

Job Opening: Senior Environmental Assessment (EA) Advisor

Location: Yellowknife, Northwest Territories

Position Type: Indeterminate | Classification: PC-04

The **Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (Review Board)** is seeking an experienced **Senior Environmental Assessment (EA) Advisor** to support our environmental assessment processes under the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA). This is a critical role in ensuring that environmental assessments are conducted fairly, transparently, and in line with best practices, contributing to sustainable development in the region.

Role Overview

In this role, you will lead and help conduct Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) processes, making sure everything meets the requirements of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA) and our own policies.

You will be responsible for drafting EIA reports and providing expert analysis to help with decision-making. You'll work with both internal teams (lots of team work!) and with external parties (including Indigenous governments and expert federal and territorial departments) to ensure and effective, fair and efficient environmental assessment processes that assess ecological, socio-economic and cultural impacts. You'll also mentor other Environmental Assessment Advisors to ensure they produce high-quality work.

Additionally, you will help develop communication and outreach materials related to our policy initiatives, working closely with various in-house teams, external contractors, and parties.

This role involves diverse and challenging assessment work, and can make an important difference to the Review Board reaching the best decisions on proposed projects.

Key Responsibilities

- **Environmental Impact Assessment Coordination:** Oversee the EIA processes, including planning, logistics, and delegation, ensuring compliance with the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA) and the Review Board's policies.
- **EIA Report Preparation:** Lead the preparation of the draft and final Environmental Impact Assessment Reports, incorporating analysis, technical session outcomes, and Board direction, while ensuring all documents align with the Review Board's standards and legislative requirements.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Act as the primary point of contact with governments, Indigenous organizations, regulatory authorities, and other stakeholders, facilitating communication, providing updates on the EIA process, and ensuring transparency and compliance with all regulatory requirements.
- **Senior-Level Guidance:** Provide leadership and mentorship to Environmental Assessment Advisors, offering expert guidance on environmental assessment processes, technical matters, and the preparation of reports, while ensuring tasks are completed to a high standard.

Internal & External Collaboration: Foster collaboration within the environmental assessment team and with external partners, ensuring efficient operations and effective stakeholder engagement throughout the environmental assessment process. **In this job, you will be required to:**

1. Scope and analyze the potential impacts of proposed projects to assess biophysical, cultural, and socio-economic impacts.
2. Oversee all aspects of the EIA process, including planning, logistics, and reporting, ensuring smooth execution and adherence to timelines.
3. Lead the preparation of both draft and final EIA Reports, incorporating the Review Board's decisions and direction to inform environmental assessments and recommendations.
4. Provide senior-level guidance, coaching, and technical advice to Environmental Assessment Advisors, ensuring high-quality analysis and documentation.
5. Facilitate effective stakeholder engagement by acting as the primary contact for government agencies, Indigenous organizations, and other relevant parties on major environmental assessment issues.
6. Oversee the planning, organizing, and facilitating of public hearings, technical sessions, and scoping sessions, ensuring compliance with procedural requirements and fostering transparency.
7. Contribute to the development of policies, guidelines, and procedural amendments aimed at improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the environmental assessment process.
8. Represent the Review Board at conferences, meetings, and in inter-agency collaborations, sharing information about the EIA process and contributing to discussions on best practices.
9. Report to the Manager of EIA.

Qualifications

The Review Board welcomes candidates from a range of backgrounds, and educational and work experience, with priority hiring practices for Indigenous and Northern applicants.

The ideal candidate will be a professional who is passionate about EIA, has a minimum of 7 years' experience directly with EIA, in-depth understanding of the theory and practice of EIA, and the experience necessary to meet the responsibilities listed above through a combination of education and/or direct work experience. Excellent communication skills in clear writing and reasoning, and effective presenting, are essential.

Organizational culture

The Review Board was established in 1998, through the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act, which resulted from completed land claims in the Northwest Territories. This legislation gives Indigenous people of the Mackenzie Valley a greater say in resource development and management. The Review Board is a co-management board, comprised of an equal number of Indigenous land claimant nominees and government nominees and is responsible for environmental impact assessment processes in the Mackenzie Valley.

The Review Board's vision for itself is making wise environmental impact assessment decisions that balance the diverse values, interests, and knowledge of all residents of the Mackenzie Valley, while ensuring the protection of the environment for present and future generations.

Our team is small yet dedicated to carrying out the Review Board's legislative responsibilities, strategic priorities and promises enshrined in the modern land claim agreements. We value the agility and flexibility of our team that allows us to remain a leader in the rapidly evolving field of environmental impact assessment. We respect the work-life balance of employees while being committed to excellence in our practice of innovative, fair and effective EIA.

Compensation and benefits

Starting salary for this position is in line with the Treasury Board of Canada's requirements for a PC- 4 position (\$117 799 to \$126 040). We also offer competitive and comprehensive benefits, and Northern Living and Travel allowances ranging between \$18,497 - \$26,401.

Apply by January 6, 2024.

Send your Resume and Cover Letter to: Tiffany Saungweme, Human Resources Manager of the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board.

Email: tsaungweme@reviewboard.ca