



Impact Assessment  
Agency of Canada

Agence d'évaluation  
d'impact du Canada

Ontario Region  
600-55 York Street  
Toronto ON M5J 1R7

Région de l'Ontario  
600-55, rue York  
Toronto (Ontario) M5J 1R7

March 31, 2023

Sent by email

Chief June Black  
Apitipi Anicinapek Nation  
310 Penatuche Road, RR #3  
Matheson, ON P0K 1N0

<email address removed>

Dear Chief June Black:

**Subject: Notice of Commencement of the Impact Assessment for the  
Crawford Nickel Project**

Thank you for your continued participation in the Planning Phase of the federal impact assessment for the Crawford Nickel Project (the Project) proposed by the Canada Nickel Company (the Proponent).

On March 31, 2023, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) commenced an impact assessment pursuant to the *Impact Assessment Act* for the Project. The following documents were posted on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry website<sup>1</sup> (Registry #83857) and will inform the impact assessment process:

- Notice of Commencement
- Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines
- Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan
- Public Participation Plan
- Cooperation Plan with the Province of Ontario
- Permitting Plan

The Agency appreciates the comments provided by Apitipi Anicinapek Nation on the draft Guidelines and Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan as they informed the final versions.

The Project is now in the Impact Statement Phase. The Agency must be satisfied that the Proponent provided the required information and studies set out in the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines within three years of the Notice of Commencement.

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<sup>1</sup> Canadian Impact Assessment Registry website: <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/83857>

Please note, in accordance with section 36 of the *Impact Assessment Act*, the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada has until 45 days after the Notice of Commencement to refer the impact assessment to a review panel. If the assessment is referred to a review panel, a notice will be posted to the Registry website.

### **Next Steps**

In the coming weeks, the Agency will follow-up with Apitipi Anicinapek Nation with a separate letter that will include a summary table of comments received during the Planning Phase, and the Agency response, including how your comments were taken into account in finalizing the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines and the Indigenous Engagement and Partnership Plan.

At that time, the Agency will share, for validation by Apitipi Anicinapek Nation, a revised draft of a summary of information available to the Agency on potential impacts of the Project on your community. An initial draft of this document was first shared with Apitipi Anicinapek Nation on January 5, 2023, and has been developed and revised based on your participation during the Planning Phase for the Project. The document contains a summary of:

- a) the nature and extent of Apitipi Anicinapek Nation's Aboriginal and/or treaty rights;
- b) the potential impacts of the Project to the exercise of Apitipi Anicinapek Nation's rights; and
- c) potential impacts of the Project on health, social, or economic conditions of Apitipi Anicinapek Nation.

The Agency will also provide information about the next steps in the federal impact assessment process, including upcoming funding opportunities.

The Agency intends to share the summary table of comments and the summary of information available to the Agency on potential impacts of the Project on your community with the Proponent to inform its work while preparing the Impact Statement.

Please contact me at 902-399-8838 or at [Crawford@iaac-aeic.gc.ca](mailto:Crawford@iaac-aeic.gc.ca) if you have any questions. We look forward to working collaboratively with your community in the next phases of the impact assessment process.

Sincerely,

**Norton, Erin**

Digitally signed by Norton,  
Erin  
Date: 2023.03.31 09:32:27  
-03'00'

Erin Norton  
Crown Consultation Coordinator  
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

c.c.: Mike Guillemette, Apitipi Anicinapek Nation  
Lance Black, Apitipi Anicinapek Nation  
Sharon Plourde, Apitipi Anicinapek Nation  
Maurice Kistabish, Apitipi Anicinapek Nation  
Chris Sackaney, Apitipi Anicinapek Nation  
Dave Babin, Apitipi Anicinapek Nation  
Paul McKenzie, Apitipi Anicinapek Nation

Kate Kempton, legal counsel for Apitipi Anicinapek Nation  
Caroline Coburn, environmental consultant for Apitipi Anicinapek Nation  
Andrew Bubar, environmental consultant for Apitipi Anicinapek Nation  
Ken Peterson, business consultant for Apitipi Anicinapek Nation