



Request for Proposals

Social Impact of Mineral Development Projects in Indigenous Communities

Objective:

To conduct ***a study, as described below***, on behalf of the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC), to identify and map potential impacts and responses on social infrastructure within host Indigenous communities throughout the mineral development sequence for a typical project in Canada. The study should derive specific guidance and suggest practices for developing social infrastructure to manage identified impacts.

This information will be used to ultimately create a web-based resource hosted on the PDAC website that can concretely inform company and government social impact mitigation strategies and impact benefit agreements throughout all stages of mineral development.

Background:

This project is inspired by the recommendations made to the extractive sector in the final report on Missing Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. The report calls upon government and industry to recognize that, “social infrastructure must be expanded and service capacity built to meet the anticipated needs of the host communities in advance of the start of projects”. More research in this area can help proactively mitigate any negative social and cultural outcomes that an influx of transient workers may have on Indigenous communities resulting from extractive projects.

This project would primarily look at what specific actions a community or company can work towards to prepare for the inevitable social changes related to the scaling up of a project. Size of communities and degree of remoteness can contribute to the varying ways social impacts are felt by Indigenous communities. These issues would be researched through reviewing relevant literature, case studies, and interviews tracing the impacts past and present mineral projects have had on social infrastructure. Research should consider:

- 1. An intersectional lens to such impacts**
- 2. How these impacts vary depending on:**
 - i. Size of community
 - ii. Remoteness to other communities and urban developments
 - iii. Jurisdiction
- 3. How these impacts vary depending on the stage of mineral development, primarily:**
 - i. Exploration
 - ii. Mine Construction
 - iii. Operation
 - iv. Closure and reclamation



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In identifying such knowledge, Indigenous communities and industry can then be enabled to proactively prepare for and manage social impacts that a mineral development project may impose onto an Indigenous community.

Proposed Project:

Goal and Objectives:

Using case studies of appropriate projects, this study will identify the types and scale of social impacts that exist for Indigenous communities resulting from mineral development activities. Documenting changes in the social fabric of a particular community as a result of a mineral project and related company, community and government activities can inform development of effective strategies. Defining what social infrastructures would need to be bolstered to address these strains, can then concretely inform project strategies and impact benefit agreements to ensure the upkeep and advancement of the social wellbeing of Indigenous communities.

The project will seek to answer the following questions in the form of a research report.

- 1. What are the well known changes to the social and cultural fabrics in Indigenous communities that may occur following the commencement of a mineral project?**
Taking into consideration different contexts such as the size of the community, remoteness of the communities to other communities and urban centers and jurisdiction
- 2. How do these changes affect the social infrastructure of a community?**
Social issues to be examined would range from impacts on rates of gendered violence to the implications of increased costs of living
- 3. Which forms of and to what degree must social infrastructure be expanded and service capacities built to meet the anticipated needs of the host communities in advance of projects?**
List regarding what types of social infrastructures need to be built or expanded to meet the anticipated needs of the host communities in advance of the start of projects

Deliverables:

- Draft Research Report (For PDAC comment/feedback)
- Final Research Report (including executive summary)
- Bibliography & any supplementary research



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Timeline and Deadlines:

PDAC recognizes that due to COVID-19, the timelines outlined below may need to be modified based on particular circumstances. Submitted proposals may suggest alternatives to the deadlines outlined below.

- Finalize Terms of Reference for Consultant Service Agreement – **1 week**
- Annotated Table of Contents – **2 weeks**
- Initial literature review (For PDAC Review) – **4 weeks**
- Survey questionnaire (For PDAC Review) – **2 weeks**
- Present initial findings (For PDAC Review) – **3 weeks**
- Present consultation summary and interim research report (For PDAC Review) – **3 weeks**
- Present and submit Draft Final Report (For PDAC review) – **2 weeks**
- Present and submit final research report (including executive summary) – **2 weeks**
- Bibliography & any supplementary research – **1 week**

Budget:

The proposal should include estimated costs and/or a fee structure for the project.

Indication of Interest:

The proposal should be submitted by email to Sanket Das at sdas@pdac.ca on or before **August 7th**. The proposal should outline demonstrated experience with:

- Knowledge of indigenous communities, particularly in the realm of socio-economic issues
- Experience quantifying social indicators
- Preparing structured reports / research papers
- Indigenous issues related to the mineral exploration industry

PDAC Background:

The Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) is the leading voice of the mineral exploration and development community. With over 8,000 members around the world in all sectors of the mining industry, the PDAC's mission is to promote a globally-responsible, vibrant and sustainable minerals industry. As the trusted representative of the sector, PDAC encourages best practices in technical, operational, environmental, safety and social performance. PDAC is known worldwide for its annual PDAC Convention, regarded as the premier international event for the mineral industry. The PDAC Convention has attracted over 25,000 people from 135 countries in recent years and will next be held March 7-10, 2021