

ALBERTA REGION INDIGENOUS CAUCUS REPORT

Raymond Cardinal



Tansi.

My name is Raymond Cardinal and I am an Indigenous Caucus member representing Alberta on the Indigenous Advisory and Monitoring Committee for the Trans Mountain Expansion project (IAMC-TMX).

Alberta has multiple Indigenous Caucus positions (3) and during the selection process, four nominations were made, requiring that a selection meeting proceed. On December 12, 2018 I was elected to serve as a member of the IAMC-TMX representing Alberta First Nations by majority vote. For more information on the selection process, you can read the [Indigenous Caucus Selection](#) Report on our website.

In my roles, as it relates to the committee, I am the Indigenous Monitoring Subcommittee Chair and I participate on the Socioeconomic Subcommittee, Engagement Subcommittee and the Grants and Contributions Subcommittee. Through the work of these subcommittees, we have accomplished a great deal towards

increasing Indigenous participation in the Trans Mountain pipeline expansion project. A couple of highlights from the subcommittees that I work on was the completion of Canada's first-ever Indigenous Monitoring Pilot Program with the Canada Energy Regulator (previously the National Energy Board), the initiation of a work camps study and the commission of a labour demand study.

The **Indigenous Monitoring Subcommittee's** goal is to ensure Indigenous knowledge, values and perspectives are included in the monitoring, regulation, compliance verification and performance of the

"I chose to get involved with the IAMC because I believe it is important that First Nations should be involved in processes that impact them."

proposed TMX Project and existing pipeline. I was asked early on to be involved in monitoring and, specifically, the Indigenous Monitoring Pilot project. This ground-breaking Indigenous monitoring pilot program was developed by the Committee and the Canada Energy Regulator

Nations in the Alberta Region include:

Alexander First Nation (Kipoptakaw)
Alexis Nakota Sioux Nation
Enoch Cree Nation
Ermineskin Cree Nation
Horse Lake First Nation
Louis Bull Tribe
Montana First Nation



O'Chiese First Nation
Paul First Nation
Samson Cree First Nation
Stoney Nakota First Nation (Iyarhe Nakoda)
Sturgeon Lake Cree Nation
Sucker Creek First Nation
Sunchild First Nation
Whitefish (Good fish) Lake First Nation / Saddle Lake Cree Nation

(CER). This pilot established a framework for Committee monitoring and is informing a program to be implemented throughout the Trans Mountain pipeline corridor. I was also part of the team that co-developed the Indigenous Monitor training with the CER and Department of Fisheries

and Oceans Canada (DFO).

I have also participated in five major emergency management training exercises – to identify the barriers to Indigenous involvement in emergency management and to determine how we can best influence change.

The work of the **Socioeconomic Subcommittee** is focused in two areas: Mitigating the negative impacts of the five work camps associated with the expansion project in communities, and specifically reducing the potential for harm to Indigenous women and girls; and monitoring the economic participation of Indigenous peoples (procurement, employment, training, etc.) in the project and supporting the capacity of Indigenous communities to participate in these economic opportunities.

Two working groups have been established to address these issues. These are the Work Camps Working Group and Economic Development Working Group.

Engagement with communities is essential to all of our work at the IAMC. Members of the **Engagement Subcommittee**

work with community members and government representatives to find shared priorities and understanding. They are committed to the integration of Indigenous knowledge, values and perspectives into the monitoring, regulation and performance of the existing Trans Mountain pipeline and proposed expansion.

To support this priority, the Engagement Subcommittee holds engagement events to promote an understanding of the IAMC's mandate and learn about the questions and concerns Indigenous communities have regarding Trans Mountain activities. An Engagement Coordinator pilot project was established to build upon and enhance the critically important relationship between the Committee and Indigenous communities. An Alberta Engagement Event was held on May 30th, 2019 at River Cree Resort and

Casino which sought to bring representatives from affected communities together to learn about the work of the IAMC-TMX and the Capacity Funding program.

In February 2019, the **Grants and Contributions Subcommittee** was formed to oversee the administration of funding based on the decisions of the committee. Natural Resources Canada, through the Indigenous Partnerships Office – West (IPO-West), administers the funding based on the decisions of the IAMC.

For more information on these subcommittees, or the work of the IAMC-TMX refer to our [Annual Report](#).

The IAMC-TMX's Indigenous Caucus will be hosting its second annual **Line Wide Gathering** from November 13-14, 2019 in Kelowna, BC. One purpose of the Gathering is to update the Indigenous communities along the pipeline route on both the work the Committee has completed over the past year and our plans and priorities as we move forward. The other purpose is to hear from the communities about their interests and concerns to inform our work.

During last year's Line Wide Gathering held in T'sou-ke traditional territory, we received valuable observations, insights and recommendations in the following priority areas:

1. Indigenous Monitoring/Emergency Management and Response;
2. Impacts of Work Camps;
3. Community Engagement and Communications; and
4. Advice to Government and Regulators.

The full [2018 Line Wide Report](#) is available on our website.

Funding for communities is available through the Committee's Capacity Funding Program.

Our objective is to increase Indigenous participation in the Trans Mountain Expansion (TMX) Project and existing pipeline and to enable Indigenous groups to be more directly involved.