

## **Regional Assessment in the Ring of Fire Area**

**October 7, 2025**

### **Federal Authority Advice Record**

**Response due to [regionalrof-cdfregionale@iaac-aeic.gc.ca](mailto:regionalrof-cdfregionale@iaac-aeic.gc.ca) by October 17, 2025**

Department/Agency: Statistics Canada

In providing your responses to the items below, please include any relevant information on associated Indigenous, public or other consultation or engagement activities and identify any partners or collaborations.

#### **1. MANDATE AND AREA(S) OF EXPERTISE**

Clearly outline the mandate of your department or agency and detail your area(s) of responsibility or expertise that may be related to the regional assessment

Canadians need high-quality, insightful and accessible data to support good decision making. Statistics Canada's mission is to provide trusted data, statistical services and insights required to support these decisions, while continuing to build and maintain the trust of Canadians, Canadian businesses and Canadian institutions through robust quality, privacy protection, communications and measurement.

The agency is leading the integration of statistics and strengthening the national statistical system by enabling the strategic use of data and delivering data insights through innovative collaborations and partnerships. Furthermore, it is the agency's role to help decision makers and all Canadians increase their data literacy to draw actionable insights and unleash the power of data.

The agency is committed to ensuring the relevance of its statistical programs to meet the highest-priority information needs of Canadians, while also ensuring that its information is accessible; that respondent burden is kept to a minimum; and that the agency's business processes and systems are efficient, robust and responsive.

#### **Mandate and role**

Statistics Canada produces data that help Canadians better understand their country - its population, resources, economy, environment, society and culture. As Canada's central statistical office, Statistics Canada is legislated to serve this function for Canada and each of the provinces and territories. The agency must also conduct the Census of Population and the Census of Agriculture every five years, providing a detailed picture of Canadian society.

Established in 2019, the Centre for Indigenous Statistics and Partnerships (CISP) has developed deep and specialized expertise in First Nations, Métis, and Inuit statistics that

underpins its ability to deliver high-quality advisory services and to lead the development and promotion of best practices that strengthen outcomes. CISP's knowledge base and relationships, built over time and with sustained collaboration between various sections in the Centre and engagement, are unique and foundational.

## 2. REGULATORY AUTHORITIES

List and summarize the nature of the regulatory authorities of your department or agency in relation to physical works or activities in the Ring of Fire area.

Statistics Canada operates under the authority of the [Statistics Act](#) and is committed to protecting the confidentiality and privacy of the information it is entrusted with.

## 3. EXPERT INFORMATION OR KNOWLEDGE

List and summarize the specialists or expert information or knowledge that your department or agency has that may be relevant to the regional assessment. Include all research, reports and data sets in this response inventory.

Statistics Canada collects information on First Nations communities that are accessible to the general public and, in some instances, on a cost recovery basis and could, potentially, inform the regional assessment.

[Indigenous Population Profile, 2021 Census of Population](#) (also available for previous census cycles)

This product presents information from the Census of Population focusing on the Indigenous identity population and Indigenous households of various geographic areas. These geographic areas include: Canada, provinces and territories, census metropolitan areas and census agglomerations, census divisions, census subdivisions, Métis settlements, Inuit regions, and First Nation or Indian band and Tribal Council areas. Data are available for the Indigenous identity population by age groups and gender for selected socio-demographic characteristics.

**Customized membership profiles for First Nations communities** (2021 Census of Population (also available for previous census cycles)

Based on members of First Nations communities regardless of residence, with an optional on/off reserve dimension.

Access: Census information is public; customized extractions may involve cost recovery fees.

**Business profiles, including identification of Indigenous-owned businesses in the area. Economic activity estimates, such as Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the region.**

Access: Publicly available, but subject to confidentiality rules if the number of Indigenous-owned businesses is small.

**Police-reported crime data from:**

- Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Survey
- Homicide Survey \*Collected annually from police services (mandatory reporting).

Access:

- Publicly accessible reports, online data tables, and visualization tools
- Detailed custom tabulations available under a cost-recovery framework.

**Water yield data** (1971–2021) by drainage area and ecoprovince:

- Annual and monthly (mean, minimum, maximum) water yield.
- Source: Statistics Canada CODR tables and geospatial files (public).

**Land cover data** (2020) by ecoprovince, ecozone, drainage region, major drainage area, and sub-drainage area.

- Source: Statistics Canada CODR tables and geospatial files (public).

**Future data:** Additional terrestrial ecosystem condition data expected in Spring 2026 (not yet public).

#### 4. POLICIES, PROGRAMS OR INITIATIVES

List and summarize the past, current and planned policies, programs or initiatives of your department or agency that may be relevant to the regional assessment. Include an outline of related funding initiatives in this response and provide information on geographic locations, next steps and timing for the program/initiative.

**Indigenous Liaison Program** – This longstanding program plays a vital role in fostering respectful and sustained relationships with First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities, organizations and other stakeholders across Canada. Indigenous Liaison Advisors (ILAs) provide essential logistical support during census collection by working with Indigenous leadership, enhancing both participation and data quality. Between census cycles, ILAs maintain and strengthen relationships through on-going engagement, “data” returns, outreach and promotion of STC’s data and analytical products, serve as a liaison between communities and STC, and facilitate access to STC data holdings and expertise.

#### [Indigenous Liaison Program](#)

**Indigenous Statistical Capacity Development Initiative (ISCDI)** – Through the delivery of instructor-led courses, this program effectively builds statistical capacity, fosters strong and respectful relationships with First Nations, Métis, and Inuit organizations and communities, and promotes the use of STC’s data while enhancing internal knowledge and competence for analyzing data on Indigenous Peoples. Its continued success reflects strong demand and meaningful engagement with Indigenous partners.

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5. Outline any additional responsibilities, information or knowledge and any partners or collaborations that have not been specified, above.

N/A