



Learning More About Assessments

We hope that www.yesab.ca becomes the first place you look for information on YESAB and the assessment process in the Yukon.

There are a number of resources being developed that will help you learn more about assessments under the *Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Act*. They will be available in hard copy, electronically and on our website. As well, staff in the six Designated Offices and the Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board (YESAB) main office are available to help provide information about assessments.

The YESAB Website

The Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board has created a website that provides up-to-date information about our organization and our assessment process. Reference and guidance documents that describe how assessments will be done will be available at www.yesab.ca. The website will also provide proponents with instructions for developing project proposals. It links to the YESAB Online Registry, which will contain copies of assessment-related documents. You will also find contact information for our six Designated Offices and our main Whitehorse office. We hope that www.yesab.ca becomes the first place you look for information on YESAB and the assessment process in the Yukon.

Combined, the YESAB website and Online Registry will provide an interactive medium for proponents, stakeholders, Decision Bodies and others involved or interested in assessments in the Yukon.

Fact Sheets

In order to provide information and answers to some commonly asked questions about assessment processes under the Act, fact sheets are now available for specific subjects. These fact sheets provide general information on the topic and in most cases provide the reader with ways to find additional information.

Fact sheets have been developed on topics which include:

- First Nation Participation in Assessments
- Public Participation in Assessments
- Socio-economic Effects Assessment
- Assessment of Cumulative Effects
- YESAB Public Registry

Proponents' Guides

Those who submit project proposals under the Act are referred to as proponents. They require a higher level of detail than our fact sheets provide. YESAB is developing proponents' guides which describe the specific information related to proposed projects that assessors need in order to conduct assessments. These include a guide for Designated Office evaluations and one for Executive Committee screenings.

Information required in a project proposal includes project location, project activities and description, baseline environmental and socio-economic information for the project area, the identification of potential environmental, socio-economic and cumulative effects, their mitigation and significance. Our guides will also include information about the evaluation process that helps proponents understand how to submit proposals, what to expect during an evaluation and how to follow a proposal through the evaluation.



Participation Guide

In order to conduct good assessments under the Act, it is essential that the public is able to participate in and contribute to the assessment process. A public participation guide is being produced so that people know how to get information on assessments, how to submit comments or information, and how to follow assessments.

Confidential Information Guides

The Act has special provisions which allow certain traditional knowledge and sensitive information to be designated as confidential. Guidelines are being produced for both proponents and assessors to ensure that they are aware of the availability of this process for the use and handling of sensitive information.

Assessor Procedural Guides

For those who want to know more about the stages and processes involved in a Designated Office evaluation or an Executive Committee screening, procedural guides for these two types of assessments will be available. These documents are being written primarily for assessors, but will be of use to people who would like to know more about the assessment process. The procedural guides pull together all the direction contained in the Act, the Regulations, the YESAB Rules and the Technical Assessment Guidelines about how to conduct assessments.

Technical Assessment Guidelines

The most detailed assessment documents are the Technical Assessment Guidelines. As suggested by the title, these documents are being written in a technical style and so may have a more limited readership. They include detailed rationales, assessment theory and a variety of assessment methodologies. They detail a variety of options to make assessments appropriate for the different types of project proposals that may be submitted. These technical guides also provide detailed direction to ensure assessments are carried out in a consistent manner.