#### POTENTIAL REGIONAL ASSESSMENT - ST. LAWRENCE RIVER AREA, QUEBEC

# Session 1 : Issues and Concerns / Assessment Area

## February 2021

# **Objectives of the Session**

To gather input on the issues and concerns that the regional assessment should address.

To hear views on why this regional assessment is needed (the rationale).

To identify the potential assessment area (study area) for the regional assessment.

# **Background Information**

#### **Issues and Concerns**

The Agency is interested in hearing your views about the main issues and activities that might be considered in any eventual regional assessment. These issues and activities help define the rationale for the regional assessment and inform the assessment area.

Issues and activities may include:

- current and potential development activities that have effects in the assessment area
- environmentally or otherwise sensitive areas or components
- adverse effects, including cumulative effects, that fall within federal jurisdiction, such as potential:
  - o effects on fish and fish habitat;
  - effects on migratory birds;
  - changes to the environment on federal lands and that occur in another province/territory or outside of Canada;
  - o changes to the environment that could affect the Indigenous peoples in Canada;
  - o any change occurring to the health, social or economic conditions of the Indigenous peoples in Canada
- impacts on the rights of Indigenous peoples

### **Guiding questions**

What are the main activities in the area?

What are your key concerns / "valued components" in the area?

Why is a regional assessment required?

#### **Assessment Area**

Below is the assessment area proposed by the Mohawk Council of Kahnawà:ke in their request (Figure 1, page 2). The Agency is open to hearing your suggestions for the assessment area, which may be the same as or different from the area outlined in Figure 1. The geographic boundaries of any eventual regional assessment will be defined by the key activities, issues, and concerns identified in the region.

**Guiding question:** What geographical area should be assessed?

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