



Impact Assessment
Agency of Canada

Agence d'évaluation
d'impact du Canada



FIRST NATIONS
MAJOR PROJECTS
COALITION

Indigenous Capacity Support Program (ICSP)

Maximizing Indigenous Leadership in Impact Assessment Conference

February 6-7, 2024 | Grey Eagle Resort, Calgary



AGENDA

DAY 1: February 6, 2024, from 8:00am-4:00pm MT (10:00am-6:00pm ET)

Day 1 Theme: Governance Mechanisms for Effective Indigenous Participation in Impact Assessment (IA)

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM

Registration & Breakfast Buffet

Participant to pick up delegate badge and travel subsidy (as applicable).

8:00 AM – 9:30 AM
Day 1 Morning Q1:

Opening Prayer & Territory Welcome

- **Hal Eagletail** (*Tsuut'ina Nation*), Knowledge Keeper

Setting the Stage for Day 1

- **Dan George** (*Wet'suwet'en*), President/CEO, Four Directions Management Services Ltd
Conference Introduction, Format, Participant Guidelines, Objectives, and Expectations and Language

Welcome Remark from the Conference Host

- **Angel Ransom** (*Nak'azdli Whut'en*), Senior Vice President of Environmental Services, The First Nations Major Projects Coalition

Presentation 1: IAAC's Priorities for Indigenous Leadership and Priorities in Impact

- **Ian Ketcheson**, Vice-President, Indigenous Relations Sector, Impact Assessment Agency Canada

Presentation 2: Who Are We and What Have We Been Up To?

- **Rachel Olson** (*Tr'ondek Hwech'in First Nation*), Co-chair, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada Indigenous Advisory Committee
- 2023 Progress and Impact Report
- IAAC Indigenous Advisory Committee

9:30 AM – 9:45 AM

Health Break

9:45 AM – 12:00PM
Day 1 Morning Q2:

Day 1 Keynote Speaker: Building Trust, What Matters to the Community and Coming to a Decision Through Ratification on the Marathon Palladium Project

- **Vincent Nabigon** (*Biigtigong Nishnaabeg*) COO, Biigtigong Dbenjgan

Day 1 AM Breakout Groups & Report Out: Governance in Action - The First Nations Major Projects Coalition & The Firelight Group

A case study illustrating how existing mechanisms have been implemented to advocate of indigenous interests in IA

Exploring ways of multi-dimensional engagement and decision-making (ie. technical staff, leadership, community)

Breakout Group Questions:

- 1) What are the strengths and weaknesses of each approach?
- 2) Timelines to make decisions?
- 3) How reflective is each mechanism towards community values?

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Lunch

1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
Day 1 Afternoon Q1:

Panel Presentation: On the Ground Governance Mechanisms - What Has Worked, What Hasn't, and What's Needed

- **Alexandra Bridges** (*Mattagami First Nation*), Project Manager, Keepers of the Circle
- **Alana Graham** (*Moose Cree First Nation*), Impact Assessment Coordinator, Mushkegowuk Lands and Resources

2:00 PM – 2:15 PM

Health Break

2:15 PM – 4:00 PM
Day 1 Afternoon Q2:

Presentation 3: What does consent-based decision making in IA look like for an Indigenous community?

Day 1 PM Breakout Groups: What does consent-based decision making in IA look like for an Indigenous community?

The First Nations Major Projects Coalition & The Firelight Group

Day 1 Observations & Reflections

- **Dan George** (*Wet'suwet'en*), President/CEO, Four Directions Management Services Ltd

Closing Prayer

- **Dan George** (*Wet'suwet'en*), President/CEO, Four Directions Management Services Ltd

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Networking Reception (Light refreshments provided)
Eagletail Dance Troupe

DAY 2: February 7, 2024, from 8:00am-3:00pm MT (10:00am-5:00pm ET)

Day 2 Theme: Administrative Mechanisms for Indigenous Community Readiness

7:00 AM – 8:00 AM

Breakfast Buffet

8:00 AM – 9:45 AM
Day 2 Morning Q1:

Opening Remarks and Territory Acknowledgment

- **Dan George** (*Wet'suwet'en*), President/CEO, Four Directions Management Services Ltd

Setting the Stage for Day 2

- **Dan George** (*Wet'suwet'en*), President/CEO, Four Directions Management Services Ltd

Welcome and What We Heard on Day 1

- **Angel Ransom** (*Nak'azdli Whut'en*), Senior Vice President of Environmental Services, The First Nations Major Projects Coalition

Presentation 1: Identifying Community Readiness Gaps, and Securing Resources

- **David Fortin**, Environmental Sciences Lead, File Hills Qu'Appelle Tribal Council, Lands, Resources, Environment & Stewardship Department

- Determining community capacity gaps (human, financial, administrative)
- Developing a budget for community readiness, participation, and engagement in IA

Day 2 AM Breakout Groups: Capacity Development and Funding Needs and Options – Ground-based Experiences

First Nations Major Projects Coalition & The Firelight Group

Breakout Group Questions:

- 1) What are the things your Nation/Organization needs to be involved in IA, whether its staff or funding?
- 2) When are these resources needed (in advance, when the project is proposed, upon potential project approval)?
- 3) Do you see these tools being useful and how would you see your community using them?

9:45 AM – 10:00 AM

Health Break

10:00 AM – 12:00PM
Day 1 Morning Q2:

Presentation 2: Youth Panel

- **Lindsay McLaren Polson** (*Anishinaabe*), Sustainable Development Manager, Timiskaming First Nation
- **Serena McLaren** (*Anishinaabe*), Land Guardian, Timiskaming First Nation
- **Mike Laderoute** (*Metis*), Environment Scientist Technician, Timiskaming First Nation

Looking Forward, Looking Back

- Opportunities for the future informed by experiences of the past
I.e. Guardian Program, GIS, Technology
- Transfer of knowledge from one generation to the next
- How are we bringing back governance mechanisms that may have been lost during colonial process

Presentation 3: Data Sovereignty and Indigenous Mapping

- **Steve DeRoy**, (*Anishinaabe*) CEO, The Firelight Group
- Ownership, Control, Access, and Possession (OCAP) - Using information and data to inform decision making in IA
- Indigenous led studies I.e. Indigenous Knowledge, Land Use and Occupancy, Socio-Economic and Rights Based Assessment
- Indigenous Mapping Collective

Presentation 4: Indigenous Centre for Cumulative Effects

- **Sean Power**, Executive Officer and Entrepreneur-in Residence, Indigenous Centre for Cumulative Effects
 - **Julia Ko**, Program Manager, Indigenous Centre for Cumulative Effects
- Cumulative effects, housing data, management, process etc.

Open Floor Discussion

- **Dan George** (*Wet'suwet'en*), President/CEO, Four Directions Management Services Ltd

12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Lunch

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Day 2 Afternoon:

Presentation 5: Impact Assessment Act Amendment Update

To inform about the recent Supreme court of Canada opinion regarding the Impact Assessment Act and the process for making legislative amendments.

- **Ian Ketcheson**, Vice-President, Indigenous Relations Sector, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

Day 2 PM Breakout Session

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- Group discussions/thoughts on potential amendments

Day 2 PM Reporting Session

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- Reporting back on feedback received during breakout sessions

Conference Reflections and Conclusions

- **Dan George** (*Wet'suwet'en*), President/CEO, Four Directions Management Services Ltd

Closing Prayer

- **Hal Eagletail** (*Tsuut'ina Nation*), Knowledge Keeper