



Impact Assessment  
Agency of Canada

Agence d'évaluation  
d'impact du Canada

President

Président

160 Elgin St., 22<sup>nd</sup> floor  
Ottawa ON K1A 0H3

160, rue Elgin, 22<sup>e</sup> étage  
Ottawa ON K1A 0H3

April 22, 2026

Alberta Wilderness Association  
455 12 ST NW  
Calgary AB T2N 1Y9  
[awa@abwild.ca](mailto:awa@abwild.ca)

Dear Kennedy Halvorson and Debborah Donnelly:

Thank you for your detailed submission on March 12, 2026, providing comments on the *Draft Co-operation Agreement on Environmental and Impact Assessment between Alberta and Canada*. We appreciate the significant time and practical experience that the Alberta Wilderness Association has brought to this review. Your contribution reflects the longstanding commitment of your organization to wilderness conservation in Alberta and your role as a voice for the environment.

Your submission was carefully considered as we finalized the co-operation agreement with Alberta and will also be used to inform its eventual implementation. The final agreement was published on April 2, 2026.

As we continue our work to modernize and streamline federal impact assessment processes, the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) remains committed to strengthening co-operation with provincial partners while ensuring that adverse effects within federal jurisdiction are appropriately assessed and managed on a project-by-project basis. The final agreement with Alberta is part of this effort and will provide greater clarity on roles, reduce duplication, and support timely, predictable assessments while upholding Canada's world-leading environmental standards and its constitutional obligations to Indigenous Peoples.

You raise several important points in your letter regarding the reliability of Alberta's environmental assessment processes, the importance of rigorous processes that reflect best available science and adequately address impacts under federal jurisdiction; the critical importance of meaningful Indigenous consultation and recognition of rights; and the need for continued federal oversight.

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When IAAC shifts to implementation of the final agreement, we will require assurances that federal issues, including a consideration of adverse impacts on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, will be integrated in the provincial process in order to rely on that process. The federal government will remain at the table to support on these issues, and on related consultations.

Thank you again for your thoughtful engagement and for your dedication to conserving and protecting water, wildlife, and wild spaces in Alberta. We value your expertise and look forward to continued dialogue as this work progresses.

Sincerely,

Terence Hubbard (he/him, il)