

SOCIOECONOMIC COMMITTEE (FORMERLY COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTIONS AND PROCUREMENT COMMITEE)

Canada Nickel Company —Crawford Nickel-Cobalt Sulphide Project 5th MEETING REPORT

MEETING INFORMATION		
DATE	March 30 th 2023	
TIME	2:00 PM to 3:50 PM	
LOCATION	Videoconference—MICROSOFT TEAMS	
	Members	Presence
	Monika Malherbe, Town of Cochrane	
	Richard Charlebois, Town of Iroquois Falls	✓
	Michelle Boileau, City of Timmins	✓
PARTICIPANTS	Shannon Michaud, Town of Smooth Rock Falls	✓
	Jason Michaud, Cochrane Board of Trade	
	Brenda Camirand, Timmins Economic Development Corporation	✓
	Joel Ahrens, Timmins Chamber of Commerce	√
	Brian Marks, Cochrane District Social Planning Council	✓
CANADA NICKEL	✓ Pierre-Philippe Dupont, Vice President Sustainability	1
CANADA NICKEL	 Alexandra Armstrong, Community Relations & Communications C 	oordinator
FACILIATION	✓ Isaac Gauthier – Facilitator – Transfer Environment and Society (TES)	
TACILIATION	✓ Anne Bélanger – Note taker – Transfer Environment and Society (TES)	
	1. Welcome and Roundtable (new members)	
	2. Meeting Agenda Review and Approval	
AGENDA	3. Crawford Project Updates	
	4. Contributions program updates	
AGLINDA	5. Committee's new mandate proposal	
	6. Discussion on social impacts and valued components	
	7. Next steps / Next meeting	
	8. Varia	

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

CON	MMITTEE SUGGESTIONS
	Consider including Indigenous organization that represent urban indigenous members.
	Including hospital representatives and/or an Ontario Health Team representative on the committee.
	Sharing examples of eligible projects in the contributions guidelines to help applicants screen
	themselves.
	Separating homelessness from mental health and addiction in valued components list.
	Adding food access, emergency services and potentially poverty into the valued components list.
	Pondering valued components concerns as they vary between communities.
	Thinking about some sub-population groups identified as most affected by the project (i.e. marginalized
	groups, young families, unemployed and seniors).
	Considering the area's a long mining history may mean some valued components are of lesser
	importance, such as acoustics, visuals, and landscape.
	Examining the relations between many valued components and attractiveness in the area (immigration,
	tourism, economic development, and infrastructures)

COMMITTEE CONCERNS

Committee members role regarding the new mandate, the real impact their voiced concerns or recommendations will have, and management of potential disagreements.

1. WELCOME AND ROUNDTABLE

Isaac Gauthier, the meeting facilitator, initiates the meeting and welcomes the members.

2. MEETING AGENDA REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Mr. Gauthier presents the meeting's agenda. The agenda is approved.

3. CRAWFORD PROJECT UPDATES

Ms. Armstrong presents the Crawford Project updates and highlights:

- Canada Nickel has ongoing drilling at a few of its properties. Crawford remains the main project. Canada
 Nickel also recently acquired the Texmont property, which is located south of Timmins and was an
 operating mine for less than two years in the 1970's. Canada Nickel will potentially push to production
 on this property and is currently working with government authorities to assess any necessary site
 reclamation. The current plans for the site would be a small open pit.
- Regarding the Impact Assessment process, Canada Nickel received the Tailored Impact Statement
 Guidelines from the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada. This moves the Crawford Project forward to
 preparing the Impact Statement (IS) document which is the next phase in the federal process. The new
 proposed committee mandate will touch upon some of the topics relative to the preparation of this IS
 such as potential social impacts, mitigation measures, value components, etc.

- Canada Nickel's team attended the Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada (PDAC) conference in Toronto which led to productive meetings with potential investors and suppliers.
- Canada Nickel signed a deal with Anglo American for 9.9% interest in the company. The deal includes
 Canada Nickel supplying site material (ore) from Crawford to Anglo American so the latter can test new
 technologies that could contribute to the project. Anglo American will also have the option to purchase
 10% of site concentrates and related carbon credits.

No questions or comments are raised.

4. CONTRIBUTIONS PROGRAM UPDATES

Ms. Armstrong shares updates regarding Canada Nickel's contributions program, which has been successful so far for short term contributions. She mentions wanting committee feedback on some questions that remain. The emphasis for contributions was to encourage significant benefits for larger populations, groups, etc. She then presents the projects that have received contributions to date:

- Sports for Kids Timmins and Charity Golf Tournament
- Collège Boréal Humanitarian Project
- Yellow Fish Road Program and Water Awareness Art Contest
- Mattagami Ski Club Back on Track Project
- TADH Foundation Dancing with the docs
- Cochrane Classis Vintage Riders Club and Museum
- Iroquois Falls Minor Hockey Association

Ms. Armstrong mentions a challenge that Canada Nickel has had when evaluating applications and would like the committee's input. Sports teams, for which many applications are received, are scoring low in the evaluation matrix because they do not meet the objectives of the contributions program, largely because they have a smaller or negligible positive impact on vulnerable populations or urgent needs within communities. The proposal would be to establish a minimum score to be eligible for funding, so as to encourage applications that meet these objectives and provide reasoning as to why sports teams, barring particular circumstances, do not receive.

QUESTIONS AND INTERVENTIONS		ANSWERS
Q&I1	A participant explains that in their experience, up to date examples of eligible projects in the contribution guidelines would help organizations tailor their projects. Examples of what wouldn't be eligible could also be integrated.	Mr. Gauthier reiterates the idea to ensure everyone understood. The suggestion would be to include in the contribution guidelines examples of projects that would meet the funding thresholds or that would score low.
Q&12	A participant asks if the applying groups get a copy of the evaluation matrix and the weighing that was determined for each criteria.	Ms. Armstrong mentions that applicants receive an outline of the topics covered in the evaluation but not precise scoring.

QUESTIONS AND	INTERVENTIONS	ANSWERS
Q & 1 3	A participant asks if Canada Nickel wishes for applicants to screen themselves out so no application would score too low. The problem with this is that normally when applying for funding there is a bias that would make anyone score their project higher, but having them scoring themselves might help with the administrative management of contributions.	Ms. Armstrong mentions that the challenge is that applicants are not necessarily reading the guidelines. A possibility could be to list the specific criteria in the guidelines. Overall, it is part of the learning process.
Q&14		Mr. Gauthier suggests that there could be a draft tool for applicants to weight themselves which would still give them a sense of where the project is on the criterion scale.
Q&15		Ms. Armstrong answers that the concern with releasing the full matrix would be that applicants may disagree with the scoring and challenge it. She asks the members if it is a realistic challenge.
Q&16	A participant mentions that it may be a challenge, but it is also normal to wish to understand why an application has been rejected.	Mr. Gauthier mentions that a first step could be to clarify the criteria in the guidelines and strongly encourage people read them.
Q & 1 7		Ms. Armstrong mentions that people are getting more familiar with the project, and that the number of applications have been steadily growing, although there has not been any legacy applications yet. A reminder will be included in the upcoming newsletter. She invites members to share the information because the deadline is approaching for legacy contribution requests.
Q & 1 8		Mr. Gauthier congratulates the committee and Canada Nickel for the contribution program.

5. COMMITTEE'S NEW MANDATE PROPOSAL

Mr. Gauthier explains that the initial mandate of the committee has been successfully and quickly met therefore Canada Nickel is considering changing the committee's focus to discuss more the project's socio-economic impacts. The proposal is opened for discussion.

- The committee's name would be changed to reflect its new work: Socioeconomic Committee.
- The proposed mandate is similar to the Environmental Committee, but is focused on the project's socioeconomic impacts.
- The working rules would remain the same and decisions would still be made by consensus.

Ms. Armstrong adds that the committee's members are the experts and Canada Nickel wishes to tap into this expertise to understand potential direct and indirect impacts and develop mitigation measures suited to those impacts.

QUESTIONS AND	INTERVENTIONS	ANSWERS
Q & I 9	A participant agrees with the new name and the change of mandate.	Ms. Armstrong thanks the participant for their comment.
Q & I 10	A participant agrees with the name but mentions that there might be someone else in their organization that is more suited for the topic.	Mr. Gauthier thanks the member for their comment and reiterates the importance of the organization's participation in the committee's work, and that they are welcome to nominate a new representative if preferred.
Q & I 11		Ms. Armstrong mentions that a reminder will be sent out to each member to confirm their organization's interest in participating in the committee and the appropriate representative. She further mentions that Canada Nickel is considering integrating two new organizations in the committee, namely the Porcupine Health Unit (PHU) and Fierté Timmins Pride. She explains that the former is on the Environmental Committee, but discussions led to finding that their expertise is cross disciplinary. The latter provides representation for groups of the region that are not otherwise heavily represented in such processes.
Q & I 12	A participant mentions having had the thought about adding hospital representatives.	Ms. Armstrong asks how interconnected the PHU and local hospitals are.

QUESTIONS AND INTERVENTIONS		ANSWERS
Q & I 13	The participant answers that they are unsure	
Q & I 14	A participant mentions that there should soon be an Ontario Health Team that will represent all local communities and hospitals. It is further mentioned that there is likely little relations between the PHU and local hospitals, so the Ontario Health Team may be the best option.	
Q & I 15	A participant asks what kind of social impacts will be discussed at the committee and what will be expected of the members. They also ask what would happen if there are disagreements during discussions, for example regarding the scope of impacts and potential mitigation measures.	Mr. Gauthier explains that follow ups on the contributions program will continue at the committee and if issues arise on this topic, the committee will be able to discuss them. He further explains that the committee is an advisory body that provides information, advise, and recommendations to Canada Nickel. The proponent will nevertheless keep its right to address the project's impacts to the best of their feasible means. Mr. Gauthier responds that, in the event of disagreements, the goal will be to find a balance between recommendations and Canada Nickel's feasible means and long-term objectives, but that all elements will be open for discussion per the committees interests and mandate.
Q & I 16	The participant uses housing as an example of an issue that mining should probably get involved in, but recently refused to do so because they argued that they are not in the housing business. To the participant, this seemed like a dichotomy because a good percentage of housing in the region was built by the mines. While they acknowledge that mining has changed, it was still a disappointing answer.	Mr. Gauthier mentions that housing is an important issue that has been raised significantly throughout Canada Nickel's engagement activities. He suggests that the members give the committee an opportunity to work on this topic and figure out what are everyone's ideas and expectations. Note for reference: Canada Nickel is aiming towards local employment and relocation, not fly-in fly-out.

QUESTIONS AND	INTERVENTIONS	ANSWERS
	They mention that if Canada Nickel is	
	aiming for a fly-in fly-out model that	
	doesn't emphasize local development, it	
	should be mentioned upfront and early	
	so people on the committee can be	
	aware of the positioning. The	
	participant adds that Canada Nickel	
	certainly has a right to decide how it will	
	tackle these social issues, but there is	
	still the question as to what voice the	
	committee's members will have. They	
	mention that time will probably provide	
	answers to these questions.	

QUESTIONS AND	INTERVENTIONS	ANSWERS
Q & I 17		Mr. Dupont adds that he sees the committee as an advisory group. For the project's impact assessment, Canada Nickel needs to identify the potential socio-economic impacts. The environmental aspects of this type of project and subsequent appropriate solutions are relatively well known, and standard practice for project impact assessments. On the other hand, the new Impact Assessment focuses a lot on social and economic impacts. While Canada Nickel has experts working on the social side of the assessment, they do not have the local expertise committee members can provide. The idea would therefore be to have the committee review and comment the consultant's work, to validate or correct Canada Nickel's understanding and ultimately support identification of impactful mitigation measures. Canada Nickel retains the final decision on what the final solutions will be, but in his opinion, the solutions will make more sense if they are supported by the communities.
		Regarding how previous companies handled the issue of housing, Mr. Dupont mentions that the process and procedures for engagement from companies already in operation can differ from those in early stages, like Canada Nickel. For Canada Nickel, it is an issue that will need to be discussed as there will be a need for over 900 workers on site, and in order to attract and retain those workers they need housing. In Cochrane, it seems that Agnico Eagle owns houses for some of its employees. He adds that there is a fine line between being solely responsible for solving local housing issues and acknowledging that the project may contribute to it. There is a need to find the right balance and appropriate measures.
Q & I 18	A participant answers that even if the committee gives practical feedback, the	Mr. Dupont acknowledges the member's concerns. He adds that Canada Nickel will, as it has done to date, listen to and discuss the

QUESTIONS AND INTERVENTIONS		ANSWERS
	choice is ultimately Canada Nickel's and the company will be able to say that the committee was consulted. The participant says that they want to avoid the committee serving as a public relations exercise or easy consultation justification.	advice and recommendations from the committee while reporting on the company's final decisions and reasoning. He further notes that the committee continues to be only one of many tools that Canada Nickel has put in place to support continuous and diverse engagement, and that all activities and feedback are tracked and disclosed.
Q & I 19		Mr. Gauthier mentions that proponents have to demonstrate throughout the Impact Assessment process that they have seriously considered community feedback and potential solutions, before finalizing their choice. Final choices will need to be justified to the Agency. As part of TES's mandate, they will support Canada Nickel to ensure tangible, thorough tracking, integration, and follow up on community feedback. Ultimately, members are not constrained to stay in the committee, but the hope is that they will give the process a chance.
Q & I 20		Mr. Dupont adds that Canada Nickel intends more than just regulatory compliance with its committees and other engagement activities. He further explains that, so long as all feel that the tool is effective, CNC's committees will likely continue their work after the assessment process is complete, to ensure that Canada Nickel is doing things right and to continue advising on project impacts and associated mitigation measures.
Q & I 21	The participant thanks Mr. Dupont for the explanation.	
Q & I 22	A participant mentions that, likely in the next 12 months, there will be the creation of a regional Ontario Health Team.	Ms. Armstrong answers that the challenge will be to decide if every hospital should be represented or if one person could speak for the lot of them, as committee size must be considered to ensure all voices can be heard.
Q & I 23	A participant mentions that they assume that a single representative	Ms. Armstrong reiterates Canada Nickel's desire to integrate the two new members to the committee from groups that are under-

QUESTIONS AND	INTERVENTIONS	ANSWERS
	from the Ontario Health team could suit this goal and represent the hospitals	represented in the community. She will also want to make sure that the current members are comfortable with the new mandate.
Q & I 24	A participant asks if First Nations will be involved in the process or if they have their own.	Ms. Armstrong answers that there are community-specific processes in place developed in collaboration with the First Nations, though Canada Nickel is also in discussion with the Native Friendship Centers.
Q & I 25	A participant explains that they have to leave, but will reach out to Canada Nickel's team regarding housing.	
Q & I 26		Mr. Gauthier reminds the participants that even though there is a new mandate proposal, the committee will still follow up on the community contributions program.
Q & I 27	A participant mentions that they had a conversation with a member of the Porcupine Health Unit who mentioned their interest in joining the committee. The participant adds that they appreciate the fact that there is different process for First Nation communities, but they add that they would also see a place for Indigenous representation on the committee.	Ms. Armstrong answers that this recommendation could be suitable for urban Indigenous members that live in the area. Ms. Armstrong mentions that the Native Friendship Centres may be able to support this idea.
Q & I 28		Mr. Gauthier suggests that the meeting continue, and that the topic of the committee's composition be followed up on prior to next meeting, to allow everyone time to think about the various proposals.
Q & I 29		Ms. Armstrong mentions that she will raise the topic in a follow up email to confirm each member's and group's interest in continuing to sit on the committee.

6. DISCUSSSION ON SOCIAL IMPACTS AND VALUED COMPONENTS

Mr. Gauthier explains the next steps as to beginning to discuss the project's social impacts, to gaining a better understanding on what is most important to communities and where Canada Nickel's efforts should be focused. As a first step, he explains the concept of valued components, which are elements of particular concern or value to communities, individuals, or organizations. The reason why this is important is to tailor the impact assessment process per a list of potential issues and concerns, and then to further understand how local communities prioritize these issues.

To begin this conversation, he explains the participatory tool to help guide discussions.

Ms. Armstrong adds that the list of valued components was established from past engagement activities and Canada Nickel's current understanding of what is important to communities. She mentions that it is a high-level list, to kick-off discussions.

First impressions of valued components list

Ms. Armstrong mentions that, as a start, the committee will focus on valued components of a socio-economic nature. Biological and physical environment valued components will preliminarily be discussed at the Environmental Committee.

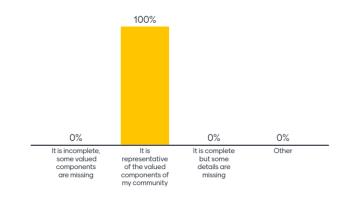
Mr. Gauthier mentions that the word community throughout the questionnaire can also be understood as organizations.

Go to www.menti.com and use the code 2759 0816

At first glance, what do you think of the list of identified socio-economic valued components?









QUESTIONS AND INTERVENTIONS		ANSWERS
Q & I 30	A participant mentions that it would be good to separate homelessness from mental health and addiction, as mental health or addiction issues do not	Mr. Gauthier thanks the member for the comment and notes agreement from other members.

QUESTIONS AND	INTERVENTIONS	ANSWERS
	necessarily correlate with homelessness	
	and vice versa.	

Missing valued components

Go to www.menti.com and use the code 2759 0816

If some socio-economic valued components are missing, which ones are they?









QUESTIONS AND	INTERVENTIONS	ANSWERS
		Ms. Armstrong mentions having heard a lot
Q & I 31		about issues regarding food access in the
		region.
		Mr. Gauthier invites participants to share
		comments about the valued components, to
		delve deeper into the various topics. For
		example, he asks for more details on the
Q & I 32		topic of emergency services, to clarify
Q Q 1 32		whether it was mentioned due to a lack of
		sufficient emergency resources in the region
		or to invite Canada Nickel to align its
		emergency management plans with local
		service providers.
Q & I 33	A participant mentions not having	
	thought about the above distinction.	
	The topic was raised because of	

QUESTIONS AND INTERVENTIONS		ANSWERS
	emergency service availability and how the increased needs could impact taxes.	
Q & I 34	A participant concurs and adds having had the same thought process, namely that if there is an increase in population, there will be an increase in demand for emergency services.	Mr. Gauthier thanks the participants for their comments.

Differences per community

Mr. Gauthier mentions that the answer might seem obvious, but the idea is to gain more understanding on differences between communities. For example, housing seems to be general concern, but there might be more specific situations where it is more of a dire issue. This will be delved deeper into in future meetings.

Go to www.menti.com and use the code 2759 0816

Do valued components differ per community? yes 100x

QUESTIONS AND	INTERVENTIONS	ANSWERS
Q & I 35	A participant mentions that in Smooth Rock Falls, the issues of most concern are housing and the lack of child care in the community. On the other hand, homelessness is not an issue as in other communities. With more time to ponder the list, there are likely other issues that are more relevant in distinct communities.	Mr. Gauthier encourages the participants to share those distinctions.
Q & I 36	A participant mentions that with regards to emergency services, the concern in Timmins is of a higher volume of requests while in other	Mr. Gauthier thanks the participant for their comments.

5

QUESTIONS AND INTERVENTIONS		ANSWERS
	communities it would be of lesser	
	service availability.	

Sub-populations or groups most affected

Go to www.menti.com and use the code 2759 0816

Which sub-populations or groups would be most affected by project impacts on the valued components?



marginalized groups
young families lower income
unemployed
new canadians seniors
single-parent families
poor households



QUESTIONS AND INTERVENTIONS		ANSWERS
Q & I 37		Ms. Armstrong mentions that young families and single parents come to mind.
Q & I 38	A participant adds seniors as another group or sub-population.	
Q & I 39		Mr. Gauthier shares that LGBTQ+ individuals may also be affected.
Q & I 40	A participant mentions that there will most likely be more after the meeting.	Mr. Gauthier mentions that, as per usual, the meeting report will be shared and members can share more information by email if anything else comes to mind after the meeting.

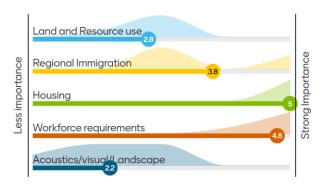
Level of importance

Mr. Gauthier explains that this question aims to prioritize which topics are of more particular importance to communities and individuals, to further allow more in depth and focused discussions. He also mentions that the same question will be asked twice to cover the whole list of identified socio-economic valued components.

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What level of importance does your community or organization give to each valued component?







QUESTIONS AND	INTERVENTIONS	ANSWERS
Q & I 41	A participant explains that immigration is a key strategy for adding workforce to Timmins. The idea is to identify people who can fill local skills gaps and help them move faster to permanent residency.	
Q & I 42		Mr. Gauthier asks for comments regarding the lower graded valued components, for example, land and resource use and acoustics, visuals, and landscape.
Q & I 43	A participant explains that it might relate to two points. For one, though there are items of higher priority, that does not mean that those ranked lower are not priorities at all. Second, it probably speaks to the fact that the Timmins area has a long mining history, which may lead to more openness towards such land use.	Mr. Gauthier thanks the participant for their insights.

QUESTIONS AND INTERVENTIONS		ANSWERS
	On the topic of regional immigration,	
	the participant adds that more people	
	in the community means a proportional	
	increase in service capacity.	
	Transportation options need to be	
	enhanced and communities and	
	employers need to be ready to welcome	
	new workers. There is a lot of work	
	ahead.	

For the second round on prioritizing valued components, Mr. Gauthier mentions that since homelessness was identified as an independent valued component, members can share a different score.

Go to www.menti.com and use the code 2759 0816

What level of importance does your community or organization give to each valued component?







QUESTIONS AND	INTERVENTIONS	ANSWERS
	A participant shares that economic	Mr. Dupont explains that from a mining
	development and infrastructures must	proponent's point of view, one of their key
	be at the top of the list because it is	role is to bring in good paying jobs and
	directly related to capacity building and	economic development, which is related to
	attractiveness to Northern Ontario. For	attractivity including concerns regarding
Q & I 44	example, affordable energy and	health care and quality of life. This can be
	telecommunications encourage	tricky, because it's easy to say it is the
	businesses to establish themselves in	government's problem, but this issue is
	the region, people to buy a house,	intrinsically connected to the workforce
	restaurants to open, etc. They mention	issue. It is hard to draw the line of where
	that with an appropriate strategy for	and when to be involved or not.

QUESTIONS AND	INTERVENTIONS	ANSWERS
	those items, there would then be capacity to serve issues like mental health, addiction, and homelessness.	
Q & I 45	A participant addresses the topic of infrastructure by saying that economic development brings the underlying needs of road, airport, and power improvements and that might go beyond than the project's area. It is something to be considered.	Mr. Dupont shares an example of the requirement of a new power line for the Crawford Project, where there is a deal made with Taykwa Tagamou Nation (TTN) to build, own and operate the power line. The chain of development triggered by the Crawford Project's power requirement is that TTN has the starting point from which to build further powerlines that will increase Northern Ontario's electric capacity and allow businesses to grow. There is a domino effect of building a large mining facility even though the company is not directly involved.
Q & I 46		Mr. Gauthier mentions that the level of importance for tourism varies significantly in the answers. He asks the participants if they have comments on this.
Q & I 47	A participant mentions having scored the tourism item high because in many conversations about recruiting and retaining workforce, attracting people to the area comes up a lot. For now, it is not a destination of choice. Any strategy should look to make the area more attractive.	Ms. Armstrong adds that there has been advertisements in Timmins that invite mining workers to move to Alberta. She further adds that the region does have a lot to offer and this needs to be communicated.
Q & I 48	A participant shares that in their view, all the valued components are important, although some are getting more attention. They reiterate that all the issues are important for the communities to flourish.	Mr. Gauthier mentions that the discussion is not an attempt to say some topics are of no importance, but rather to identify which ones are of a more pressing concern and need to be prioritized. Ms. Armstrong adds that it is also to make sure that there are no items listed that are completely irrelevant to the communities.

7. NEXT STEPS / NEXT MEETING

Ms. Armstrong thanks the participants for their time and shares that there will be broader outreach to all stakeholders in the coming months. She also mentions that she will send the meeting report prepared by TES for review and will ask each member to confirm their organization or community's interest in remaining on the committee. The next meeting could be in July.

She invites members to reach out if any other ideas come to mind after this meeting.

8. VARIA

Mr. Gauthier and Ms. Armstrong thank the members for their participation.

The meeting ends at 3:50 PM.

APPENDIX I PRESENTATION