



Impact Assessment  
Agency of Canada

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

Agence d'évaluation  
d'impact du Canada

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

March 31, 2023

Sent by email

Chief Jean Miljour  
Timiskaming First Nation  
24, Algonquin Avenue  
Notre-Dame-du-Nord, QC J0Z 3B0  
<email address removed>

Dear Chief Jean Miljour:

**Subject: Notice of Commencement and Update on Timiskaming First Nation's Participation in the Federal Impact Assessment of the Crawford Nickel Project**

On March 31, 2023, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (the Agency) commenced an impact assessment pursuant to the *Impact Assessment Act* for the Crawford Nickel Project (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 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.

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.

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

### **The Agency's Engagement with Timiskaming First Nation**

Since June 2022, the Agency sent several communications, including invitations to participate in two public comment periods and to submit an application for funding to participate in those comment periods. To date, Timiskaming First Nation has not provided any comments on the documents made available and has not responded to the Agency's funding offers. In addition, Timiskaming First Nation has not expressed any concerns regarding the Project and did not accept any invitations from the Agency for a meeting.

In an email on January 9, 2023, Timiskaming First Nation advised the Agency that the community would indicate whether it is interested in participating in the federal impact assessment process after Chief and Council had the opportunity to learn about the Project from the Proponent.

In an email from the Agency to Timiskaming First Nation on February 6, 2023, the Agency noted that if Timiskaming First Nation does not provide information or views about potential effects of the Project on your community by March 8, 2023, the Agency will consider that Timiskaming First Nation is not interested in participating in the impact assessment for the Project.


### **Next Steps**

We will continue to inform Timiskaming First Nation of the important milestones of the impact assessment process for the Project. The Agency will not attempt to establish a dialogue or gather information from your community to inform the Agency's Impact Assessment Report. The Impact Assessment Report is provided to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada to inform a decision on whether the adverse effects of the Project within federal jurisdiction are in the public interest.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at 902-399-8838 or [Crawford@iaac-aeic.gc.ca](mailto:Crawford@iaac-aeic.gc.ca).

Sincerely,

**Norton,  
Erin**

 Digitally signed by  
Norton, Erin  
Date: 2023.03.31  
09:45:12 -03'00'

Erin Norton  
Crown Consultation Coordinator  
Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

c.c.: Nathan McMartin, Timiskaming First Nation  
Gerald Hanbury, Timiskaming First Nation  
Lindsay McLaren Polson, Timiskaming First Nation  
Cherie Stranger, Timiskaming First Nation