



December 9, 2024

Sent by email

Chief Jean-Guy Whiteduck
Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg
1 Paganakomin Mikan
P.O. Box 309
Maniwaki, Quebec J9E 3C9
<email address removed>

Dear Chief Jean-Guy Whiteduck:

Subject: Commencement of Public Comment Period on the Impact Statement for the Crawford Nickel Project

On November 22, 2024, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) received an Impact Statement for the Crawford Nickel Project (the Project) prepared by Canada Nickel Company (the Proponent) to provide the required information and studies as set out in the Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines¹ (TISG) and required for the conduct of the impact assessment.

The purpose of this letter is to:

- notify you that the Impact Statement is adequate to proceed with a comment period and technical review; and
- invite you to participate in the current comment period and review the Proponent's Impact Statement Summary and Impact Statement for the Project.

Submission and Verification Review of the Impact Statement

On November 22, 2024, IAAC received an Impact Statement from the Proponent. The Impact Statement is a technical document prepared by the Proponent that contains the information requirements set out in the TISG and required for the conduct of the assessment. The Impact Statement Summary is a plain-language summary of the Impact

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¹ <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/document/147481>

Statement and is available in both English and French. The full Impact Statement is available in English only.

Following a verification review, IAAC determined that the Impact Statement was adequate and contains information to proceed with the public comment period. The Impact Statement Summary, the full Impact Statement, and IAAC's correspondence to the Proponent on the outcome of the verification review are available on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry webpage (Reference #83857) for the Project².

Public comment period on the Impact Statement

To seek input on the summary of the Impact Statement, IAAC is conducting a **60-day comment period** from December 9, 2024, to February 7, 2025. IAAC is requesting comments from participating Indigenous communities, federal authorities, provincial ministries, and the public on the summary of the Impact Statement for the Crawford Nickel Project. If interested, IAAC welcomes any comments from Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg regarding the Impact Statement by the end of the comment period. The summary of the Impact Statement for the Crawford Nickel Project is attached to this letter (**Enclosure 1**).

Invitation to attend an information session

IAAC invites any interested members of your community to participate in a public information session via Zoom to learn more about the Project, the federal review process, the summary of the Impact Statement, and how to submit comments. Online information sessions will be held on the following dates:

- Thursday December 19, 2024, 6:00-7:30pm ET
- Wednesday January 8, 2025, 6:00-7:30pm ET

For more information on how to attend a session, please visit the project homepage on the Registry and click "Information Sessions."

Next Steps for the Impact Assessment

After the public comment period and technical review of the Impact Statement, IAAC will consider all input received and will determine whether additional information from the Proponent will be requested.

As per Section 19(4) of the *Impact Assessment Act*, once IAAC has determined that the Proponent has provided all the required information or studies to conduct the assessment, IAAC will post a notice to this effect on the Canadian Impact Assessment Registry website. IAAC will continue to

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² <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/proj/83857>

notify Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg as new information becomes available and will post any relevant correspondence or documents to the Registry.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Information submitted to IAAC to inform this project assessment may be posted online to the Registry (Reference #83857) subject to certain exceptions related to privacy, security or confidentiality. IAAC's Submission Policy³ describes what submitted information can be shared publicly, and what should remain private. For more information on how we protect your privacy, please refer to the Privacy Notice⁴.

Indigenous Knowledge shared in confidence is protected from disclosure, as described in our guidance about confidential Indigenous Knowledge⁵ except if written consent is provided, or if the information is publicly available. In addition, Indigenous Knowledge shared in confidence could be shared with certain parties if disclosure is necessary for procedural fairness and natural justice or for use in legal proceedings. This ensures that interested persons have a fair opportunity to participate in processes that would likely affect their interests, and that they have access to all necessary information and evidence relied on by the decision-maker.

Should you wish to provide any comments or documents that contain confidential or sensitive information that should be protected from release to the public, please contact IAAC **before** submitting the information. This will ensure that your submission is handled appropriately. Note, IAAC will consult with you prior to disclosing Indigenous Knowledge shared in confidence under an exemption.

Thank you for your participation in the impact assessment process to date. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 437-518-5692 or by email at Crawford@iaac-aeic.gc.ca.

Sincerely,

<original signed by>

Larissa Goshulak
Senior Consultation Analyst, Ontario Region

³ <https://iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/participation/conditions>

⁴ <https://www.iaac-aeic.gc.ca/050/evaluations/protection>

⁵ <https://www.canada.ca/en/impact-assessment-agency/services/policy-guidance/practitioners-guide-impact-assessment-act/protecting-confidential-indigenous-knowledge-under-the-impact-assessment-act.html>

Enclosure: Enclosure 1: Summary of the Impact Statement for the
Crawford Nickel Project

c.c.: Valerie Brazeau, Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg
Melodie Hurtubise, Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg