



# Ontario Association for Impact Assessment

## 2017 Annual Conference & Skills Sharpening Workshop

THE ART & SCIENCE OF  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

October 16-18th, 2017

*These events will be located on the Treaty  
Lands & Territory of the Mississaugas of the  
New Credit First Nation*





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# OAIA-2017

## The Art & Science of Environmental Assessment

### About the Conference Theme

There is nothing more satisfying than a well-executed environmental assessment process for a particular undertaking that leaves all participants relatively happy with the outcome. Today, this seems to be more the exception than the rule given the increasing complexity of some projects, environmental assessment processes and the politicization of science. But it does not have to be this way. While the federal government is in the midst of reviewing its environmental assessment legislation and process and Ontario considers whether to begin its own review, there are many things that environmental assessment practitioners can do to improve the environmental assessment process, build positive relationships, submit better environmental assessment documents that meet both the public and regulator expectations and obtain better outcomes for both the environment and participants in the process.

A strong scientific basis, with rigorous, verifiable and objective information, is critical for environmental assessment. What are the best practices for this strong scientific basis today? Environmental assessment does not stop at science. Local, regional, national and global context is also critical for environmental assessment. The art of inclusion, participation, transparency and flexibility is ever evolving. What are the best practices in artfully integrating context into environmental assessment decision-making?

These events will be located on the Treaty Lands and Territory of the Mississaugas of the New Credit First Nation





## The 2017 OAIA Conference Planning Committee:

Jillian Bieser - *University of Toronto*

Charles (Chuck) Birchall - *Williams & Shier Environmental Lawyers LLP*

Ben Bradshaw - *University of Guelph*

Katie Bright - *Metrolinx*

Peter Brown - *Ontario Ministry of Environment and Climate Change*

Caroline Burgess - (Conference Co-Chair) *Odonaterra Inc.*

Adam Chamberlain - *Gowling WLG*

Cheryl Chetkiewicz - *Wildlife Conservation Society*

Nick Crockford - *Morrison Hershfield*

Anneliese Grieve - *Anneliese Grieve Strategic Environmental Planning Solutions*

Ariane Heisey - *Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines*

Simon Miles - *Independent Consultant*

Anjala Puvananathan - (Conference Co-Chair), *Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency*



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### *Applying Strategic Environmental Assessment in Ontario*

#### Facilitators

Blair Shoniker - *Senior Waste and Environmental Planner, GHD*

Tomasz Wlodarczyk - *National Manager, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment, SLR Consulting*

**REGISTRATION: 1:00 – 1:30**

**SKILL SHARPENING WORKSHOP: 1:30 – 4:30**

Separate prior online registration required – No lunch, but afternoon light refreshments will be provided

In June 2017, the Government of Canada released its Discussion Paper regarding Environmental and Regulatory Reviews in which the federal government expressed its intention to better understand the “big picture” and to develop and strengthen “policy frameworks for complex issues”. Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) is being promoted as a tool to “generate guidance and direction...in project and regional [Impact Assessment]”. Although SEA is not a legislated requirement under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act 2012, it has been in the federal government’s “tool box” for years under the Cabinet Directive on the Environmental Assessment of Policy, Plan and Program Proposal (PPPs).

Recently, Ontario’s Provincial Auditor General commented on the Ontario Environmental Assessment Act, specifically mentioning that environmental assessments “...are not completed for many significant government plans and programs...and that the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change should review and clarify the intent of the Environmental Assessment Act regarding the types of government plans and programs that must undergo an environmental assessment.” In contrast to the application of SEA at the federal level, Ontario environmental assessment legislation provides for Strategic Environmental Assessments (SEA) to be conducted, as acknowledged by the Auditor General, on higher order Policy, Plan and Program assessments, but are rare, if ever conducted. The OAIA’s skills sharpening workshop will review the history and context for undertaking SEAs in Canada and provide an overview on the SEA process. Workshop participants will then be challenged to formulate an SEA process for the introduction of a new federally regulated technology to the Province and to a new Provincial government policy/program. Workshop participants will learn how SEA processes might differ depending on the type of PPP involved, jurisdictional context and the scope of potential environmental and socio-economic impacts.

## OCTOBER 16 –SKILLS SHARPENING WORKSHOP





TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
8:00	<b>BREAKFAST &amp; REGISTRATION</b>	
9:00-9:30	<b>INTRODUCTION &amp; WELCOMING REMARKS</b>	<p>F.F. (Rick) Coburn - Conference Venue Host, Borden Ladner Gervais LLP</p> <p><b>Caroline Burgess</b> - President of OAIA, Conference Co-Chair and Managing Director, Odonaterra Inc.</p>
9:30 –10:30	<p><b>SESSION 1: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT IN ONTARIO – A PATH FORWARD</b></p> <p>The Environmental Assessment program is a critical component of the ministry's mandate to provide for the "protection, conservation and wise management" of Ontario's environment. Environmental assessment provides a framework for proponents to consider and minimize/avoid the environmental impacts of its project by considering alternatives and mitigation measures. It also enables the ministry to balance and weigh environmental risks in related decision-making and approvals.</p> <p>Program improvements are continually carried out so that environmental risks, including new and emerging ones, are identified and adequately assessed within the environmental assessment planning process. The emergence of challenges such as climate change; feedback from proponents, the Environmental Commissioner, the Auditor General, OAIA members and others; and, further ongoing program-level improvements have acted as drivers for ministry action.</p> <p>At present, the ministry is working to address these issues, with a focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing climate change guidance for environmental assessment proponents</li> <li>• Developing new notification processes for Class environmental assessment proponents</li> <li>• Developing approaches to make project information more available to the public</li> <li>• Working to improve the Part II Order request process</li> </ul> <p>By sharing information about the ministry's ongoing priorities and providing status updates, we hope to demonstrate how the ministry is working to improve the environmental assessment program, and the path.</p>	<p><b>Moderator:</b> Chuck Birchall - Willms &amp; Shier, OAIA Board Member</p> <p><b>Presenters</b> <b>Caroline Rodgers</b> - Senior Program Support Coordinator, Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change</p> <p><b>Greg Jenish</b> - Program Support Coordinator, Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change</p>



TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
10:30-10:45	<b>MORNING BREAK</b>	Sponsored by Hardy Stevenson and Associates
10:45 – 12:15	<p><b>SESSION 2: CONSULTATION – A REGULATORY PERSPECTIVE</b></p> <p>Consultation is one of the most important and unpredictable aspects of environmental assessment. Meaningful and effective consultation can help practitioners better understand baseline conditions and potential effects of a project. It can help regulators integrate social and environmental context into the decision-making process, as well as meet constitutional and statutory obligations. Perhaps most importantly, it can help proponents, practitioners, decision-makers, Indigenous groups, local communities and other stakeholders build positive relationships based on trust and mutual benefit. Done poorly, consultation can be a source of mistrust, procedural delays and other risks.</p> <p>The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA), the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC), the Ministry of Tourism Culture and Sport (MTCS) and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) will offer a panel of presentations and lead a discussion about consultation fundamentals, trends and good practices. Starting with the constitutional duty to consult Indigenous groups, through the importance of meaningful consultation in environmental assessment processes and ending with a practical example of an effective issues resolution process, we hope to help build our collective understanding of the Art and Science of Consultation in Environmental Assessment in Ontario.</p>	<p><b>Moderator:</b>  Anneliese Grieve - <i>Anneliese Grieve Strategic Environmental Planning Solutions and OAIA Treasurer</i></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b>  Anjala Puvananathan - <i>Director, Ontario Region - Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency</i>  Derrick Moggy - <i>Team Leader, Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency</i>  Peter Brown - <i>Aboriginal Consultation Advisor, Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change</i>  Joseph Muller - <i>Heritage Planner, Ontario Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport</i>  Paul Glassford - <i>Senior Advisor Forest Environmental Assessment, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry</i></p>
12:15-1:45	<b>LUNCH</b>	
1:45 – 2:45	<p><b>SESSION 3: ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT DECISION-MAKING IN ONTARIO</b></p> <p>This session is aimed as a refresher for practitioners on the requirements pursuant to Ontario's Environmental Assessment Act. The two presentations will provide practitioners with useful information for the preparation and submission of environmental assessment documentation.</p>	<p><b>Moderator:</b>  Melissa Mauro - <i>Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry</i></p>



# OAIA 2017

DAY 1 / OCTOBER 17

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
	<p><b>THE CODES OF PRACTICE FOR PREPARING &amp; REVIEWING TERMS OF REFERENCE &amp; ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS</b></p> <p>This presentation and question and answer session will aim to help practitioners decipher the Codes of Practice for preparing and reviewing Terms of References and Environmental Assessments in Ontario.</p>	<p><b>Presenters</b>            Andrew Evers - <i>Special Project Officer, Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change</i>            Carolyn Lee - <i>Project Officer, Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change</i></p>
	<p><b>NAVIGATING THROUGH PART II ORDERS</b></p> <p>This presentation and question and answer session will aim to help practitioners navigate through the Part II Order Request review process using a hypothetical project case study.</p>	<p><b>Presenters</b>            Shannon Gauthier - <i>Project Evaluator, Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change</i>            Stephen Deneault - <i>Project Evaluator, Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change</i></p>
2:45- 3:00	<b>AFTERNOON BREAK</b> Sponsored by Anneliese Grieve Strategic Environmental Planning Solutions	



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TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
3:00 – 3:45	<p><b>SESSION 4A:</b> <i>CLIMATE-PROOFING JUDICIAL REVIEW OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT</i></p> <p>Scholarly attention to climate change litigation has focussed on challenges relating to the jurisdiction of regulatory agencies to take action on climate change. This presentation will focus on one key facet of climate change litigation: judicial reviews arising in connection with the environmental assessment of the climate-related impacts of major projects. Using case studies, this presentation will offer an overview and critique of how Canadian, American and Commonwealth courts have grappled with these issues. This presentation will also offer some reflections on the implications of this emerging body of case law for the Federal environmental assessment reform and National Energy Board modernization processes.</p>	<p><b>Moderator:</b> Simon Miles - OAIA Board Member</p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Jason MacLean - Assistant Professor, University of Sas- katchewan College of Law</p>
3:45 – 4:30	<p><b>SESSION 4B:</b> <i>AN INTRODUCTION TO THE NEW IAIA GUIDE ON AIR QUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT</i></p> <p>The new IAIA Guide for Air Quality Impact Assessment (AQIA) provides guiding principles for conducting an air quality impact assessment for projects and facilities. The guide was issued early this year and was formally introduced at a Special Session at IAIA17.</p> <p>The need for this document originated to identify particular areas of uncertainty and inappropriate air impact assessments methods. In addition, there was a pressing need for certain AQIA principles to become more widely used which would help proponents and reviewers bring more certainty, predictability, and clarity to the assessment process.</p> <p>This presentation will provide an introduction to the guide and also relate useful advice received from practitioners on using the guide.</p>	<p><b>Moderator:</b> Simon Miles - OAIA Board Member</p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Franco DiGiovanni - Senior Air Quality Modeller, Airzone One Ltd.</p>
	<b>WRAP UP OF DAY 1 &amp; INTRODUCTION TO DAY 2</b>	<p>Caroline Burgess - President of OAIA and Conference Co- Chair</p>



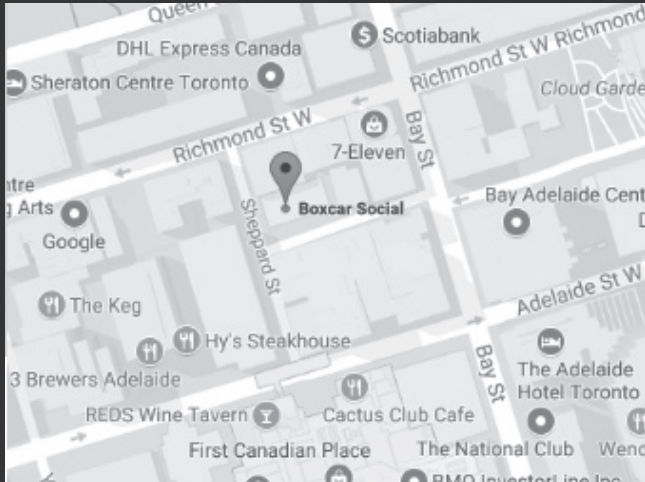
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TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
8:00	<b>REGISTRATION &amp; BREAKFAST / ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING</b> Breakfast, lunch and refreshments for two morning and afternoon breaks, morning and afternoon, will be provided.	
9:00-10:30	<b>SESSION 5: THE ART &amp; SCIENCE OF CUMULATIVE EFFECTS ASSESSMENTS</b>  <p>The Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment, in 2004, defined a cumulative effect as a “change in the environment caused by multiple interactions among human activities and natural processes that accumulate across space and time.” Cumulative effects assessment (CEA) is an assessment of the accumulation of change on the landscape due to multiple stressors (natural and anthropogenic) over space and time. CEA is considered in federal and some provincial and territorial impact assessment processes.</p> <p>The practice of CEA, particularly within project-based impact assessment, has been considered ineffective. This is due, in part, to the scope of CEA, which remains narrowly focused on local development projects seeking “one-off” regulatory approval. With few exceptions (e.g., Cheviot Mine), outcomes of most federal impact assessments suggest that if any cumulative effects are expected, they will be insignificant and ignorable. We take the view that all effects in impact assessment should be deemed cumulative unless demonstrated otherwise, a view grounded in ecological and social sustainability.</p> <p>In this session, we consider the key components of CEA and the role of science and Indigenous perspectives to generate discussion on the following relevant issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The role of science in environmental assessment and CEA;</li> <li>2. Traditional knowledge and an Indigenous perspective of cumulative effects;</li> <li>3. An example of how cumulative effects can be considered more broadly in environmental planning and monitoring; and</li> <li>4. The essential mindset and elements of a framework for useful CEA.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Moderator:</b>            Peter Croal - <i>Environmental Consultant at Peter Sean Croal</i></p> <p><b>Presenters:</b>            Justina Ray - <i>President and Senior Scientist, Wildlife Conservation Society Canada</i>            Mary Boyden - <i>Managing Director, Eighth Fire Solutions</i>            Cheryl Chetkiewicz - <i>Conservation Scientist, Wildlife Conservation Society Canada</i>            Lorne Grieg - <i>Emeritus Environmental Scientist, Independent Consultant, Associate ESSA Technologies Ltd.</i></p>
10:30-10:45	<b>MORNING BREAK</b>  Sponsored by Hardy Stevenson and Associates	





TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
10:45 – 11:30	<p><b>SESSION 6: CULTURAL HERITAGE CONSIDERATIONS IN ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT</b></p> <p><b>EXPLORING TIME: CONSIDERING HERITAGE AS THE FOURTH DIMENSION OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT</b></p> <p>The assessment of cultural heritage, including archaeological resources, built heritage, and cultural landscapes, provides an important historical landscape perspective on past environments and human ecology. Heritage is also inherently predisposed to strategic and regional environmental assessment approaches, given its fundamental concern with human landscapes, past and present. This presentation will explore various ways that heritage assessments can integrate historical landscape context into environmental assessment decision-making and provide historical benchmarks for addressing matters such as climate change and ecosystem restoration. It will also illustrate how heritage studies can expand the scope of collecting and modeling baseline data, and integrate traditional knowledge.</p> <p><b>A RECONCILIATION-BASED APPROACH TO RESOURCE DECISION-MAKING AND ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT</b></p> <p>Canada cannot claim to be an enlightened society until its Aboriginal constitutional agenda is complete. This cannot occur without consideration of the spiritual underpinnings of the Aboriginal worldview which include the sacredness of Mother Earth and a return of the feminine spirit. The Medicine Wheel provides a comprehensive paradigm on which to frame a discussion around such a path towards reconciliation and provides meaningful insight into trends that influence both the art and science of environmental assessment.</p> <p>Over the last ten years, the Northeast Superior Regional Chiefs Forum (NSRCF) has been advancing a reconciliation-based approach to resource decision-making that is seen in some circles as an emerging best practice. Elements of these successes were recently shared with the federal Minister of the Environment and Climate Change Canada in a response to the June, 2017 Environmental and Regulatory Reviews Discussion Paper.</p>	<p><b>Moderator:</b> Peter Brown - <i>Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change</i></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Lisa Merritt - <i>Partner, Director Environmental Assessment Division, ASI</i></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Colin Lachance - <i>Lachance Environmental</i></p>

# OIAA 2017

DAY 2 / OCTOBER 18

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
	<p>Comprehensive in nature, the NSRCF model is driven from a constitutionally friendly principle-based approach that facilitates the return of the Aboriginal land stewardship voice. Specific lessons learned relevant to environmental assessment include the advancement of an independently resourced regional guardianship program, a comprehensive environmental and cultural mapping protocol, and a strategic environmental assessment platform supported by a community forestry framework.</p>	



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TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
11:30-12:30	<p><b>SESSION 7: INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO COMMUNITY WELL-BEING</b></p> <p><b>HEALTH IMPACT ASSESSMENT IN TRANSPORTATION PLANNING: IMPLICATIONS FOR CLIMATE CHANGE</b></p> <p>Within Ontario, the transportation sector is the highest contributor of Green House Gas (GHG) emissions. Many Canadians live within 100-500 metres of a major road or highway and about a third of Canadian urban elementary schools are located in zones with high traffic. Health Impact Assessments (HIAs) are evidence-based processes that evaluate broad potential positive or negative impacts of a project or policy on community health and the distribution of those impacts within the community. This presentation will suggest ways through which future transportation HIAs and environmental assessments can incorporate a structured approach for evaluation of GHG emissions and climate change impacts from increasing urbanization and infrastructure on health.</p> <p><b>PREPARING FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS: AN INNOVATIVE MODEL FOR SOCIO-ECONOMIC ASSESSMENT</b></p> <p>This presentation examines an innovative model for conducting socio-economic studies that can be applicable to environmental assessment processes. A Community Well-Being (CWB) framework of assessment can be used to develop baseline socio-economic studies. It is also a robust model that has an appropriate level of data and analysis necessary for an environmental assessment. This presentation examines how to develop community well-being factors, criteria, indicators and measures to evaluate the potential effects of projects on communities.</p> <p>Measuring well-being in a community is vital to knowing how that community is faring and provides critical information for decision-making regarding sustainable development in communities. Integral to the implementation of a CWB assessment is successful community engagement, relationship development and capacity building. However, it should be noted that there is no 'one size fits all' framework and practitioners need to tailor their approach to fit the specific needs of a project and community.</p>	<p><b>Moderator:</b> Andrew Harkness - <i>Principal and Director,</i> <i>Morrison-Hershfield</i></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Faiza Waheed - <i>HIA Specialist, Environmental</i> <i>Risk Analyst, Intrinsik Corp.</i></p> <p><b>Presenter:</b> Danya Braun - <i>Senior Project</i> <i>Manager, Socio-Economic</i> <i>Impact Assessment, Hardy</i> <i>Stevenson and Associates</i> <i>Limited</i></p>
12:30-1:45	LUNCH	

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
1:45-3:00	<p><b>SESSION 8: NATURAL RESOURCE IMPACT ASSESSMENT</b></p> <p><b>THE IMPORTANCE OF UNDERSTANDING DATA COLLECTION WINDOWS &amp; THEIR INFLUENCE ON PROJECT SUCCESS</b></p> <p>The timing and scheduling of Class Environmental Assessment studies are subject to a variety of pressures including financial considerations, population growth, and land use planning decisions. Often ignored are the data collection windows for a variety of disciplines required as part of the study. This presentation will provide the environmental assessment practitioner with a better understanding of the timing issues related to completing ecological surveys for the purpose of providing a meaningful understanding of natural heritage related issues. This is particularly relevant in larger and more complex studies such as Schedule 'C' Class environmental assessment projects. Such projects often require a higher rigour of understanding across many disciplines to inform the evaluation of alternatives and the development of relevant and applicable avoidance and mitigation strategies. To avoid costly project delays, optimum timing windows of typical ecological inventories are discussed in reference to scheduling the "data collection" phases of a study to assist the practitioner in avoiding pitfalls of having to rely on incomplete information during the evaluation and preliminary design phases.</p> <p><b>LANDSCAPE ECOLOGY &amp; ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT IN ONTARIO – BRIDGING GAPS IN BIODIVERSITY ASSESSMENT</b></p> <p>Environmental assessment guidelines routinely encourage the evaluation of impacts on biodiversity in regional contexts, including any changes to biodiversity composition, structure or pattern, and key processes that maintain biodiversity. This presentation explores the use of landscape ecology, which links landscape patterns and ecological processes, to enhance biodiversity dimensions of environmental assessment. With a focus on Ontario, this presentation assesses to what extent landscape ecology has informed environmental assessment.</p> <p>This research uses content analysis of 30 environmental assessment reports prepared over the last ten years (2007-2016) at the</p>	<p>Moderator Nick Crockford - <i>Morrison Hershfield</i></p> <p>Presenter: Michael Roy - <i>Principal Ecologist, SLR Consulting (Canada) Ltd.</i></p> <p>Presenter: Christina Rehbein - <i>PhD candidate, Carleton University</i></p>





TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
	<p>federal, provincial and local levels. The presentation analyses how environmental assessments and landscape ecology are co-evolving. Where disconnects and gaps exist, this presentation will introduce opportunities to develop critical information at scales of analysis that better relate to biodiversity.</p> <p><b>FEDERAL SPECIES AT RISK PERMITTING: CHALLENGES &amp; NEW OPPORTUNITIES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT PRACTITIONERS</b></p> <p>Canada's Species at Risk Act (SARA) can be challenging to navigate for environmental assessment practitioners when a project may impact species at risk under federal jurisdiction. To obtain timely SARA approvals, strict adherence to the mitigation hierarchy (avoid, mitigate, compensate) is often expected by approval authorities. Avoidance and mitigation are relatively well understood and regularly implemented concepts; however, there are often challenges with the practical implementation for developers. This can occur if developers are requested to consider avoidance alternatives at the permitting phase, since project layouts are often finalized prior to this during the environmental assessment phase. Furthermore, compensation practices, although not as common as avoidance or mitigation, can provide benefits to species at risk and to developers as they result in fewer implementation obstacles.</p> <p>This presentation will explore the challenges associated with federal SARA permitting and discuss opportunities to reduce risks through early consideration of species at risk in the planning process and the implementation of compensatory mitigation. Recent examples of compensation initiatives will be used to demonstrate practical options for developers with projects that interact with federal species at risk.</p>	<p>Presenter:            Kyle Hunt - <i>Senior Project Manager, Savanta Inc.</i></p>
3:00-3:15	<p><b>AFTERNOON BREAK</b>            Sponsored by Intrinsik: Environmental and Health Science Consulting Services</p>	
3:15-3:45	<p><b>SESSION 9: IMPLEMENTING CHANGE TO FEDERAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT: PRACTICE, LEGAL AND RESEARCH PERSPECTIVES</b></p> <p>The recommendations of the Expert Panel set up to review federal environmental assessment processes were sweeping – loved by</p>	<p>Moderator            Kevin Hanna - <i>Director, Center for Environmental Assessment Research, The University of British Columbia.</i></p>

# OAIA 2017

DAY 2 / OCTOBER 18

TIME	SESSION	SPEAKERS
	<p>some, derided by others, cautiously regarded by many. Now we have the government's response in the form of a Discussion Paper, and eventually we'll see more detailed plans for reform and change. Regardless of how far the government seeks to go in embracing the original recommendations, there will be substantial implementation challenges and a difficult transition process from environmental assessment as it is now to something that could be very different—or maybe not too different. This panel will be an open-ended conversational format, no formal presentations, based on a set of short questions posed by the moderator. We will build on the successful panel held last year at OAIA where we debated what the Expert Panel should do going forward. You can expect debate, disagreement, agreement, and informed argument amongst the panelists. There will be an opportunity for audience questions and to engage the debaters.</p> <p>The six 2017 panelists represent the environmental assessment practice and research community and bring together a range of perspectives and experiences from across Canada.</p> <p>There are 5 themes for the discussion, but these can be changed depending on the government's response to the Panel report and the results of the feedback over the Discussion Paper:</p> <p>Restoring public confidence in environmental assessment. Will proposed changes this do it? Or for that matter is there really a confidence crisis?</p> <p>Will the government's response address what some see as 'chronic' resource issues that affect the capacity of agencies to support environmental assessment?</p> <p>What are the key implementation challenges facing the new environmental assessment regime?</p> <p>Role of Indigenous governments and communities in a new environmental assessment regime?</p> <p>How will changes affect environmental assessment practice for proponents, consultants, and regulators?</p>	<p>Debaters;</p> <p>Brian Yates - <i>SNC Lavalin</i></p> <p>Mark Winfield - <i>York University</i></p> <p>Adam Chamberlain - <i>Gowling WLG</i></p> <p>Laurie Swami - <i>President, Nuclear Waste Management Office</i></p> <p>Anneliese Grieve - <i>Anneliese Grieve Strategic Environmental Planning Solutions</i></p>
4:45 -5:00	WRAP UP OF DAY 2 & CONFERENCE	Incoming President



# Presenter Biographies

**Charles (Chuck) J. Birchall, LL.B., LL.M.** is a Director and Conference Planning Committee Member for the OIA. Chuck is a partner at Willms & Shier Environmental Lawyers LLP and certified as an Environmental Law Specialist by the Law Society of Upper Canada. Chuck has over 27 years' experience devoted exclusively to environmental law and the intersection of environmental law with Aboriginal law, consultation and economic development. Chuck has particular expertise with environmental assessment and compliance, contaminated lands and energy law. Chuck received his LL.B. from Queen's University and his LL.M. in Common Law from the University of Ottawa. Chuck also has a B.A. (Hons.) in Political Science from the University of Toronto. Chuck is called to the Bar in Ontario, Nunavut and the Northwest Territories.

**Mary Boyden** has been involved in mining, adult education, and Indigenous-Industry relations in Treaty No. 9 for the last 30 years. Recently, her work with Goldcorp in Timmins stimulated an opportunity to invite Knowledge Keepers into mine reclamation strategies. The cross-sector relationship building that has resulted offers industry, government, academia, and Indigenous communities data to collaborate on new strategies to manage environmental issues.

**Danya Braun, M.A.**, Senior Project Manager, Socio-Economic Impact Assessment at Hardy Stevenson and Associates Limited, has an educational background in environmental management and geography. She has worked at Hardy Stevenson and Associates Limited as an environmental planner and project manager since 2007. Her main field of study is community-based socio-economic research for nuclear waste management in Canada.

**Peter Brown** has worked in the fields of environmental assessment and/or Indigenous engagement for about fifteen years, both as a private sector consultant and now as Aboriginal Consultation Advisor within the Environmental Approvals Access and Service Integration Branch (EAASIB) at the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change.

**Caroline Burgess, M.A., R.P.P., M.C.I.P.** is an independent consulting environmental planner and Managing Director of Odonaterra Inc.. Her company provides services primarily to Indigenous communities and organizations to foster positive relationships between Indigenous people, governments and industry. Caroline has over 22 years' experience in public and indigenous consultation, environmental assessment and regional environmental and land use planning. Caroline is also a part-time professor in the Geography Department at the University

of Ottawa where she developed and teaches a course about perspectives on crude oil transportation in Canada. Caroline is a Registered Professional Planner in Ontario, and a full member of the Canadian Institute of Planners. She has held the position of OIA Treasurer from 2013 – 2015 and is now serving as President. She holds an MA and an Honours BA, both in Human Geography, from the University of Alberta and the University of Saskatchewan respectively.

**Adam Chamberlain**, is a partner at Gowling WLG and participates in the firm's environmental, Indigenous and northern practices. He is active in environmental assessment across Canada and is called to the bar in all three territories. Adam is Certified as a Specialist in Environmental Law by the Law Society of Upper Canada.

**Cheryl Chetkiewicz, PhD**, is an Associate Conservation Scientist with Wildlife Conservation Society Canada leading field and applied research in Ontario's Far North. Her research focuses on regional-scale issues in the Far North, specifically wildlife (e.g., caribou, wolverine, freshwater fish) research and monitoring, assessing the cumulative impacts of land use and climate change on wildlife, and promoting the need for regional environmental and strategic assessments, especially in the Ring of Fire.

**Peter Croal** has been involved with indigenous peoples and impact assessment for over 30 years in Canada as well as internationally. He managed the Environmental Integration Unit at the Canadian International Development Agency for 20 years. His career started off as an exploration geologist in the mining, groundwater and petroleum fields. Peter has developed a number of tools to assist with the use of traditional knowledge in the impact assessment and development fields.

**Nick Crockford** has worked on numerous projects across Canada in infrastructure, automotive, waste management and sustainability in both the public and private sectors. Since joining Morrison Hershfield, Nick has assisted in coordinating Provincial environmental assessment process requirements; formulating and implementing consultation plans; coordinating and reviewing environmental and technical specialist work; coordinating socio-economic and land use data collection; and communicating with the public, and municipal and provincial government representatives.



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**Stephen Denault** is a Project Evaluator in the Environmental Approvals Branch of the MOECC. He currently works within the Project Review Unit, coordinating the review of Part II Order requests for Class Environmental Assessments. Stephen's experience and knowledge of municipal government and climate change mitigation and adaptation serves as an asset in his role reviewing infrastructure projects across Ontario. Stephen holds an Honours Bachelor Degree of Environmental Studies in Planning from the University of Waterloo, with specializations in urban design and land development planning.

**Franco DiGiovanni, PhD** is a Senior Air Quality Modeller with Airzone One Ltd. Franco has a PhD in Air Dispersion Modelling, PostDocs from University of Guelph and NSERC Visiting Fellowship to Environment Canada. He has been in his present position since 2000 and now manages the air quality modeling group with responsibilities for regulatory permit modeling, modeling for environmental assessments and Land Use Compatibility Assessments and Special Studies, as well as Emission Inventory and Reporting work. Also manage and implement air quality monitoring networks nationally and internationally.

**Andrew Evers** works at the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) as a Special Project Officer. He has eight years of experience working in the field of environmental resource management, assessment and stakeholder consultation. Andrew began his career as an Environmental Assessment Specialist for a large consulting firm working on environmental assessments in the renewable energy, nuclear, waste and transmission sectors. Andrew started with the MOECC in March 2014 as a Special Project Officer, managing proposed projects within the waste sector, and has recently completed a term as Supervisor in the Environmental Approvals Branch, managing staff responsible for the review of Part II Order Requests. Andrew has an undergraduate degree in Environmental Science and a Masters in Environmental Biology from the University of Guelph.

**Shannon Gauthier** is a Project Evaluator with the MOECC, Environmental Approvals Branch. She currently works in the Project Review Unit, coordinating the review of Part II Order requests for Class Environmental Assessments. She has managed a number of complex projects such as the Second Avenue Improvements, John Street Corridor, and Trent River Crossing. Shannon holds an Honours Bachelor Degree in Environmental Science, majoring in Environmental Biology from the University of Guelph.

**Paul Glassford** is a senior advisor on the forest environmental assessment with the Crown Forest and Lands Policy Branch, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry. Paul has worked with ministry in a variety of roles for over 28 years, most focused on environmental assessment in forest management. Paul is a graduate of the University of Waterloo's Environmental Studies program and has been the long-standing Chair of Ontario's Environmental Assessment Proponent Group.

**Lorne Grieg, MSc**, began his career in 1974 as a Fisheries Biologist and Systems Specialist at the Lake Huron Fisheries Assessment Unit. He joined ESSA in 1982 where for 30+ years he focused on adaptive management, decision analysis, conceptual and simulation modelling of human-environment interactions, and environmental management policy. CEA has been a natural and essential component of his work, including the provision of CEA advice to regulators, proponents and the Joint Review Panel for the Mackenzie Gas Project.

**Anneliese Grieve** is Managing Director at Anneliese Grieve Strategic Environmental Planning Solutions. She is an expert in the application of environmental assessment and decision-making processes for the approval of complex and controversial projects and has specialized expertise in conducting social impact assessments and stakeholder engagement. Anneliese has recently been part of the team undertaking an SEA for Wood Buffalo National Park.

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**Kevin Hanna** is Director of the Centre for Environmental Assessment Research at the University of British Columbia. His research focuses on best practices in environmental assessment, with an emphasis on cumulative effects assessment and the natural resource sectors. Kevin's current work is centred on Northern Canada and British Columbia.

**Andrew Harkness** is a Principal and a Director with Morrison Hershfield with over 25 years of experience. He specializes in Environmental Assessment planning and in managing multi-disciplinary project teams on a range of complex infrastructure projects. Andrew is currently undertaking a Feasibility Study and Environmental Impact Assessment for a 600 km all-season road between Highway 11 and the First Nation communities along the west coast of James Bay, the primary objective of which is the enhancement of community well-being. Andrew is certified as an ENVISION Sustainability Professional and is playing a lead role with Morrison Hershfield's clients in Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation.

**Ariane Heisey, MES, MCIP, RPP** has over 28 years of experience in environmental assessment. She currently works as a Senior Policy Advisor at the Ring of Fire Secretariat at Ontario Ministry of Northern Development and Mines. She is responsible for leading the development of policy and a programme to guide the coordination of environmental assessments, land use planning and permitting for new mines in the Ring of Fire located in the far north of the province. She holds an MES from York University and is a Registered Professional Planner and member of the Ontario Professional Planners Institute. She has been a member of the Board of OAIA since 2011 and is currently the Past President.

**Kyle Hunt**, Senior Project Manager, Savanta Inc., is an Environmental Assessment and Permitting expert with extensive experience delivering approvals for many high profile and complex renewable energy, transmission, power generation, pipeline, and waterfront development projects. As a skilled project manager and technical expert, Kyle has facilitated environmental approvals for projects across Canada through all levels of government. Some of these projects include the Henvey Inlet First Nation Wind Energy Project, a 300 MW Wind Energy Centre, and the Wataynikeneyap Power transmission routing study for over 1500 km of high voltage transmission corridors to connect 15 remote First Nation communities to the provincial grid.

**Greg Jenish** has for the past seven years provided support to the environmental assessment (EA) and approvals programs within the MOECC. In this capacity, he has developed guidance for the consideration of climate change in environmental assessment, and for priority subsectors requiring approval under the Ontario Water Resources Act. His project management

experience includes waste management, climate change mitigation and public consultation initiatives in the private, public and not-for-profit sectors.

**Colin Lachance** has been the President of Lachance Environmental for over 25 years. He received his Honours Bachelor of Arts in Earth Sciences at Carleton University and his Masters in Environmental Studies at York University in Toronto. He spent 16 years with the federal government in various positions including Manager of Panel Operations with the Federal Environmental Assessment Review Office and National Director of Environment and Natural Resources with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. He also spent many years directly assisting First Nations and Aboriginal organizations from a traditional perspective. He recently stepped down as the inaugural Corporate Secretary to the Northeast Superior Regional Chiefs Forum (NSRCF) to become the President of Wahkohtowin Development GP Inc., a reconciliation-based regional development corporation created by the NSRCF.

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**Carolyn Lee** works at the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) as a Project Officer. She is an environmental planner with over six years of environmental assessment experience in Ontario. She is currently at MOECC's Environmental Approvals Branch coordinating the review of individual environmental assessments. She previously worked for an engineering consulting firm conducting Municipal Class environmental assessments for water and wastewater projects. Carolyn has a bachelor's degree in Environmental Sciences from the University of British Columbia and a master's degree in Integrated Water Resources Management from McGill University.

**Jason MacLean** is an assistant professor of law at the University of Saskatchewan College of Law. His teaching and research focus on the law and policy of climate change, energy, and sustainability; environmental assessment; the administrative and constitutional law dimensions of environmental governance; and the legal theory of environmental regulation.

**Lisa Merritt, MSc**, Partner, Director Environmental Assessment Division with ASI, has worked as a consultant archaeologist since 1996 and holds a Professional Archaeological Licence issued by the Province. She has amassed over 20 years of experience and became a Partner at ASI in 2016. Lisa currently runs ASI's Environmental Assessment Division, located in ASI's Toronto and Burlington offices that provides their clients with the highest standard of service and professionalism in the heritage consulting industry. ASI's environmental assessment division successfully undertakes hundreds of archaeological assessment projects annually, supporting a myriad of environmental assessment legislation, including Municipal Class environmental assessments, Transit Project Assessments, and Individual environmental assessments.

**Simon Miles** is a consultant on public policy and international development. He has worked in over 50 countries advising on environmental, natural resource, socio-economic, and technological policies and programmes, with an emphasis on their integration. When President of the Conservation Council

of Ontario, he led its strategic environmental assessment of the Province of Ontario's conservation and development policies and programmes, that was conducted using multi-interest teams; he also chaired a CCO committee on regulations for the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act. He has worked to improve institutional capacity for environmental assessment in developing countries and has conducted SEAs of international development programmes. Simon has been a Director of OAIA since 2004, serving as Secretary from 2004 to 2016.

**Derrick Moggy** has significant experience in fisheries and environmental assessment. His career has spanned from his current role as a Team Leader at the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency to his prior roles at Fisheries and Oceans Canada and the Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change. Derrick has an Honours Bachelor of Science in Biology and a Post-Graduate Certificate in Environmental Management.

**Joseph Muller** is in his 5th year with the province as a heritage planner, reviewing the cultural heritage component of environmental assessment projects and municipal official plans, in addition to OPS policy initiatives and reviews. Prior to the OPS, he was a heritage planner in Hamilton for 11 years, where he drafted the city's protocol for Indigenous consultation and archaeology management plan. Previously he taught university-level archaeology, anthropology and GIS/GPS and worked as a consultant archaeologist for numerous environmental assessment projects. He retains his archaeology license, is a registered professional planner (OPPI), and is a member of the Canadian Association of Heritage Professionals.

**Anjala Puvananathan** has significant experience in the federal civil service working in predominantly policy and management positions in the areas of environment, health and public health. She is currently a director on the board of the Ontario Association for Impact Assessment, and the Director, Ontario Region at the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency.





**Justina Ray, PhD**, is a wildlife biologist and president and senior scientist of Wildlife Conservation Society Canada. She has been appointed to numerous government advisory panels related to policy development for species at risk and land use planning in Ontario and Canada, and is the co-chair of the Terrestrial Mammal Subcommittee of the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). She is Adjunct Professor at the University of Toronto (Faculty of Forestry) and Trent University (Environmental & Life Sciences Graduate Program).

**Christina Rehbein**, PhD candidate, in the Department of Geography and Environmental Studies at Carleton University. She is working under the supervision of Dr. Scott Mitchell and Dr. Mike Brklacich. Christina returned to scholarship after ten years working in government, consulting, and non-profit sectors on issues related to conservation and environmental planning. Christina holds a B.Sc. from Queen's University and an M.E.S. from the University of Waterloo.

**Caroline Rodgers** has worked in the field of climate change for the last 9 years with an emphasis on incorporating climate change considerations in the environmental assessment process. Caroline now works as Senior Program Support Coordinator for the Environmental Assessment Program within the Environmental Approvals Access and Service Integration Branch at the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change.

**Michael Roy** is a Principal Ecologist with SLR Consulting specializing in fish habitat studies, impact assessment and the procurement of environmental approvals. With over 25 years of consulting experience primarily in land development and infrastructure planning and design, he has participated in over 80 Class environmental assessment and IEA projects at municipal, provincial and federal levels. He has been qualified before the OMB and in court as an expert witness to provide evidence and opinion on impact assessment of shoreline development and is also a past-President of the American Fisheries Society Ontario Chapter and a former Partial-Load Professor at Humber College.

**Blair Shoniker** is a Senior Waste & Environmental Planner with GHD with 14 years of solid waste and environmental planning experience, both in private consulting and the public sector, in Ontario and throughout Canada. His professional skill-set includes solid waste planning, environmental assessments for variety of sectors and providing strategic advice on the implementation of environmental programs and projects. Blair's Master's Thesis focused on how Strategic Environmental Assessment could be adopted in Ontario.

**Laurie Swami**, President and CEO, Nuclear Waste Management Office (NWMO). She was appointed to the role in 2016 and is responsible for implementing Canada's plan for the long-term management of used nuclear fuel. Ms. Swami previously served as Senior Vice-President of Decommissioning and Nuclear Waste Management at OPG. Her responsibilities at OPG included leading major nuclear environmental assessments for OPG.

**Dr. Faiza Waheed** is a Health Impact Assessment Specialist and an Environmental Risk Analyst at Intrinsic Corp. Faiza recently completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Dalla Lana School of Public Health, University of Toronto and Intrinsic, where her work primarily comprised of conducting research in the field of Health Impact Assessment (HIA). Her main area of interest is in exploring how major transportation infrastructure projects and policies impact health.

**Mark Winfield** is a Professor of Environmental Studies at York University. He is also Co-Chair of the Faculty's Sustainable Energy Initiative, and Coordinator of the Joint Master of Environmental Studies/Juris Doctor program offered in conjunction with Osgoode Hall Law School. He has published articles, book chapters and reports on a wide range of environmental, energy and climate change law and policy topics. Mark's book, *Blue-Green Province: The Environment and Political Economy of Ontario* was published by UBC Press in 2012.

**Tomasz Wlodarczyk** is a Principal and National Manager, Environmental and Social Impact Assessment, with SLR Consulting (Canada) Ltd. He has over 28 years' experience, providing expertise in a number of areas including: strategic planning, policy research, analysis and development, environmental and socio-economic impact assessment, strategic environmental assessment and program evaluation. Tomasz specializes in developing innovative and community-based approaches to the implementation of government and corporate policies, plans and programs. Tomasz applies his socio-economic expertise in undertaking a variety of Community Well-being, shared value and sustainability assessments for government and industry.

**Brian Yates**, is Vice President, Impact Assessment and Community Engagement at SNC Lavalin. Based in Vancouver, BC, he has led environmental assessment strategy, stakeholder consultation initiatives, and regulatory planning efforts for major capital projects throughout British Columbia, across Canada, and internationally.

The logo for Intrinsic features a stylized green and blue circular icon above the word "intrinsic" in a lowercase, sans-serif font. The "i" and "n" are blue, while the "t", "r", "i", "n", "s", "i", "k" are green.

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