



OAIA

Ontario Association for
Impact Assessment

2026 OAIA Conference

**Beyond Assessment:
Shaping the Future of
Assessment Through
Innovation & Lifecycle
Thinking**

NOVEMBER 3 & 4
ONTARIO BAR ASSOCIATION
TORONTO

Welcome from the President

For more than 30 years, the Ontario Association for Impact Assessment has brought together practitioners, researchers, Indigenous Knowledge holders, regulators, proponents, academics, and public- and private-sector professionals to advance impact assessment practice in Ontario.

We are meeting at a pivotal moment. As governments seek to accelerate major projects, streamline approvals, and reduce duplication, our profession must continue to uphold environmental responsibilities, support meaningful consultation with Indigenous communities, and maintain public trust through transparent, evidence-based decision-making.



Our theme, “Beyond Assessment: Shaping the Future of Assessment Through Innovation & Lifecycle Thinking,” reflects the role impact assessment plays throughout a project’s lifecycle. Over the next two days, we will explore how early decisions shape projects, how impact assessment is evolving, and how commitments drive meaningful results from design through construction and operations.

This theme was brought to life during our Pre-Conference Walking Tour at the groundbreaking Biidaasige Park. Heidi Whetung (Curve Lake First Nation), OAIA’s Indigenous Knowledge Committee, Waterfront Toronto, the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, and other experts, shared how assessment, Indigenous engagement, design, restoration, and monitoring contributed to the incredible transformation of the mouth of the Don River and surrounding lands.

We welcome Heidi Whetung and thank her for opening and closing our conference through traditional ceremony. We also recognize OAIA’s Indigenous Knowledge Committee for embedding Indigenous perspectives and experiences throughout our program.

My sincere thanks go to Conference Chair Sabrina Wong, Co-Chair Alexia Miljus, and the Conference Planning Committee for developing such a timely and engaging program. I would also like to recognize our Past President, Beth Williston, and the OAIA Board of Directors. OAIA is in a strong position because of the leadership and momentum built over the past several years.

Thank you also to our presenters, panelists, sponsors, volunteers, student delegates, members, and attendees. Finally, your active participation brings these discussions to life every year. So please ask questions, challenge assumptions, make connections, and take these conversations back to your organizations and communities.

Thank you for your continued support. I hope you enjoy the conference.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Blair Shoniker'. The signature is stylized with a large, looped initial 'B' and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Blair Shoniker, OAIA President

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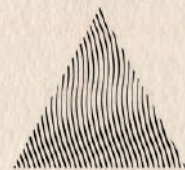
BRONZE



PARSONS



intrinsic
SCIENCE INTEGRITY KNOWLEDGE



Suslop

BREAK

2026 Recipient

Keith Loyd

**OAIA Student Bursary
Impact Assessment Awarded**



Keith Loyd is an Indigenous researcher at the University of Saskatchewan with experience in conservation enforcement, mining-sector environmental management, and Indigenous land-based education. Their research explores the benefits, burdens, and expectations of impact assessment for renewable energy development, emphasizing regulatory effectiveness, Indigenous interests, and sustainable environmental and community outcomes.

Keith is the recipient of the 2026 OAIA Student Bursary and Ontario Impact Assessment Award for their paper entitled: **Impact Assessment for Renewable Energy Deployment: Burdens, Benefits, Expectations.**





“I wanted to create something that could hold Survivors and families gently, something that could offer comfort, recognition, and love during a time when so much pain was being carried.”

- Vanessa Genier, Founder



In alignment with our commitment to environmental sustainability, values of respect, diversity and inclusion, collaboration, integrity, accountability, and transparency, the Ontario Association for Impact Assessment (OAIA) does not present traditional physical gifts to our conference speakers and facilitators. Instead, a **monetary donation of \$500 has been made to Quilts for Survivors** on behalf of all presenters. We extend our deepest thanks to all of our 2026 speakers for generously sharing their time, innovation, and expertise to help shape the future of impact assessment.

Quilts for Survivors is an Ontario-based, community-led non-profit that creates and gifts handmade quilts to Residential School, Day School, and Sixties Scoop Survivors across Canada as powerful symbols of support, respect, and healing. A dedicated network of volunteers across Canada handcrafts full-sized quilts to support and honor Residential School Survivors and individuals carrying trauma, delivering comfort through a collective nationwide effort. OAIA encourages you to learn more about their important work.

2026 OAIA Conference

Beyond Assessment: Shaping the Future of Impact Assessment Through Innovation and Lifecycle Thinking

Impact assessment does not occur in isolation—it is shaped by decisions made throughout the project lifecycle and, in turn, influences how projects are designed, delivered, and operated. From early policy direction and planning, through design development, approvals, construction, and long-term operations, environmental assessment both responds to and informs project evolution.

This year's theme highlights the importance of life-cycle thinking in impact assessment, recognizing environmental/impact assessment as a dynamic process that guides design choices, risk management and implementation strategies, rather than a standalone regulatory milestone. It explores how policy frameworks, professional practice, and emerging technologies can be better integrated to support informed decision-making, improve coordination across disciplines, and strengthen long-term outcomes. By focusing on the full lifecycle, the conference emphasizes moving beyond assessment for compliance toward assessment as a tool for shaping resilient, implementable, and outcome-driven projects.





2026 OAIA Conference Planning Committee

Sabrina Wong

2026 Conference Chair | Dillon Consulting Limited

Alexia Miljus

2026 Conference Co-Chair | GFT

Greg McKenzie

OAIA Admin | Blue Moth Creative

Anjala Puvananathan

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

Blair Shoniker

GHD Limited

Faiza Waheed

Intrinsic

Jessica Wright

Conсор Canada

Day at a Glance

November 3rd

8:30am - 9:00am

Registration & Breakfast

9:00am - 9:45am

Welcome, Elder Traditional Opening & Land Acknowledgement

9:45am - 10:30am

Opening Panel:

This panel will explore the place of impact assessment within the project lifecycle. It will explore the various stages from identification of project needs to project delivery by considering design choices, risk management, and implementation strategies.

11:00am - 12:30pm

Program Area 1: Pre-Assessment: Shaping Outcomes at the Project Inception

12:30pm - 1:30pm

Lunch

1:30pm - 4:45pm

Program Area 1: Pre-Assessment: Shaping Outcomes at the Project Inception

Program Area 2: Duty to Consult: From Legal Duty to Meaningful Practice

4:45pm - 4:50pm

Closing Remarks

5:00pm - 8:00pm

Networking & Socializing / Complimentary Appetizers & Cash Bar:

CRAFT Beer Market, 1 Adelaide St. East, Toronto

Program: November 3rd

Item	Time	Topic	Abstract	Presenters
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Registration & Breakfast
8:30am - 9:00am

Welcome, Elder Traditional Opening & Land Acknowledgement
Blair Shoniker, GHD / Elder Heidi Whetung
9:00am - 9:45am

OPENING PANEL

Facilitator: Anjala Puvananathan, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

Panel	9:45am - 10:30am	2026 OAIA Conference Opening Panel	<p>This panel will explore the place of impact assessment within the project lifecycle. It will explore the various stages from identification of project needs to project delivery by considering design choices, risk management, and implementation strategies. The panelists will consider the optimization of assessment in the context of the lifecycle.</p>	<p>Diana Weir Borden Ladner Gervais LLP</p> <p>Michael Jacobs Curve Lake First Nation / Cambium Indigenous Professional Services</p> <p>Ross Mitchell AtkinsRéalis</p> <p>Heather Swan Swan Planning</p> <p>Patricia Fitzpatrick University of Winnipeg</p>
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Break & Networking
10:30am - 11:00am

Program: November 3rd

Item	Time	Topic	Abstract	Presenters
SESSION 1 Facilitator: Katrina McCullough, GHD				
1 (A)	11:00am - 11:20am	Before the Assessment: Land Relationship Visioning at Project Inception	<p>Critical project decisions are often made before formal environmental assessments begin. This session will introduce Land Relationship Visioning, a First Nations-informed planning approach that allows stakeholders to explore project relationships with the land and local communities before key decisions become fixed.</p> <p>Drawing on CIPS' experience, the session will provide a structured method combining First Nations perspectives, place-based knowledge, and dialogue to identify significant values, risks, and desired outcomes early in the lifecycle. Participants will examine common pitfalls, such as beginning with predetermined solutions or engaging communities too late.</p>	Michael Jacobs Curve Lake First Nation / Cambium Indigenous Professional Services
1 (B)	11:20 am - 11:40am	Laying the Groundwork: Early Engagement on Canada's First High-Speed Rail	<p>Major infrastructure projects are often shaped long before formal assessments begin. This presentation explores how early relationship-building, collaborative problem-solving, and informed planning can influence project outcomes, reduce risk, and support more sustainable decision-making.</p> <p>Alto, a federal Crown corporation, is in the early stages of planning Canada's first high-speed rail network between Toronto and Québec City. Building on a recently signed Memorandum of Understanding between Alto and the Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, presenters will discuss how both organizations are working together to integrate environmental considerations into the early stages of project planning.</p>	John MacKenzie Toronto and Region Conservation Authority Leah Weller Alto High-Speed Rail

Program: November 3rd

Item	Time	Topic	Abstract	Presenters
SESSION 1 Facilitator: Katrina McCullough, GHD				
1 (C)	11:45am - 12:00am	Trade Offs & Outcomes: How Criteria Weights Result in Tangible Routing Differences	<p>Linear infrastructure design is fundamentally a game of trade-offs played out across a landscape. Choosing whether to cut through a pristine greenfield to the east or acquire private residential properties to the west represents a critical decision-making juncture. While environmental assessment practitioners recognize the value of multi-criteria decision analysis (MCDA) when evaluating fully developed routes, the foundational assumptions made before those routes even exist often escape rigorous scrutiny.</p> <p>This presentation explores the impact of pre-assessment decision-making using advanced routing technology and MCDA modeling and will involve interactive audience participation.</p>	<p>Jenny Donnelly Dillon Consulting Limited</p> <p>Laura Kitchen Dillon Consulting Limited</p>
1 (D)	12:00am - 12:15pm	Open Science & Data in an Evolving Regulatory Environment	<p>As Canada works to unlock investment, strengthen sovereignty, and demonstrate its ability to build at pace while respecting environmental and reconciliation commitments, there is increasing pressure to identify efficiencies in regulatory processes. At the same time, regulatory decisions face heightened scrutiny and increasingly diverse stakeholder expectations. Effective and inclusive science communication is therefore essential to support credible and transparent impact assessment processes.</p> <p>This session will demonstrate the functionality of the Government of Canada's Open Science and Data Platform as an example of digital innovation that can help streamline and accelerate major project reviews.</p>	<p>Colter Kelly Natural Resources Canada</p>

Program: November 3rd

Item	Time	Topic	Abstract	Presenters
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SESSION 1

Facilitator: Katrina McCullough, GHD

1 (E)	12:15am - 12:30pm	Building Faster? The Impact Assessment Landscape in an Era of Project Acceleration	Canada is pursuing an ambitious agenda to accelerate major infrastructure, energy, mining and resource development projects. At both the federal and provincial levels, initiatives aimed at reducing regulatory burden, shortening approval timelines and eliminating perceived duplication are driving changes to impact assessment processes. This presentation will examine how the evolving mandate to "build faster" is altering the practice of impact assessment under the federal Impact Assessment Act.	Diana Weir Borden Ladner Gervais LLP
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Lunch
12:30pm - 1:30pm



Northern Wild Rice / Manoomin
(Zizania palustris)
Photo - Matt Lavin

Program: November 3rd

Item	Time	Topic	Abstract	Presenters
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SESSION 2

Facilitator 2(A): Katrina McCullough, GHD

Facilitator 2(B): Faiza Waheed, Intrinsic

2 (A)	1:30pm - 2:15pm	EA Modernization Updates	<p>The Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) will provide an update on its ongoing efforts to modernize Ontario's environmental assessment program and advance a faster, simpler, and smarter framework. The session will highlight key initiatives, including improvements to the Comprehensive Environmental Assessment process. Attendees will also receive an overview of the new Streamlined Environmental Assessment for Municipal Infrastructure, which comes into effect in January 2027.</p>	<p>Jennifer Moulton Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)</p> <p>Natalie Boyd Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)</p>
2 (B)	2:15pm - 2:45pm	Impact Assessment in an Era of Resource Development & Co-operative Federalism	<p>Drawing on experience from major projects, panelists will discuss how effective IA creates value before regulatory decisions are made. Well-designed assessment processes can improve project design, identify and manage risks, strengthen relationships with rights holders and stakeholders, support adaptive management, and contribute to better long-term outcomes. Rather than asking how assessments can simply be streamlined, this panel will explore how they can be designed more intelligently to gain efficiencies from processes that are coherent, well-scoped, collaborative, and grounded in lived experience. The opportunity now is to build an IA system that is lighter where it should be, stronger where it must be, and ultimately more resilient for the peoples and environments it is meant to safeguard.</p>	<p>Patricia Fitzpatrick University of Winnipeg</p> <p>Gary Pritchard ~ Giniw (Golden Eagle) 4 Directions of Conservation Consulting Services</p> <p>Kevin Hanna Centre for Environmental Assessment Research, University of British Columbia</p>

Break & Networking
2:40pm - 3:15pm

Program: November 3rd

Item	Time	Topic	Abstract	Presenters
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SESSION 3

Facilitator 3(A): Anjala Puvananathan, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
Facilitator 3(B): Alexia Miljus, GFT / Faiza Waheed, Intrinsik / Jessica Wright, Consor Canada

3 (A)	3:15pm - 3:45pm	Making Impact Assessments Work: Reflections on Process, Priorities, & Practice	As impact assessment practice continues to evolve, practitioners are increasingly challenged to balance rigorous analysis with efficient, focused processes that meet the needs of regulators, proponents, Indigenous communities, and other participants. An interactive audience exercise will invite participants to explore opportunities to improve future practice in this context.	Sita Chinnadurai Impact Assessment Agency of Canada
3 (B)	3:45pm - 4:45pm	Duty to Consult: From Legal Duty to Meaningful Practice	This interactive workshop will explore what the Duty to Consult is, when it applies, and how it is carried out in practice. It will consider the roles, responsibilities, and perspectives of the Crown, Indigenous communities, proponents, stakeholders, and practitioners involved in the consultation process. The sessions will explore lessons learned, challenges, and opportunities.	Lindsay Bain Nibwaakaa Consulting Gary Pritchard ~ Giniw (Golden Eagle) 4 Directions of Conservation Consulting Services

Closing Remarks

Sabrina Wong, Dillon Consulting Limited
4:45pm - 4:50pm

Off-Site Networking Event

CRAFT Beer Market - 1 Adelaide St. East, Toronto
5:00pm - 8:00pm

Day at a Glance

November 4th

8:30am - 9:00am

Registration & Breakfast

9:00am - 9:15am

Conference Opening - Day Two

9:15am - 12:00pm

Program Area 2 - Continued: Duty to Consult: From Legal Duty to Meaningful Practice

Program Area 3: Assessment Practices: Rebuilding Trust in the Assessment Process

12:00pm - 1:00pm

Lunch

1:00pm - 2:30pm

Program Area 4: Post-Assessment in Practice: From Commitments to Outcomes

2:30pm - 3:15pm

Closing Panel:

This panel will examine how the 2026 OAIA Conference was able to consider the full lifecycle of a project and how assessments can be a tool for shaping resilient, implementable, and outcome-driven projects.

3:15pm - 3:30pm

Closing Remarks from the President & Elder Traditional Closing

Program: November 4th



Item	Time	Topic	Abstract	Presenters
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Registration & Breakfast
8:30am - 9:00am

Welcome
Faiza Waheed, Intrinsik / Sabrina Wong, Dillon Consulting Limited
9:00am - 9:15am

SESSION 4

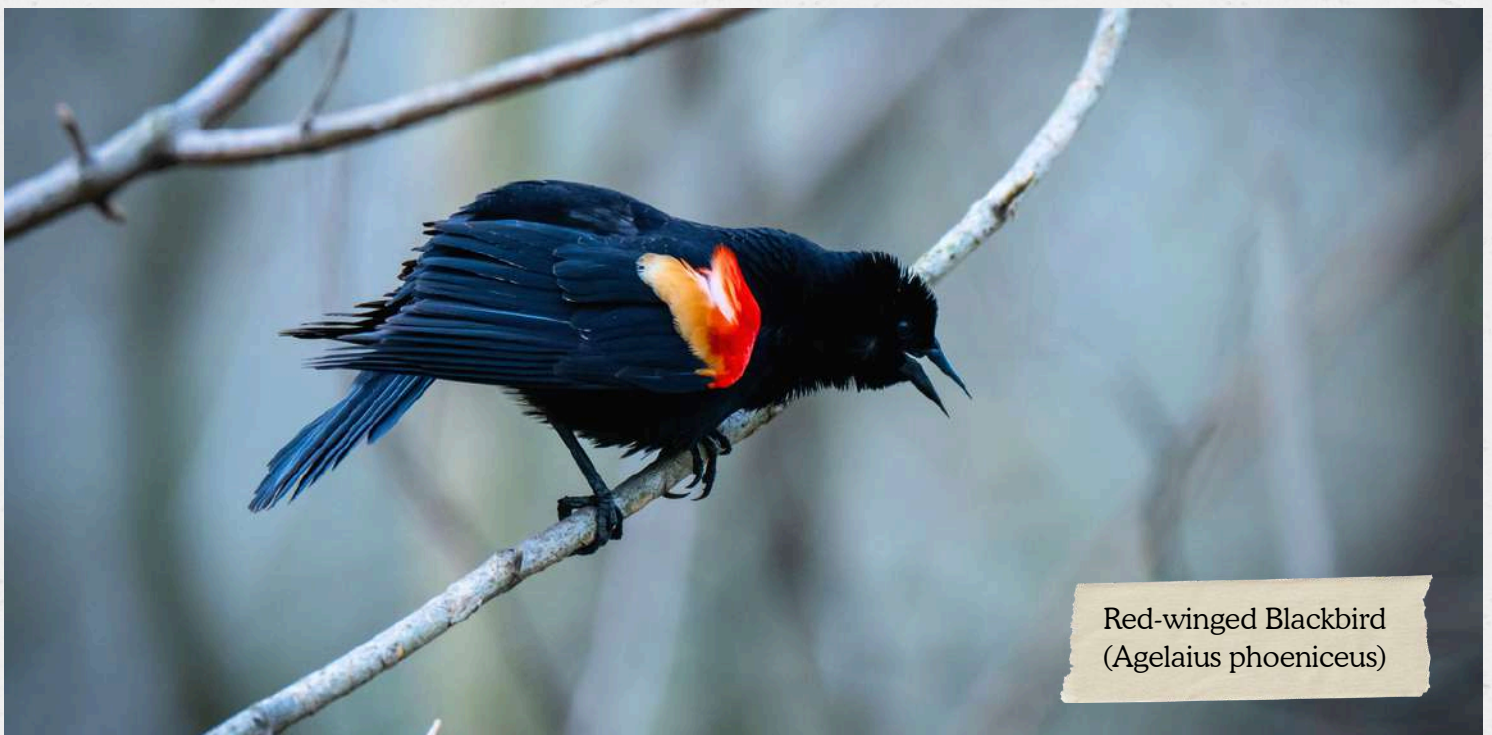
Facilitator: Faiza Waheed, Intrinsik

4 (A)	9:15am - 9:45am	True Collaboration: Fostering Trust Through Partnership	<p>In the rapidly evolving landscape of major infrastructure development, the traditional approach of environmental assessment is increasingly insufficient to meet the challenges of project delivery. The “decide-announce-defend” paradigm and other rigid, compliance-driven approaches no longer work, particularly for large-scale projects. To navigate the complexities of modern EA practice, we must shift toward inclusive approaches that prioritize early and authentic engagement. This session presents a model for building trust in the EA process by working with stakeholders and Indigenous communities as partners from a project’s inception.</p> <p>During the session, we will examine the transformative potential of partnerships along with lessons learned from recent practical experience. We will share how early involvement can establish a shared understanding of priorities before formal assessments are launched. We will also discuss the efficacy of maintaining continuous, multi-directional dialogue through regular meetings, workshops, and iterative reviews. No EA is without issues, and there is no silver bullet solution. Our aim is to provide a balanced discussion of the challenges and benefits encountered along the way.</p>	<p>Christie Cestra Dillon Consulting Limited</p> <p>Greg Hayes Dillon Consulting Limited</p>
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Program: November 4th

Item	Time	Topic	Abstract	Presenters
4 (B)	9:45am - 10:30am	From Consultation to Meaningful Influence - Significant Contributions by the Michi Saagiig Anishinaabeg Nations of the Williams Treaties First Nations to the New Nuclear at Wesleyville Impact Statement Requirement	The Impact Assessment Agency of Canada, in collaboration with the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission, issued the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines for the integrated assessment of Ontario Power Generation's proposed New Nuclear Project at Wesleyville. This presentation explores how meaningful, sustained consultation with Indigenous Nations, government partners, the proponent, and the public shaped the development of the Integrated Guidelines.	<p>Tracey Taylor Curve Lake First Nation</p> <p>Julie Lowry Impact Assessment Agency of Canada</p> <p>Larry Shuter Impact Assessment Agency of Canada</p> <p>Jaimi O'Hara Curve Lake First Nation</p> <p>Rob Lukacs Minogi Corp.</p>

Break & Networking
10:30am - 11:00am



Red-winged Blackbird
(Agelaius phoeniceus)

Program: November 4th

Item	Time	Topic	Abstract	Presenters
SESSION 5: Concurrent Sessions (Salon 1) Facilitator 5(A): Sabrina Wong, Dillion Facilitator 5(B): Faiza Waheed, Intrinsic				
5 (A)	11:00am - 11:30am	Navigating the First Five Years	<p>This panel will explore the pivotal first five years of an environmental professional's career. Early career professionals will share their firsthand experiences navigating a rapidly changing work environment and the critical role of emerging technologies in day-to-day operations.</p>	<p>Madyson Latinski AtkinsRéalis</p> <p>Marcelina Kaminska Toronto and Region Conservation Authority</p> <p>Michael Milad City of Toronto</p> <p>Arlysse Lafreniere-Wuttunee AtkinsRéalis</p>
5 (B)	11:30am - 11:45am	Impact Assessment for Renewable Energy Deployment: Burdens, Benefits, Expectations	<p>As Canada accelerates the deployment of offshore wind generation and expands critical transmission infrastructure, environmental assessments must evolve beyond regulatory compliance to become an adaptive, life-cycle based process that supports the successful delivery of a project. While High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) systems can offer technical and economic advantages for long-distance power transmission, HVDC submarine transmission projects present unique technical, environmental, stakeholder, and constructability challenges that require integrated planning from routing and siting through construction to operation. This presentation will highlight lessons learned to reduce project risk, improve environmental outcomes, engage stakeholders, communities and Indigenous partners, and enhance schedule and cost certainty for High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) submarine transmission projects.</p>	<p>Keith Lloyd University of Saskatchewan</p> <p>2025 Ontario Impact Assessment Award & Student Bursary Recipient</p>

Program: November 4th



Trembling Aspen
(Populus tremuloides)

Item	Time	Topic	Abstract	Presenters
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SESSION 5: Concurrent Sessions (Salon 1)

Facilitator: Faiza Waheed, Intrinsic

5 (C)	11:45am - 12:00pm	Beyond Approval: Lessons from HVDC Submarine Projects for Next-Gen Infrastructure	Ontario's free-entry mining system allows prospectors to stake mineral claims on Indigenous territories with minimal oversight and no prior consultation. Once staked, these claims grant exclusive exploration rights—often in ways that physically disturb culturally and ecologically significant areas. The duty to consult First Nations is triggered only when prospectors apply for a mineral exploration permit. This presentation will highlight, as illustrated in the Mineral Tracker developed by Wildlife Conservation Society Canada, challenges with these practices in high-activity regions like the Ring of Fire due to the volume of exploration notifications requiring review by Indigenous communities of the implications to continued traditional uses and cultural practices.	Ryan Doyle HDR John Duschang HDR
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Program: November 4th

Item	Time	Topic	Abstract	Presenters
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SESSION 6: Concurrent Sessions (Salon 2 & 3)

Facilitator: Spencer Roth, WSP

6 (A)	11:00am - 11:30am	Building the IA Practitioner Toolbox: Practical Lessons for Better Assessments	This interactive workshop is designed to create a space to learn from one another and collaboratively develop a toolbox of practical approaches that can support more effective impact assessment practice. Drawing on real-world experiences from participants representing different roles and perspectives, the session will explore what strategies have worked, what have not, and what opportunities exist to improve how assessments and approvals are planned, coordinated, and implemented.	Lindsay Frith Stantec Jon Pounder Stantec
6 (B)	11:30am - 12:00pm	Speed Without Shortcuts: Streamlining Ontario Impact Assessment While Keeping Rigor	<p>This interactive session will explore practical approaches for streamlining impact assessment without compromising quality. Through audience polling, facilitated discussion, and practitioner experience, participants will identify common sources of delay, examine where streamlining has succeeded or failed, and discuss practical strategies for improving assessment outcomes in Ontario.</p> <p>The session will focus on where assessments commonly lose time, where early project decisions create downstream complexity, and where attempts to accelerate work can weaken trust, engagement quality, or implementation. Participants will reflect on what has worked, what has failed, and what course corrections improved outcomes.</p>	Ross Mitchell AtkinsRéalis

Lunch
12:00pm - 1:00pm

Program: November 4th

Item	Time	Topic	Abstract	Presenters
SESSION 7: Concurrent Sessions (Salon 1) Facilitator 7(A): Faiza Waheed, Intrinsic Facilitator 7(B): Alexia Miljus, GFT				
7 (A)	1:00pm - 1:30pm	Health in Action: Health-Based Mitigation and Monitoring in Impact Assessment	<p>Drawing on recent project experience in Ontario, this presentation explores how health is increasingly being embedded into mitigation and monitoring frameworks in IA. Examples include the integration of health-based benchmarks into air quality, surface water and aquatic environmental monitoring programs, work camp measures (e.g., dry camp policies, on-site health services, support for land-based activities), health surveys, and community-oriented approaches such as participation in monitoring programs, environmental data sharing, and multi-stakeholder management committees.</p>	Lindsay McCallum WSP Amica Ferras WSP
7 (B)	1:30pm - 2:00pm	Lessons Learned: Translating Environmental Assessment Commitments into Construction Practice	<p>Environmental assessments often culminate in a series of commitments intended to avoid, mitigate, or manage potential environmental effects. While significant effort is devoted to developing these commitments during the assessment process, considerably less attention is given to what happens after project approval and during implementation of the project; It is during detailed design and construction that these commitments are put to the test. The success of an EA is ultimately measured not by the commitments documented in approval reports, but by how effectively they are implemented and whether they achieve the intended outcomes.</p> <p>The session will highlight common challenges associated with commitment management, including maintaining accountability across long project timelines, ensuring commitments remain visible through project transitions, and balancing environmental requirements with evolving project needs.</p>	Christopher Murray GFT James Hartley GFT

Program: November 4th

Item	Time	Topic	Abstract	Presenters
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SESSION 8: Concurrent Sessions (Salon 2 & 3)

Facilitator 8(A): Spencer Roth, WSP

Facilitator 8(B): Jessica Wright, Consor Canada

8 (A)	1:00pm - 1:30pm	Lifecycle Planning for Waste Management Facilities - Beyond the Initial Assessment	<p>Ontario has been on the cusp of a crisis for available waste disposal and waste processing capacity for many years. Of all municipal infrastructure, waste management facilities are some of the hardest to successfully steer through the impact assessment and permitting process. One of the most critical issues to address in siting and permitting for these facilities are land use conflicts, and the acceptance (or lack thereof) of these facilities within the community. Our case studies will demonstrate that effective long-term planning that extends beyond the initial facility lifespan of 20 to 25 years, can set the stage for successful future environmental assessments so that this infrastructure can be renewed and support community growth beyond the initial approval.</p>	<p>Janine Ralph HDR</p> <p>Sam Huang HDR</p>
8 (B)	1:30pm - 2:00pm	From Rock to Reclamation: The Aggregate Lifecycle in Practice	<p>Aggregate extraction licensing projects are uniquely positioned to illustrate the full lifecycle of impact assessment—from early land use planning decisions to long-term site rehabilitation and post-closure outcomes.</p> <p>This panel discussion brings together three complementary perspectives including a planner, an ecologist, and a producer to explore how lifecycle thinking can be meaningfully applied across the aggregate sector.</p>	<p>Caitlin Port MHBC Planning</p> <p>Heather Melcher Conсор</p> <p>Jennifer DeLeemans CBM Aggregates</p>

Break & Networking
2:00pm - 2:30pm

Program: November 4th

Item	Time	Topic	Abstract	Presenters
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CLOSING PANEL

Facilitator: Anjala Puvananathan, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

Panel	2:30pm - 3:15pm	2026 OAIA Conference Closing Panel	<p>This panel will examine how the 2026 OAIA Conference was able to consider the full lifecycle of a project and how assessments can be a tool for shaping resilient, implementable, and outcome-driven projects.</p>	<p>Diana Weir Borden Ladner Gervais LLP</p> <p>Michael Jacobs Curve Lake First Nation / Cambium Indigenous Professional Services</p> <p>Ross Mitchell AtkinsRéalis</p> <p>Heather Swan Swan Planning</p> <p>Patricia Fitzpatrick University of Winnipeg</p>
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President's Closing Remarks

Blair Shoniker, GHD
3:15pm - 3:20pm

Elder Traditional Closing

Elder Heidi Whetung
3:20pm - 3:30pm





**Ontario Association for
Impact Assessment**

Thank you
for attending the
2026 OAIA Conference

Program design by Blue Moth Creative