



Impact Assessment  
Agency of Canada

Agence d'évaluation  
d'impact du Canada

President

Président

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June 16, 2022

Members of the Technical Advisory Committee on Science and Knowledge:

Thank you for the advice you provided to the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (Agency) on a range of priority topics in 2021–2022. This includes advice on pre-planning best practices, Tailored Impact Statement Guidelines, biodiversity considerations in the impact assessment process, and continuing to provide expert feedback on draft Agency guidance. The Agency is actively taking your advice into consideration and the Committee is continuing to make a positive contribution to the implementation of the *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA).

As we enter the fourth year of the Technical Advisory Committee on Science and Knowledge's (TAC) mandate, and in consideration of your discussions with the Agency, I have identified the following priority topics that would benefit from your attention and expert advice in 2022–2023:

- 1. Decision-making phase:** To support development of new products for the IAA decision-making phase, real-time feedback would be sought on a suite of key Agency documents. The TAC would also have the opportunity to identify areas on which to provide proactive advice to inform implementation of this new phase.
- 2. Biodiversity considerations in the impact assessment process:** The subcommittee's work currently underway would proceed; building on discussions to date to inform advice to the Agency later this fiscal year.
- 3. Post-approval phase:** Further review of the adaptive management guidance, follow-up program guidance, new advice on monitoring committees, as well as proactive advice on areas identified by the TAC.
- 4. Emerging issues:** The Agency would also appreciate continuing to receive expert advice on draft guidance products and other tools we are developing to support IAA implementation. I understand you will make this a standing agenda item at your meetings.

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We would welcome any further advice from the TAC on pre-planning; building on this past year's advice, as determined appropriate by the Committee. We will also support potential further collaboration with the Indigenous Advisory Committee.

Finally, I understand that the TAC is continuing to proactively identify additional topics on which it could provide future advice to the Agency, including transparency (information accessibility), and consideration and understanding of alternatives (i.e., alternative means). I encourage you to proceed with scoping work on these topics this year. The Agency's ex-officio member on the Committee, Brent Parker, will continue to work with you throughout the year to support your work and to explore possible priority topics moving forward.

It was a pleasure to meet with you in person in Vancouver recently. I look forward to our next opportunity to meet and to seeing the continued benefits to the Agency from the TAC's work and expert advice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Terence Hubbard', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above a thin horizontal line.

Terence Hubbard