PAC Deck / Discussion Guide |
| | 2:45 pm | BREAK (Refreshments Provided) | | |
| 8 | 3:00 pm | Skills Enhancement & Training Opportunities | CIER & Indigenous Partners / GOC | Discussion Guide |
| 9 | 3:30-4:00 pm | Session Wrap-Up & Closing Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next Steps - 2023 What We Heard Report Circulated to Participants (when available) • Session Feedback Survey • Final Remarks • Closing Prayer | CIER | Discussion Guide |

SESSION DISCUSSION GUIDE

AGENDA ITEM #1: *Opening Remarks and Introductions*

Poll question

- What community are you from? (word cloud)

AGENDA ITEM #2: *Community Perspectives on Federal Contaminated Sites Management (FCSAP Program, Northern Contaminated Sites Program)*

Outcomes:

- *GOC to gain a broader understanding of the challenges faced by Indigenous governments regarding contaminated sites*
- *Establish Indigenous partners' objectives for this engagement session*

OPEN DISCUSSION

- How have contaminated sites impacted your community with respect to health & safety, environment, and socio-economic aspects? (e.g. employment, local businesses etc.)
- What are some of your objectives for this Indigenous engagement session?

AGENDA ITEM #3: *Overview of the Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan (FCSAP) Program*

Poll question

- What level of experience do you have working on federal contaminated sites? (none, minimal, moderate, extensive, unsure)

AGENDA ITEM #5: *Discussion of FCSAP Program (Phase IV: 2020-2025)*

Outcome:

- *GOC would like to hear the challenges, recommendations and priorities of Indigenous governments related to contaminated sites management and the FCSAP program*

Topic: Indigenous Partners' Priorities

Poll question

- Are the following recommendations from the 2018 Canada-wide Indigenous engagement sessions still a priority for your community?
 - *Improved collection and sharing of information about contaminated sites* – This includes improved information sharing from the government on the location of sites, assessment and remediation procedures, responsible parties, and introducing a means of information sharing between Indigenous groups.
 - *Community involvement and capacity-building* – Ensuring communities have more direct involvement in contaminated site management, have access to expertise and networks, and have opportunities to increase local capacity and economic development.
 - *Scope of the FCSAP program* – Extend FCSAP funding eligibility to investigate contamination in all Indigenous communities, as opposed to only the highest-priority historic sites as determined by the federal government.

- *Prioritization of sites* – Indigenous Knowledge should be included in determining the prioritization of a site for assessment and remediation.
- *Proactive measures* – Implement proactive measures to prevent contamination before it happens and address ongoing sources of contamination.
- *Interactions between levels of government* – Increase the level of provincial/territorial involvement, and clarify the responsible level of government in a coordinated manner.

Poll question

- Have you felt that your community’s concerns, feedback and priorities have been heard, respected and addressed by the federal contaminated sites program over the last few years? (yes, no, unsure)

BREAKOUT DISCUSSION (15 Min)

- What are your community’s biggest priorities related to the management of federally contaminated sites? (including any new priorities the GOC may have not heard)
- Has your community’s experience and Indigenous Knowledge been taken into consideration in the management and prioritization of federal contaminated sites? If not, what improvements can be made by the GOC?
- What are some of the biggest challenges faced by your community regarding federal contaminated sites?

AGENDA ITEM #6: Discussion of FCSAP Program (Phase V: 2025-2030)

Outcome:

- *GOC would like to hear the challenges, recommendations and priorities of Indigenous governments related to contaminated sites management and the FCSAP program moving forward*

Topic: ECCC Mandate Letter Commitment

Background: The December 2021 Mandate Letter to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change included a commitment to *“identify, and prioritize the clean-up of, contaminated sites in areas where Indigenous Peoples, racialized and low- income Canadians live”*. Contaminated sites in these areas may be eligible for FCSAP funding, however may not be a priority for funding under the current eligibility rules.

OPEN DISCUSSION

- How would you like to be involved in the planning, identification and prioritization of sites identified in the Mandate Letter Commitment?
- Are there sites off-reserve that are impacting your community? For example, ones where contaminants might be migrating onto reserve lands, affecting drinking water, in an important area for exercising rights?

Topic: Moving forward - Improved Collaboration

BREAKOUT DISCUSSION (20 Min)

- How can the federal contaminated sites program strengthen participation with Indigenous governments in regards to the planning and prioritization of federal contaminated sites work?
- How can we better support your community in getting the information you want or need?
- How could federal government programming help Indigenous communities to manage cleaned-up sites to avoid future contamination?

- How does your community involve women, youth, Elders, gender diverse peoples etc., in regards to contaminated sites management? (e.g. planning, prioritization and/or delivery aspects) How can the GOC support your community to involve these diverse groups moving forward?

AGENDA ITEM #7: *Socio-Economic Opportunities & Procurement*

Outcome:

- *Participants to gain context and insight into the socio-economic aspects of contaminated sites.*

Poll Question:

- Has your community experienced employment or economic opportunities related to federal contaminated sites activities (yes, no, unsure).

OPEN DISCUSSION:

- Has your community experienced any challenges or barriers related to employment or economic opportunities regarding federal contaminated site activities?
- How could more local jobs be created cleaning up contaminated sites, to train local people so that they can do this work, or to provide other kinds of benefits for the community from clean-up work?

AGENDA ITEM #8: *Skills Enhancement & Training Opportunities*

Outcome:

GOC would like to gain a better understanding of the skill enhancement and training needs of Indigenous governments and communities.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

- Have you participated in contaminated sites training from the federal government in the past? (yes, no, unsure).
- What are the particular training needs for communities?

Poll Question:

- Would you be interested in participating in contaminated sites management training? Please check off all that apply:
 - Overview of the 10-Step Approach to Manage Federal Contaminated Sites
 - Overview of the CCME Canada-Wide Standard for Petroleum Hydrocarbons
 - Overview of Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessment
 - Practical skills training, such as sampling or remediation work
 - Indigenous business and federal procurement through PSPC
 - Other (please mention)

AGENDA ITEM # 9: *Session Wrap-Up & Closing Remarks*

Poll Question:

- Are you interested in opportunities to network or connect with other Indigenous governments to learn about success stories and best practices to managing contaminated sites (yes, no, unsure)?

Open Discussion

- Is there any specific type of follow-up that would be helpful moving forward?