



**Ontario Association for
Impact Assessment**

**2023 Conference
Preliminary Program**

**Next Generation Impact and Environmental
Assessment in Ontario**

Wednesday, October 25, 2023 & Thursday, October 26, 2023

University of Toronto Faculty Club, Wedgewood Room & Main Lounge

41 Willcocks Street, Toronto

In person & Virtual Options

Our conference will be held in Toronto (Tkaronto), a gathering place for many nations including the Anishinabeg, the Haudenosaunee, and the Wendat peoples. We acknowledge we are meeting in the area covered by Treaty 13, also known as the Toronto Purchase, and we pay our respects to the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation

Overview

At this year's conference we are exploring where Impact & Environmental Assessments are going next.

We are focusing on four main themes:

- Innovative Approaches and Quick Wins
- Meaningful Engagement
- Sustainable Development
- Climate Resilient Infrastructure

Through presentations and moderated sessions, we will highlight how impact and environmental assessments are moving forward to be more inclusive, more practical, and more technically advanced. Over the course of two days, we will hear from a variety of presenters, including government agencies, infrastructure proponents, consultants, regulators, NGOs and Indigenous Peoples.

Conference Planning Committee

- Beth Williston – Toronto & Region Conservation Authority (*Conference Co-Chair*)
- Dorothy Moszynski – Ontario Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (*Conference Co-Chair*)
- Blair Shoniker – GHD
- Hayley Austin - Stantec
- Luis Orantes – Parsons Corporation
- Rebecca D'Onofrio – Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
- Sandy Nairn – HDR
- Violetta Savage – City of Toronto
- Sue Bilek & Sylvia Waters – OAIA Administrators

Registration

Registration information is now available! We encourage you to register before September 15th to take advantage of our early bird rates. Please [register on our website at the registration page](#).

Sponsors

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DAY 1 PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM	REGISTRATION & LIGHT REFRESHMENTS	
9:00 AM – 9:10 AM	PRESIDENT’S WELCOME	BETH WILLISTON
9:10 AM – 9:15 AM	LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	TO BE ANNOUNCED
9:15 AM – 9:45 AM	KEYNOTE ADDRESS	GARY PRICHARD, 4DIRECTIONS CONSERVATION
9:45 AM – 4:45 PM	SESSIONS 1, 2, 3 & 4	
4:45 PM – 5:00 PM	CLOSING REMARKS FROM THE PRESIDENT	BETH WILLISTON
5:00 PM – 8:00 PM	NETWORKING & SOCIALIZING COMPLIMENTARY APPETIZERS & CASH BAR	

DAY 1 PROGRAM DETAILS

ITEM	TIME	TOPIC	ABSTRACT	PARTICIPANTS
SESSION 1: LAND, WATER & INDIGENOUS CONNECTIONS				
1 (a)	9:45 am – 10:15 am	Impact of Land & Water	<p>Are Impact & Environmental Assessments still harming Indigenous peoples?</p> <p>Development, climate change, and colonialism have undoubtedly impacted many ecosystems within Canada and the world. Forests, wetlands, rivers, and lakes all play a critical role in the spiritual and cultural life of the Michi Saagiig Nishnaabeg. Through generations, the Michi Saagiig have developed relationships with the land and waters that reflect intimate local knowledge of place. Despite this history, Indigenous peoples have largely been excluded from impact assessments. This presentation will introduce participants to the Michi Saagiig and their territory, Indigenous worldviews on reclaiming, restoring, and rewilding nature, and examine how current Western approaches to ecological restoration uphold or infringe upon Indigenous Rights.</p>	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Presenter: Gary Pritchard CEO, Senior Ecologist 4 Directions of Conservation Consulting Services</p>
BREAK & NETWORKING - 10:15 AM – 10:30 AM				

ITEM	TIME	TOPIC	ABSTRACT	PARTICIPANTS
1 (b)	10:30 am – 11:00 am	Effective Indigenous Consultation	<p>The Changing Landscape of Meaningful Indigenous Engagement</p> <p>This panel will share their experiences on leading projects with Indigenous engagement components across Ontario. Presenters will focus; particularly on emerging changes to the environmental impact assessment process regarding Indigenous engagement as well as how proponents are bolstering their expectations for what that engagement includes. The panel will draw on their recent project experience and present their learnings from Indigenous engagement on recent transit projects, residential developments, and Environmental Assessments. Emphasis will be placed on lessons learned, best practices, and future expectations for Indigenous engagement, with the goal of preparing the audience to adapt to the new landscape of delivering projects.</p>	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Presenters: Jeremiah Pariag Consultation & Engagement Lead HDR</p> <p>Sandy Nairn Environmental Sciences & Planning Director, Canada HDR</p> <p>Janine Ralph Planning Services Cross Sector Manager, Canada HDR</p>
1 (b)	11:00 am – 11:10 am	Indigenous Led IA	<p>Operationalizing Indigenous-Led Impact Assessments in Nuclear Waste Siting Context</p> <p>Indigenous communities have adopted different models of Indigenous-led IA and though there have been advancements in defining the concept, what characterizes an 'Indigenous-led' IA is still in a state of flux. The author reflects on a joint-project with experts in the field which attempts to advance scholarly understanding by identifying criteria that can usefully be applied to better understand the evolving picture of how Indigenous nations participate in IA and investigates what Indigenous-led IA looks like when considering nuclear waste infrastructure proposals with contrasting opportunities for Indigenous decision-making when siting radioactive wastes.</p>	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Presenters: Laura Tanguay PHD Candidate York University</p>
<p>11:10 AM TO 11:30 AM – PANEL DISCUSSION WITH GARY, JEREMIAH, SANDY, JANINE & LAURA</p>				

ITEM	TIME	TOPIC	ABSTRACT	PARTICIPANTS
SESSION 2: INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO IMPACT & ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT				
2 (a)	11:30 am – 12:00 pm	Innovative and Changing Approaches	<p>Research & Innovation in Impact Assessment</p> <p>The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada will focus on the theme of innovative approaches and quick wins by highlighting recent research completed under the Agency's research program. The session will build awareness of the program, highlight recent partnerships, and share innovative approaches in impact assessment methodology such as tools and resources for supporting high quality and inclusive assessments. An interactive workshop will follow the presentation to engage participants on themes and priorities for future research priorities.</p>	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Presenters: Michael Grassi Manager, Science & Research Impact Assessment Agency of Canada</p> <p>Jenna Wolno Operational Policy Officer Impact Assessment Agency of Canada</p>
LUNCH - 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM				
2 (b)	1:00 PM – 1:20 PM	Deregulation	<p>Case Study in Highway Exemptions – Do they meet the goals of IA?</p> <p>Re case study in attempted deregulation of 2 highways in Ontario – Highway 413 and Bradford Bypass. Avoiding delays and moving towards certainty is not the goal of IA. The goal of IA is to move towards more sustainable solutions to problems facing society and to advance reconciliation with First Nations (FNs). Exemptions undermine the foundations of IA and cause the very delays and uncertainty that proponents are trying to avoid. Exemptions also undermine meaningful consultation with the public and FNs – which will inevitably cause delay.</p>	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Presenter: Laura Bowman Senior Staff Lawyer Ecojustice Canada</p>
2 (c)	1:20 PM – 1:45 PM	Advancing Biodiversity Considerations through Impacts Assessment	<p>Principles and Guidance for Assessing and Safeguarding Biodiversity through Project Assessment under the <i>Impact Assessment Act</i></p> <p>The <i>Impact Assessment Act</i> requires assessments to consider the extent to which projects help or hinder Canada's ability to meet its environmental obligations, including the goals and targets of the Kunming-Montreal Global</p>	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Presenter: Anna S A Johnston Staff Lawyer West Coast Environmental Law</p>

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			<p>Biodiversity Framework ratified by parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in December 2022.</p> <p>Presenters will explore how assessments can better assess biodiversity effects and help us meet our biodiversity obligations. They will discuss the relevant Canadian legal and policy landscape, identifies gaps and challenges in assessing biodiversity effects in impact assessment, outlines key principles for assessing biodiversity effects, and recommends ways to incorporate those principles in project-level assessment.</p>	<p>Justina Ray President and Senior Scientist Wildlife Conservation Society Canada</p>
2 (d)	1:45 pm – 2:15 pm	Advancing sustainable development of natural resources through applied research	<p>NRCan’s Selecting Terrestrial Areas Initiative: Prioritizing study areas to conduct cumulative effects (CE) research to support the potential need for science, technical advice, and knowledge in resource development projects</p> <p>Accounting for CE of natural resource projects is an important part of impact assessments. With the anticipated future development of numerous critical minerals, renewable energy, and sustainable forestry projects, many of which will overlap geographically with current and past development, there is a need to advance research to better understand and manage CE. NRCan is currently undertaking an initiative to help guide its researchers on potential study areas and to encourage interdisciplinary collaboration. In this presentation, we highlight our work to date and seek feedback from members of the IA community.</p>	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Presenters: Christina Clarke Team Lead Natural Resources Canada</p> <p>Brian G. Eddy Research Scientist, Ecosystems Analyst Natural Resources Canada</p> <p>Alison Milan Policy Analyst Natural Resources Canada</p>
2:15 PM TO 2:30 PM – Q & A WITH MICHAEL, JENNA, ANNA, JUSTINA, CHRISTINA & ALISON				
BREAK & NETWORKING - 2:30 PM – 2:50 PM				
SESSION 3: A FOCUS ON NEW APPROACHES – ADVANCING DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES				

ITEM	TIME	TOPIC	ABSTRACT	PARTICIPANTS
3 (a)	2:50 pm – 3:10 pm	Innovative Approaches	<p>Sustainable Infrastructure Planning and Delivery: A Digital Transformation</p> <p>Delivering an ambitious infrastructure program requires a new approach. An approach that not only promotes engagement, but also decreases the time required to make decisions on projects – increasing accessibility for project stakeholders and community members. Cloud-based, interactive solutions will be essential to deliver these projects on task and on time with better outcomes for all.</p> <p>AECOM's PlanEnage™ platform streamlines report delivery by allowing project teams to craft interactive digital reports: blending text, geospatial data, multimedia functionality, and digital engagement tools. An integrated review and commenting workflow ensure stakeholders and communities have continuous access throughout a project's lifespan.</p>	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Presenters: Rayna Carmichael Digital/ GIS Manager Environment Canada AECOM</p> <p>Mauricio Palomin Vice President Global Digital Leader, SaaS</p>
3 (b)	3:10 pm – 3:30 pm	Better Practices	<p>Advancing Digital Technologies to Improve the Regulators Plan Input and Review Commenting System</p> <p>Through our new fully digitized, web-based cloud platform, planning and permit review, approval and enforcement are modernizing at the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority! Through automation, modern interfaces and communication instruments will provide for streamlined coordination between staff and clients. An interactive dashboard will provide for real-time status updates. Incorporating BlueBeam Studio Prime™ into our review will allow for real time and interactive collaboration. Future integrations will allow for APIs to be built, making integration with municipal, agency and private enterprise planning solutions in our jurisdiction a reality.</p>	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Presenters: Beth Williston Associate Director, Infrastructure Planning and Permits Toronto and Region Conservation Authority</p> <p>Mark McKnight Chief Information Officer Toronto and Region Conservation Authority</p>
3:30 PM TO 3:45 PM – PANEL DISCUSSION WITH RAYA, MAURICIO, BETH & MARK				
SESSION 4: A FOCUS ON NEW APPROACHES – ADVANCING PERMITTING AND APPROVALS				

ITEM	TIME	TOPIC	ABSTRACT	PARTICIPANTS
4 (a)	3:45 pm - 4:10 pm	Modernized approaches and benefits to infrastructure planning	<p>Focusing Impact Assessment on Key Issues</p> <p>The <i>Impact Assessment Act</i> (IAA) seeks to balance protection of environmental, health, social and economic conditions, in a precautionary manner, with assessment processes that are timely, fair, predictable, and efficient. To meet these objectives, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) sets the scope of the impact assessment in project-specific Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines issued at the end of the Planning Phase. This presentation will detail IAAC’s approach to developing guidelines focused on the key issues for decision making and will present preconditions for successful tailoring with a discussion of two case studies.</p>	<p>Moderator:</p> <p>Presenter: Brian Giles Senior Policy Analyst</p>
4 (b)	4:10 pm - 4:30 pm	Modernized approaches and benefits to infrastructure permitting and construction	<p>Early Permits, Licences, Approvals and Agreements (PLAA) Collaboration within Environmental Impact Assessments</p> <p>Requests for Permits, Licenses, Approvals and Agreements (PLAA) efforts within Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) submissions has been increasing over the years. While PLAA is a niche profession when it comes to environmental work, it is integral that it be collaborated on within EIA projects early to ensure that communications and the understanding of changing project expectations are known and PLAA work can appropriately adapt as the EIA team navigates design processes. This ensures a seamless transition from EIA to construction. Our presentation will explore why early PLAA integration is important, referencing project examples.</p>	<p>Moderator:</p> <p>Presenters: Jessica McMullin Environmental Planner WSP</p> <p>Catherine Gentile Senior Environmental Planner and Team Lead WSP</p>

ITEM	TIME	TOPIC	ABSTRACT	PARTICIPANTS
4 (c)	4:30 pm - 4:55 pm	Modernized approaches to EAs in Ontario	<p>Environmental Assessment Modernization</p> <p>The MECP will be providing an update on its efforts to modernize Ontario's environmental assessment program.</p>	<p>Moderator:</p> <p>Presenters: To Be Confirmed Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks</p>
4:45 PM TO 4:55 PM – Q & A WITH JESSICA, CATHERINE, BRIAN, CHRISTINE & ROSS				

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DAY 2 PROGRAM AT A GLANCE

8:30 AM – 9:00 AM	REGISTRATION & LIGHT REFRESHMENTS	
9:00 AM – 9:15 AM	PRESIDENT’S WELCOME, PAST-PRESIDENT AWARD & STUDENT BURSARY	BETH WILLISTON
9:15 AM – 9:20 AM	LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	TO BE ANNOUNCED
9:15 AM – 4:45 PM	SESSIONS 5, 6, 7 & 8	
4:45 PM – 5:00 PM	CLOSING REMARKS, 2024 CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT & ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NOTIFICATION	BETH WILLISTON

DAY 2 PROGRAM DETAILS

ITEM	TIME	TOPIC	ABSTRACT	PARTICIPANTS
SESSION 5: IMPACT BENEFITS AGREEMENT RELATED TO INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES				
5 (a)	9:20 am – 9:45 am	Indigenous Consultation	<p>Opportunities for Maximizing Indigenous Leadership in the Impact Assessment Process</p> <p>The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) is responsible for fair, predictable, and efficient implementation of the <i>Impact Assessment Act</i> while also ensuring respect for the rights of the Indigenous Peoples of Canada recognized and affirmed by section 35 of the <i>Constitution Act, 1982</i>. In implementing the <i>Impact Assessment Act</i>, the Agency works closely with Indigenous communities to collaboratively understand and assess impacts on the exercise of rights. During this presentation the Agency will discuss its approach to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Scoping Indigenous communities for consultation during the pre-planning phase. 2. Working with Indigenous communities prior to the determination on whether an impact assessment is required to understand the community’s interest and potential impacts from the project; and 3. Identifying communities for consultation in the Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan at the end of the planning phase. 	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Presenter: Amanda Spitzig Senior Consultation Analyst Impact Assessment Agency of Canada</p>

ITEM	TIME	TOPIC	ABSTRACT	PARTICIPANTS
5 (b)	9:45 am – 10:10 am	How Indigenous communities work with Government vs. Industry proponents	<p>What does the Blueberry River Decision mean for next generation IBAs</p> <p>In a landmark case <i>Yahey v British Columbia</i>, the BC Superior Court held that BC had failed to discharge the duty to consult when it failed to properly assess and manage the cumulative effects of hundreds of permits in the Blueberry River First Nation territory. The court made the point that permit-by-permit consultation does not adequately address the cumulative impacts on the exercise of Treaty rights.</p> <p>Rather than appealing the decision, in January of this year, as a direct result of <i>Yahey</i> decision, the Blueberry River First Nation and the Province of BC entered into an Implementation Agreement, followed by similar agreements between BC and each of four additional Treaty 8 First Nations. The Agreements provide a collaborative approach to land and resource planning, cumulative effects management, and revenue sharing. They are based on on-going relationships rather than one-off project reviews.</p> <p>This presentation will consider the BC Implementation Agreements and what they could mean for future Impact Benefit Agreements between resource companies and First Nations, whether in BC or elsewhere in Canada. We will discuss the opportunities, even though IBAs are negotiated on a project-by-project basis which makes it challenging to replicate the Implementation Agreement approach.</p>	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Presenter: Julie Abouchar Partner, Certified Specialist in Environmental Law and Indigenous Legal Issues by the Law Society of Ontario Willims & Shier Environmental Lawyers LLP.</p>
10:10 AM TO 10:20 AM – Q & A WITH AMANDA & JULIE				
BREAK & NETWORKING - 10:20 AM – 10:40 AM				
5 (c)	10:40 am – 11:10 am	Indigenous Led EA	<p>Indigenous Led EAs – the good, the bad and the ugly. The story of how 3 Indigenous led EA’s have evolved and some of the challenges and opportunities encountered</p> <p>Two northern Ontario First Nations, Marten Falls First Nation, and Webequie First Nation are co-proponents leading the EAs for 3 road projects</p>	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Presenters: Michael Fox President Indigenous</p>

ITEM	TIME	TOPIC	ABSTRACT	PARTICIPANTS
			<p>within the Ring of Fire area within their traditional territories. The project team will share insights about challenges and opportunities including: the story of where we started and where we are now and the evolution of discourse around project planning and impacts on project level including Regional Assessments, cumulative impacts, Federal and Ontario EA coordination in the 2020s, Federal Table, UNDRIP, TRC, capacity, self-determination, reconciliation, misinformation, braiding western science and Indigenous knowledge, and the search for meaningful engagement.</p>	<p>Community Engagement</p> <p>Qasim Saddique Principle Consultant SUSLOP Inc.</p>
5 (d)	11:10 am – 11:40 pm	Innovating and Changing Approaches	<p>Connecting the Arctic: Inuit-lead Submarine Cable Routing & Feasibility Study</p> <p>The team will share their experiences associated with the preliminary routing, and feasibility assessment for consideration of a submarine option for Kivalliq Hydro-Fibre Link (KHFL) in co-operation with the Nukik Corporation. KHFL is a 100% Inuit-owned and Inuit-led green inter-tie project that will be Nunavut’s first infrastructure link to Southern Canada, providing clean, renewable power and fibre-optic internet capacity. Presenters will focus on how this type of preliminary routing assessment can be carried out in an innovative and timely manner considering the use of various information sources, data acquisition tools, and associated challenges; permitting and regulatory reviews; and a review of assessment strategies, lessons learned and next step.</p>	<p>Moderator:</p> <p>TBD</p> <p>Presenters:</p> <p>Ryan Doyle Environmental Sciences & Planning, Eastern Canada Lead HDR</p> <p>Sarah Zappala Routing & Siting Lead HDR</p> <p>Alison Williams Intermediate Environmental Planner HDR</p>
11:40 AM TO 12:00 PM – Q & A WITH MICHAEL, QASIM, ELAINE & FAIZA				
LUNCH - 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM				

SESSION 6: MODERNIZING TECHNOLOGIES				
6 (a)	1:00 pm – 1:15 pm	Better Practices	<p>Using Virtual Sound Demonstrations to Demonstrate Changes in Noise to Communities</p> <p>Noise impact reports rely on numerical value changes of sound levels to describe expected noise impacts to communities and stakeholders. However, it is difficult for these values to accurately portray what these noise impacts may sound like in practice to the public.</p> <p>Using auralization tools, AECOM has produced online virtual sound demonstrations (with accompanying real and animated footage) for various locations near a planned subway/railway corridor to help stakeholders listen to what the project may sound like in their community, as well as how acoustic mitigation methods may impact the sound from the trains. https://www.ontariolinesoundstudio.ca/</p>	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Presenters: Brian Bulnes Acoustic Engineer AECOM Canada Inc.</p> <p>Alex Southern Senior Acoustic Engineer AECOM UK Inc.</p> <p>Alan Oldfield Acoustic Engineer AECOM Canada Inc.</p>
6 (b)	1:15 pm – 1:30 pm	Climate Action	<p>The Role of Earth Observation Data in Decision-Making around Climate Resilient Infrastructure</p> <p>Green infrastructure, which encompasses wetlands, natural corridors, urban forests, and waterways, plays a crucial role in mitigating the adverse social and economic impacts of extreme climate events. However, the essential ecological services they provide are under pressure from land use change and policy fragmentation. This presentation will demonstrate the utilization of uncrewed aerial vehicles (UAVs) as an earth observation tool for managing green infrastructure. It aims to show:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How UAVs can complement both fieldwork and satellite data. 2. Data applications to monitor the health of ecosystem services. 3. How the data outputs provide valuable insights for decision-makers. 	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Presenter: Grace Saunders-Hogberg Founder Consultant Veritas Terrae</p>

6 (c)	1:30 pm – 1:40 pm	A Water-Centric Model for Impact Assessment Planning WINNER OAIA STUDENT BURSSARY	<p>Reconsidering Environmental-Cultural Flows in Development Decision-Making in Canada through Grounded Theory</p> <p>Environmental-cultural flows (water set aside for ecosystems/people) concepts have the potential to protect water more comprehensively in impact assessment. Through grounded theory (interviews/review), we answer how these concepts are and could be embedded within Canadian assessment. The concepts are now considered in dam, gas, and mining projects, with emphasis on fish habitat, not collaboration or cumulative withdrawals. We propose regional readiness through water conversations, connections, and classifications, following best examples in Canadian environmental-cultural flow-based initiatives in assessments (e.g., Saint John and Athabasca watersheds). A shared understanding of environmental-cultural flows could strengthen how we value water in assessments.</p>	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Presenters: Nathanael Bergbusch PHD Candidate University of Waterloo</p>
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1:40 PM TO 1:50 PM – Q & A WITH BRIAN, ALAN ALEX, GRACE & NATHANAEL

SESSION 7: COMMUNICATION & CONSULTATION – INTEGRATING DIVERSE VOICES

7 (a)	1:50 pm – 2:15 pm	Integrated GBA+	<p>Equitable representation of Indigenous women, girls, and gender diverse persons in Impact Assessments</p> <p>Can we build equity and representation for Indigenous women and gender diverse people into IA processes through training, raising awareness and developing supportive networks? The Empowered Voices project team is building Indigenous women’s capacity to participate in IA through community led research and outreach. We have recently published an Indigenous lens GBA+ framework that outlines strategies to generate equitable representation of Indigenous women’s interests. We will outline our framework for integrating intersectionality into IA phases, and present practical, realistic methods for generating meaningful consultations for impacted First Nations and Inuit women and gender diverse peoples.</p>	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Presenters: Alexandra Bridges Project Manager Keepers of the Circle Britney Zacharuk Project Manager Keepers of the Circle</p>
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BREAK & NETWORKING - 2:15 PM – 2:30 PM

7 (a)	2:30 pm – 2:50 pm	Innovative Approaches - Better Practices	<p>Conducting Engagement in Health Impact Assessment</p> <p>Our discussion will focus on our approach and ability to integrate diverse voices when conducting engagement and consultation for Health Impact Assessments (HIA) conducted on resource development and major infrastructure development projects. We will aim to highlight the challenges and barriers faced when conducting effective engagement and consultation, as well as demonstrate the positive outcomes/benefits that far outweigh said challenges. We will discuss our experience with past projects to highlight some aspects of engagement with Indigenous communities as well as other stakeholders by employing a Gender-Based Analysis Plus approach in HIAs.</p>	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Presenters: Elaine Larocque Environmental Risk Assessor Intrinsic Corp.</p> <p>Dr. Faiza Waheed Health Impact Assessment Lead/ Environmental Health Scientist Intrinsic Corp.</p>
SESSION 8: NEED FOR SECURE INFRASTRUCTURE – INNOVATION & CLIMATE ACTION				
8 (a)	2:50 pm – 3:20 pm	Inclusive Approaches	<p>Ashbridges Bay Landform: Working with Stakeholders for Innovative Solution</p> <p>The Ashbridges Bay Landform Project is an integrated solution to successfully realize several critical planning initiatives. A Conservation Ontario Class Environmental Assessment (EA) undertaken by Toronto and Region Conservation Authority (2015) considered the planned facilities for three other City of Toronto led EAs that were previously approved in the study area and at various stages of design.</p> <p>This project has demonstrated that through stakeholder-inclusive planning, innovative and comprehensive solutions can be achieved to meet the challenges of urban infrastructure planning while providing for enhanced habitat and public realm opportunities.</p>	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Presenters: Lisa Turnbull Associate Director, Restoration & Infrastructure Toronto & Region Conservation Authority</p> <p>Co-Presenter Vlad Petran Senior Engineer</p> <p>City of Toronto, Toronto Waterfront</p>

8 (b)	3:20 pm – 3:30 pm	Qualitative Approaches	<p>Employing Qualitative Methods for Assessing Impacts of Major Projects in Canada</p> <p>The purpose of my research was to explore how qualitative methods contribute to next generation IA. My objectives include identifying qualitative methods and how they are being used currently, and documenting barriers and good practices of use from Teck’s Frontier Mine and BC Hydro’s Site C Dam. Through a constructivist design employing document review and interviews I expected to identify common methods and how they were used. I found interviews and focus groups to be common and I identified many opportunities and challenges to overcome for qualitative methods to contribute to better assessment through identifying concerns of communities involved.</p>	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Presenters: Brendan Middel Masters Student University of Manitoba</p>
8 (c)	3:30 PM – 3:50 PM	Quantitative approaches	<p>A Quantitative Approach to Carbon Life-Cycle Assessment and Decarbonization of Infrastructure Projects</p> <p>The built environment accounts for a significant amount of greenhouse gas emission released into the atmosphere. Managing the carbon impact of a project’s construction, operation, and maintenance phases is critical to achieve net-zero emissions and mitigate further climate change. AECOM has contributed to reducing emissions in Ontario municipalities by recommending efficient approaches to decarbonization, including adopting zero emission vehicle fleets and reducing emissions in across assets. AECOM has the tools, methods, and resources to be able to quantify a project’s life-cycle carbon emissions, serving Canada’s ongoing need to decarbonize our infrastructure and construction sectors.</p>	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Presenter: Fabianna Palacios Air Quality Specialist AECOM Canada Inc</p>
8 (d)	3:50 pm – 4:15 pm	Climate Emergencies	<p>Coastal zone mitigation and adaption infrastructure: can federal IAs help?</p> <p>Infrastructure projects on freshwater and marine coasts are critical to climate change adaption strategies, and impact assessment is vital planning tool to assure sustainable development goals are being met. Provision for IAs for such projects are normally covered under the category ‘Projects on Federal Lands’. However, such IAs differ significantly from IAs for ‘designated projects. This paper briefly reviews those differences and reports on research from Atlantic Canada to suggests why</p>	<p>Moderator: TBD</p> <p>Presenters: Ian Gordon Stewart Doctor University of King’s College</p>

				this places a problematic limitation on the role of IA for supporting adaption strategies in coastal environments.	
4:15 PM TO 4:30 PM – Q & A WITH LISA, VLAD, BRENDAN, FABIANNA & IAN					

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