

# FEDERAL CONTAMINATED SITES MANAGEMENT

ECCC Mandate Letter  
Commitment

FCSAP Secretariat  
May 4<sup>th</sup>, 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)
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# 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



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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?**

**Are there contaminated sites in the North that are impacting your community? For example, ones where contaminants might be migrating on or nearby your community, affecting drinking water, in an important area for exercising rights?**

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