



## Draft Environmental Assessment Initiation Guidelines Workshop

**Host:** Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board

**Date:** June 20, 2018

**Time:** 8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

**Location:** Tree of Peace Friendship Centre, 5011 51<sup>st</sup> Street, Yellowknife, NT

### Background

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (the Review Board) would like to develop draft Environmental Assessment Initiation Guidelines (draft Guidelines) to describe the information needed to begin an environmental assessment (EA). Once fully developed, these guidelines would set clear expectations for the type of information and level of detail required from developers to begin an EA. The goal of the guidelines is to facilitate a good understanding of a project proposal at the beginning of an EA to support efficiency and effectiveness during EA scoping, and throughout the entire EA process.

On May 7, 2018 the Review Board invited parties to participate in a workshop to discuss the concept and development of draft EA Initiation Guidelines in more detail. The workshop will offer an early opportunity for Board staff to present the concept of the guidelines, introduce prospective content themes, and receive preliminary feedback and input from parties.

### Workshop Objectives

The objectives of the workshop are to:

- **Present and discuss** the concept, content, and expected benefits of EA initiation guidelines;
- **Identify** matters of importance to parties related to EA initiation guidelines; and
- **Seek preliminary input** from parties for consideration by the Review Board in developing draft EA Initiation Guidelines.

### Workshop Format and Preparation

The workshop will include presentations by Board staff, breakout group discussions, plenary discussions, and one-on-one discussion opportunities with Board staff. In preparation for the workshop, participants are encouraged to review the Environmental Assessment Initiation Guidelines **Concept Paper** (distributed May 7, 2018) and identify initial questions and comments that can be discussed during the workshop. The Review Board will also be accepting written

comments from parties during and after the workshop, and will have a public review period and opportunities for meetings after a draft version of the Guidelines is completed.

### **Agenda**

The Review Board will be providing coffee and snacks throughout the day. Lunch is not provided. The agenda for the workshop is as follows:

<b>Workshop Agenda</b>	
8:30-9:00	- Registration
9:00-10:30	- Introduction to Draft Environmental Assessment Initiation Guidelines: Concept and Rationale - Group Questions
10:30 - 10:45	- Coffee and Snack Break
10:45-12:00	- Introduction to Draft Environmental Assessment Initiation Guidelines: Content - Breakout Groups
12:00 - 1:30	- Lunch
1:30 – 3:00	- Breakout Groups
3:00 – 3:15	- Coffee and Snack Break
3:15 – 4:00	- Group Discussion and Wrap-up - Closing Comments

### **Questions or Comments**

If you have any questions or comments regarding the workshop, please contact Davin St. Pierre, EA Policy Advisor at 1-867-766-7071 or [dstpierre@reviewboard.ca](mailto:dstpierre@reviewboard.ca).