



Department of Justice
Canada

Ministère de la Justice
Canada

Fifth annual progress report on
implementation of the *United Nations
Declaration on the Rights of
Indigenous Peoples Act*

August 2026



Canada 



Fifth annual progress report on
implementation of the *United
Nations Declaration on the Rights
of Indigenous Peoples Act*

Catalogue No. J1-31E-PDF

ISSN 2818-6338



Fifth annual progress report on implementation of the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*

***United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* Implementation
Secretariat**

Department of Justice Canada
2026

Information contained in this publication or product may be reproduced, in part or in whole, and by any means, for personal or public non-commercial purposes, without charge or further permission, unless otherwise specified.

You are asked to:

- exercise due diligence in ensuring the accuracy of the materials reproduced
- indicate both the complete title of the materials reproduced, as well as the author organization
- indicate that the reproduction is a copy of an official work that is published by the Government of Canada and that the reproduction has not been produced in affiliation with, or with the endorsement of, the Government of Canada.

Commercial reproduction and distribution is prohibited except with written permission from the Department of Justice Canada. For more information, please contact the Department of Justice Canada at www.justice.gc.ca.

© His Majesty the King in Right of Canada, represented by the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, 2026



Table of contents

Minister's message	1
Executive summary.....	3
Pjila'si, maajii, way', mi ce:p k ^w etx ^w iləm, introduction	4
Purpose and approach	6
Section 5 – Consistency of laws	9
Measures to ensure consistency	9
Legislative initiatives: Key highlights.....	10
Indigenous partners' perspectives	14
Section 6 – Action Plan implementation	17
Shared priorities	18
First Nations priorities.....	32
Inuit priorities	34
Métis priorities	36
Modern Treaty Partner priorities.....	37
Challenges and opportunities.....	39
Conclusion.....	47
Annex A: List of Indigenous governments and representative organizations that provided input into the development of the Annual report.....	48
Annex B: Status of Action Plan measures.....	51
Annex C: Section 5 consistency assessments of laws and regulations.....	401
Annex D: Indigenous Partnership Fund recipients	421
Annex E: List of abbreviations and acronyms	424



Minister's message

This report covers the period from April 2025 to March 2026 and provides an update on the 181 measures set out in the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (UN Declaration Act) Action Plan. As in previous years, it was developed in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners and brings together input from 47 federal departments and agencies, enriched by the perspectives of 71 Indigenous partners.

Over the past year, we made steady progress in advancing Indigenous rights and supporting self-determination, while continuing to strengthen coordination across government.

Key results reflecting progress in legislation, service delivery, engagement, and collaboration include:

- Establishing the Indigenous-led Action Plan Advisory Committee to strengthen Indigenous leadership in guiding implementation of shared priorities, while complementing the ongoing consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples ([Shared Priorities Measure 22](#))
- Supporting the collaborative development of culturally grounded health service models with six First Nations communities ([First Nations Priorities Measures 12](#) and [13](#))
- Continuing construction and operations of Aqqusariaq, the Nunavut Recovery Centre, improving access to culturally appropriate substance use and trauma services ([Inuit Priorities Measures 13](#) and [14](#))
- Introducing the *Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty Act* (Bill C-21) to support Métis self-government and strengthen government-to-government relationships ([Métis Priorities Measure 1](#))
- Introducing the *Commissioner for Modern Treaty Implementation Act* (Bill C-10) to improve oversight and accountability for modern treaty implementation ([Indigenous Modern Treaty Partner Priorities Measure 9](#))

Each year, as we continue to take concrete steps to promote and protect Indigenous rights, we contribute to building a fair, inclusive, and equitable Canada for First Nations, Inuit and Métis, now and for future generations.



While we acknowledge that Indigenous peoples have expressed concern that the pace of progress of Action Plan implementation has slowed over the past year, important results have been achieved as part of the Government of Canada's efforts to confront the many challenges that 2025 to 2026 held for the country.

Looking ahead, we will continue to learn from experience and feedback, including what we've heard from Indigenous peoples who contributed to this annual report about the need for better coordination across departments, greater support for Indigenous-led initiatives, ongoing inclusion of the perspectives of Indigenous women, youth, and 2SLGBTQI+ people, persons with disabilities, and Elders in implementation, and continued focus on fulfilling treaty obligations.

As we reflect on the last year through this report, we also take the opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to moving forward together to advance UN Declaration Act implementation with a clear focus on achieving meaningful and lasting results for generations to come.

The Honourable Sean Fraser, P.C., K.C.

Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada and Minister responsible for the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency



Executive summary

This fifth annual progress report under the *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act* (UN Declaration Act) covers the 2025–26 fiscal year and marks the midpoint of the 2023–2028 Action Plan. This report serves to highlight work federal departments and Indigenous partners are advancing together to achieve the objectives of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UN Declaration). It is an important tool for ensuring accountability for the commitments made in the Action Plan. This year, two overarching themes emerged from the information collected as part of the report: 1) adapting implementation during a year of governmental transition and external pressures and 2) managing the complexity of a highly ambitious Action Plan with 181 measures that require coordination across many departments and with diverse Indigenous nations, governments, and organizations.

The report highlights how government departments are ensuring consistency with the UN Declaration in federal law-making. These consistency analyses are supported by Justice Canada's [Interim Guide for Officials on How to Assess Consistency with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#), and by new internal tools and processes in departments across the Government of Canada. [Annex C: Section 5 Consistency assessments of Laws and Regulations](#) provides more detailed information about how departments and agencies are ensuring laws and regulations are consistent with the UN Declaration. Indigenous partners acknowledge these efforts but call for clearer, more transparent approaches to assessing and reporting on consistency with the UN Declaration.

On Action Plan implementation, there continues to be steady, if uneven, progress. While there have been important achievements this year such as the establishment of the UN Declaration Action Plan Advisory Committee (APAC), support for Indigenous health priorities, and investments in Indigenous-led area-based conservation, other Action Plan measures (APMs) are progressing at a slower pace. Indigenous partners and government departments and agencies continue to work through these challenges together. The associated opportunities related to coordination, capacity, reporting and other elements of implementation are valuable considerations as work to implement the Action Plan continues.



Pjila'si, maajii, way', mi ce:p k^wetx^wiləm, introduction

This year was a year of change. It began with the election of a new government that took place under geopolitical conditions that continue to shape our daily lives. The Government of Canada established its priorities to adapt to these changing circumstances while committing to ensuring the UN Declaration is upheld federally.

In preparing this year's Annual Report, two central themes emerged: the first related to the nature of progress achieved during a year impacted by transition and adaptation to external events beyond the government's control and a second theme focused on the inherent challenges of implementing a highly ambitious Action Plan made up of 181 measures, many of which require multi-departmental collaboration and intensive consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples.

According to some Indigenous partners, progress continues to be slower than anticipated, including due to structural barriers, such as fragmented funding and insufficient oversight or coordination. However, there are many positive lessons to be drawn from the work that is happening between Indigenous peoples and the Government of Canada. Despite ongoing challenges, shared understandings about the meaning of economic and environmental partnership, among others, are emerging through ongoing collaboration.

We extend our gratitude to the 71 Indigenous governments and representative organizations that contributed to this report. Throughout this report we refer to these contributors as "Indigenous partners". These partners include First Nations, Inuit, and Métis governments and representative organizations; urban and off-reserve Indigenous people; Indigenous women and 2SLGBTQI+ people; Indigenous youth and Elders; and Indigenous persons with disabilities. There is much to learn from what they have shared. A complete list of Indigenous partners that have contributed to this report can be found in [Annex A: List of Indigenous governments and representative organizations that provided input into the development of the Annual Report](#).

We recognize that 71 is only a small number of the governments and representative organizations of Indigenous peoples contributing to the work of implementing the UN Declaration Act in Canada. While the partners who contributed to this report reflect only a sample of the perspectives of the many Indigenous governments and representative organizations within Canada, the aim is to provide as broad of a range of partner perspectives as possible.

Justice Canada continues to seek out and build relationships with Indigenous governments and representative organizations to engage them in the annual reporting process and on



implementation more broadly. To that end, readers are invited to share their perspectives on this report or the process used to create it by contacting UNDeclarationNU@justice.gc.ca.

We invite readers to approach this report with the understanding that everyone involved brings their best intentions, guided by honesty, respect, and a commitment to transparency. Our aim is to accurately reflect the voices and perspectives of both the Indigenous partners who generously shared their time, knowledge, and experiences with us and the government departments and agencies who are working on Action Plan implementation.

We encourage reading this report with an open mind and humility to listen deeply.

Wela'lioq, Marsi, Nanaskomowin, Phidámayaye, Chi-miigwetch, ciθamə cen, Woliwon, Nakurmiik, Gunalcheésh, Mahsi' Cho, Shawnithan, Soga senla, Tiawenhk, Tshinashkumitnau, ʔimot, Limləmt (thank you) from the Justice Canada UN Declaration Act Implementation Secretariat.



Purpose and approach

Section 7 of the UN Declaration Act states that the Minister must, in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples, prepare a report for the previous fiscal year on the measures taken under sections 5 (consistency of laws) and 6 (action plan) of the UN Declaration Act.

Throughout this report, in referring to Action Plan Measures (APMs), we use the following short forms to reference the chapters and numbers of each APM. The chapters are Shared Priorities (SP); First Nations Priorities (FN); Inuit Priorities (IN); Métis Priorities (MÉ); and Modern Treaty Partner Priorities (MT). The reference numbers are the chapter abbreviations followed by the number of the measure (e.g. Shared priorities measure 1 is SP1).

Annual report development

This report builds upon previous annual reports. Justice Canada continues working with Indigenous partners and government departments and agencies to improve its process to create a report that reflects the shared experiences of implementation throughout the reporting period. The guiding objectives of this work continue to be **accountability** and **transparency**; **balance** between government and Indigenous perspectives; **collaboration**; and **iteration** – working to improve year-over-year.

There are three distinct phases of consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples in the annual reporting cycle:

- **Feedback (Summer-Fall)** – Indigenous partners share ideas on how to improve the Annual Report process and final product
- **Data Collection (Winter)** – Indigenous partners provide perspectives on UN Declaration Act implementation, which are integrated into the report
- **Validation (Spring)** – Indigenous partners who provided input into the Annual Report review the draft to ensure it accurately reflects their perspectives

During the feedback phase of this annual reporting cycle, partners acknowledged that the annual report is an important tool for accountability while suggesting ways to improve clarity, relevance, and transparency. Many partners appreciated how the [2024-25 Annual Report](#) provided an update on each APM in Annex B allowing them to understand what is being done to advance implementation.

Indigenous partners requested more information on section 5 (consistency of laws) initiatives to understand how the Government of Canada is ensuring consistency of laws



and regulations with the UN Declaration. In response, Justice Canada asked departments to provide information on how [legislation tabled in Parliament](#) and regulations published in the [Canada Gazette](#) were assessed for consistency with the UN Declaration and if any consultation and cooperation activities informed the development of those laws/regulations. More information on laws and regulations can be found in [Section 5 – Consistency of Laws](#) and [Annex C: Consistency Assessments of Laws and Regulations](#). Through this year’s validation phase, some Indigenous partners have already provided valuable feedback on ways to improve Annex C including ways to strengthen the analysis and reporting on assessing consistency with UN Declaration.

Additionally, this year we asked departments and agencies which APMs they would like to have highlighted in this year’s report. The work highlighted throughout this report comes from those submissions.

Use of artificial intelligence (AI)

In support of the Government’s commitment to the effective and ethical use of AI, last year Justice Canada piloted the use of an internal AI tool called Otto. Used again this annual reporting cycle, Otto supported departmental staff with the analysis and synthesis of a large quantity of information received from Indigenous partners and government departments. Developed with a strong emphasis on security and privacy, Otto offers multiple productivity tools, while ensuring that sensitive information remains protected. Justice Canada analysts read all submissions to ensure the accuracy of the analysis produced by Otto.

Links with government-wide initiatives

The federal implementation of the UN Declaration supports and is supported by other government-wide initiatives that seek to address the ongoing impacts of colonization on Indigenous peoples such as responding to the Calls to Action (CTAs) from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and the responses to the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls’ Calls for Justice (CFJs) in the [Federal Pathway to Address Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQIA+ People](#), among others. While the implementation of the UN Declaration is unique because legislated obligations require the Government of Canada to take specific actions, many related activities intersect, overlap, and reinforce one another.

Where possible, Justice Canada makes linkages between initiatives and cross-references, rather than duplicates, content from other reports and data sources.



Equality, non-discrimination, and intersectionality

Indigenous women, youth, 2SLGBTQI+ people, persons with disabilities, and Elders offer valuable and necessary perspectives on how to implement the UN Declaration. Partners highlighted the need for implementation, including consultation and cooperation, to meaningfully incorporate their experiences and priorities. They stressed the importance of designing engagement processes that are inclusive and capable of reflecting a broader range of Indigenous perspectives. We also heard that the Government of Canada could make additional efforts to ensure that youth, as the future leaders of their communities, have more opportunities to participate in discussions and decision-making processes.

“To ensure that Indigenous women, Two-Spirit and 2SLGBTQ+ people, youth, Elders, and other marginalized groups are fully represented, Canada must establish dedicated advisory tables. Mandate intersectional analysis across all measures. Support Indigenous-led monitoring and evaluation. Strengthen data sovereignty and disaggregated reporting. Provide sustained funding for community participation. Apply Indigenous legal orders and knowledge systems. These steps would ensure that implementation of [the UN Declaration] is not only collaborative but genuinely inclusive.”

– Hiawatha First Nation

Indigenous diversity organizations have told us that existing Indigenous governance structures do not always capture the full diversity of Indigenous voices and that Indigenous people living off-reserve or in urban centres face additional challenges in having their priorities heard. To close these gaps, partners recommend that the Government of Canada provide Indigenous governments and representative institutions, including urban Indigenous organizations, with the resources needed to lead engagement, embed participation of these groups in UN Declaration Act governance structures, and implement clear indicators and reporting mechanisms that demonstrate how intersectional analyses influence decisions and outcomes.

Section 6(2) of the UN Declaration Act requires that the Action Plan include measures to address injustices including systemic racism and discrimination against Indigenous peoples in all their diversity. The Action Plan includes many measures that address these issues such as working to address systemic racism in the health system (SP6 to 8); tackling gender-based violence (SP9 to 13); and ensuring equality rights for Indigenous people with disabilities (SP85, FN18, IN15).



Section 5 – Consistency of laws

Section 5 of the [UN Declaration Act](#) requires the Government of Canada, in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples, to take all measures necessary to ensure federal laws are consistent with the [UN Declaration](#). This statutory requirement applies when Canada is developing or amending legislation or regulations that could affect – positively or negatively - the rights and interests of Indigenous peoples. While section 5 does not prescribe a specific process or timeline, it requires the government to take tangible measures over time to ensure the consistency of federal laws with the UN Declaration.

In support of implementing section 5, Shared Priorities measures 1, 2 and 3 seek to advance implementation generally while other APMs commit to reviewing and revising specific regulatory and legislative frameworks.

During this reporting period, departments were asked to provide information on whether and how consistency with UN Declaration was assessed and how consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples was undertaken in the development of the legislation.

Of the thirty-two (32) government bills introduced in Parliament this fiscal year, Justice Canada received information for 27 (84%) of them.

Of the 27 legislative initiatives reported upon, 11 (41%) reported having completed a formal assessment of consistency with the UN Declaration. It is worth noting that many of the Acts reflected routine parts of the government supply process for accessing budgetary resources. For more information on legislative and regulatory consistency assessments, see [Annex C: Section 5 Consistency assessments of Laws and Regulations](#).

Measures to ensure consistency

During the reporting period, federal departments undertook the following consistency of laws-related initiatives (among others):

- **Transport Canada** put in place mandatory internal assessments and guidance processes to ensure that all new or amended legislation and regulations align with the UN Declaration.
- **Natural Resources Canada** conducted an assessment of the proposed amendments to the *Canadian Energy Regulator Act* to extend the maximum duration of Liquefied Natural Gas export licences from 40 to 50 years. The final



analysis found that the initiative had little direct, indirect or particularized impact on Indigenous peoples. Nevertheless, steps were taken to ensure amendments were consistent with articles in the UN Declaration.

- **Environment and Climate Change Canada** embedded species-at-risk listing within a framework that protects biodiversity central to Indigenous rights and commits to engagement and recognition of Indigenous knowledge.
- **Justice Canada:**
 - Justice Canada continues to develop tools to explain key concepts to support consultation and cooperation across government, including backgrounders explaining some government processes.
 - As part of the implementation of SP1, Justice Canada developed the [Interim Guide for Officials on How to Assess Consistency with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#) (the Guide). The Guide provides a consistent starting point for federal officials in determining if legislative or regulatory initiatives are consistent with the UN Declaration. It also provides a framework to assess the required intensity of consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples for these initiatives. Justice Canada has continued to distribute the Guide widely across the federal government and published it on its website in March 2025. Throughout 2025-26, Justice Canada provided support to government officials on the use of the Guide. Some Indigenous partners welcome the development of the Guide, while others identified a need to develop additional guides on a distinctions-basis since governance structures, legal traditions, and consultation processes with First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples may differ.

Legislative initiatives: Key highlights

The timing and approaches to consultation and cooperation processes vary, and federal officials continue working with Indigenous peoples toward developing a shared understanding of what working in consultation and cooperation means. The following are examples of consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples on legislative initiatives during the reporting period:

Building Canada Act

[Bill C-5, An Act to enact the Free Trade and Labour Mobility in Canada Act and the Building Canada Act \(One Canadian Economy Act\)](#), received Royal Assent on June 26, 2025. The Bill



aims to strengthen Canada's economy by reducing interprovincial trade barriers and accelerating major "nation-building" projects. The legislation accelerates certain projects that align with priorities by reducing decision timelines from five years to two years, while maintaining commitments to environmental protections and Indigenous rights, including through a specific reference to section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982* and the UN Declaration in its preamble. The Act was developed under compressed timelines, reflecting the urgency of Canada's economic challenges. Recognizing the potential implications for Indigenous rights and interests, the Government made efforts both prior to and after introduction to share information with Indigenous peoples about its legislative approach, the intentions of the legislation, and considered feedback in the context of implementing the legislation.

Following the passage of legislation, the Prime Minister held three distinctions-based meetings with First Nations, Inuit and Métis leaders and senior government officials. Indigenous leaders voiced their concerns and discussed a path forward for implementation of the Act. Participating Indigenous partners considered these meetings as a starting point for dialogue while some expressed concern with the accelerated speed in passing this legislation and the potential impacts that it will have on their rights and territories. The Government prepared What We Heard reports following the meetings with [First Nations](#) on July 24, 2025, and [Métis](#) leaders on August 7, 2025, to summarize the views of participants.

Commissioner for Modern Treaty Implementation Act

[Bill C-10, *An Act respecting the Commissioner for Modern Treaty Implementation*](#), is the result of co-development with Indigenous Modern Treaty Partners to establish a credible, effective, sustainable and independent Modern Treaty oversight mechanism to hold the federal government accountable to Parliament (MT9). This Act proposes to establish an independent Commissioner for Modern Treaty Implementation to conduct reviews and performance audits of federal institutions regarding the implementation of modern treaties and to report its findings to Parliament.

The co-development process for the Commissioner for Modern Treaty Implementation featured intensive collaboration between Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) and Indigenous Modern Treaty Partners. Co-development began in March 2023 and included all 30 Indigenous Modern Treaty partners. Engagements took place through fora such as the Modern Treaty Implementation Policy Working Group, the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee (ICPC), and bilateral engagements as requested.



The Commissioner is designed to fill an accountability gap long identified by partners — ensuring that modern treaty implementation is not just monitored internally, but independently assessed against the principles of transparency, partnership, and the honour of the Crown.

Criminal law initiatives

Three legislative initiatives were introduced by the government into Parliament in 2025 seeking to amend the [Criminal Code](#):

- [Bill C-9, *Combatting Hate Act*](#), proposes significant amendments to the *Criminal Code* to target hate propaganda, hate-motivated crimes and harassment at religious or cultural places. It creates new offences for intimidating or obstructing access to such places, defines ‘hatred’ legally, and bans specific hate symbols.
- [Bill C-14, *Bail and Sentencing Reform Act*](#), is aimed at addressing violent and repeat offending by tightening bail laws, expanding reverse onus provisions – requiring the accused to prove why they should be released rather than the Crown proving why they should be detained, and stiffening penalties for specific crimes.
- [Bill C-16, also known as the *Protecting Victims Act*](#), aims to amend the *Criminal Code* to strengthen responses to gender-based violence and crimes against children, strengthen victims’ rights and address criminal court delays.

In September 2025, Justice Canada shared an update on its criminal law priorities with over 150 Indigenous partners, representing diverse populations and interests. The purpose of the update was to share information on the Government of Canada’s criminal law plans and priorities, including on bail and sentencing issues, and to invite Indigenous partners to engage on the issues. Several meetings and engagements between Justice Canada officials and Indigenous partners followed. Some partners expressed appreciation for the technical briefings that took place ahead of the Government tabling Bill C-9 and Bill C-14. They urged these briefings be a regular occurrence for all new legislative initiatives that have a potential impact on Indigenous peoples.

Indigenous partners raised gaps in Bill C-9 during a roundtable with the Minister of Justice held in January 2026 following introduction of the Bill in Parliament. Indigenous partners advocated for including explicit protections for Indigenous spiritual and ceremonial sites or structures, including burial sites and defining “cemetery,” as well as defining and including Residential School Denialism. Partners continue to emphasize the importance of meaningful engagement that respects Indigenous governance processes and authorities. While consultation approaches during the reporting period—such as technical briefings



and roundtables—provided opportunities for input, partners note that additional mechanisms could further strengthen dialogue and collaboration with Indigenous governments and representative institutions. Indigenous partners have shared these observations with federal departments and officials consistently over the year to support ongoing improvements to consultation practices.

Build Canada Homes Act

An Act respecting the establishment of Build Canada Homes (Build Canada Homes Act) seeks to establish Build Canada Homes as a standalone Crown corporation whose mandate is building affordable housing in communities across the country. Indigenous partners have been engaged throughout the design and development of Build Canada Homes as an overall initiative, as well as on the legislation since its introduction in the House of Commons.

Budget Implementation Act

The Government introduced *An Act to implement certain provisions of the budget* into Parliament as Bill C-15.

Part 4 of Bill C-15 amends the *First Nations Goods and Services Tax Act*, enabling opt-in Indigenous governments to levy a value-added sales tax, under their own laws, on fuel, alcohol, cannabis, tobacco and vaping products sold on their lands. Consultations with interested Indigenous groups and organizations influenced the development of the revenue sharing mechanism design, flexibility on taxable products, and opt-in framework design.

Clause 59(1) of Bill C-15 amends section 127.55(f) of the *Income Tax Act* so that the alternative minimum tax does not apply to certain trusts, in particular those established for the benefit of an Indigenous group, community or people that holds rights recognized and affirmed by section 35 of the *Constitution Act, 1982*. Indigenous groups and organizations informed the Department's knowledge of the general structure and terms of settlement trusts and informed the scope and content of the definitions proposed for inclusion in legislation.

Environmental conservation and protection regulatory initiatives

Departments and agencies introduced a number of regulatory initiatives related to the environment such as:

- Two Orders amending Schedule 1 to the *Species at Risk Act* came into force this year: one concerning certain species of Red Knot (bird) and four other wildlife



species, and another regarding the American Marten, Newfoundland population and eighteen other wildlife species. The purpose of such Orders is to ensure that the various measures under the Act to protect and recover wildlife species at risk apply appropriately to the species included in the Order.

- All Indigenous groups potentially impacted were consulted during the assessment leading to [the listing decision for American Eel](#) under the *Species at Risk Act* that was reached in December 2025. Decision-makers chose not to list the American Eel because the *Fisheries Act* and other tools already protect it. This provides more flexibility to manage ongoing activities, including harvesting of adult eels and elvers by Indigenous groups.
- Regulations amending the [Marine Mammal Regulations](#) were [proposed via the Canada Gazette on March 7, 2026](#). The primary purpose of the proposed Regulations is to reduce physical and acoustic disturbances to Southern Resident Killer Whales from certain vessels through a long-term regulatory change that would increase the approach distance for this endangered marine mammal. Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) engaged in extensive consultations with Indigenous communities to ensure respect for modern treaty rights and interests in the development of in the development of these amendments. A [What We Heard Report](#) summarizes the results of these consultations.

Indigenous partners' perspectives

Indigenous partners continue to seek greater clarity on how progress is being made to ensure laws, regulations, and policies are consistent with the UN Declaration. Many partners view section 5 and SP1 as central to Canada's commitment to implement the UN Declaration. Partners further stress the need for meaningful engagement with Indigenous peoples to determine consistency of legislation and regulations with the UN Declaration. They want to be involved early on and know which laws the government is reviewing, what priorities or criteria is used to identify them, how consistency with the UN Declaration is assessed, and how potential inconsistencies are addressed. Indigenous women's organizations advocate for the use of Indigenous Gender-Based Analysis Plus when assessing consistency to ensure Indigenous women's lived experiences are centred in the work.

To increase transparency and accountability on progress in implementing section 5 of the UN Declaration Act, Indigenous partners suggest that the government develop a forward plan for the review of laws in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples. Some



Indigenous partners suggest that reporting publicly on certain elements of these review processes would further clarify how the government is assessing consistency with the UN Declaration and the extent of Indigenous peoples' involvement. Indigenous partners suggested the following approaches:

- Attaching a mandatory public section 5 “Consistency Statement” to every relevant bill/regulation like the [Charter Statements](#) tabled for every Government Bill introduced in Parliament
- A co-development attestation from affected rights-holders
- A published registry of laws/regulations assessed for consistency with the UN Declaration
- Where Indigenous people have identified priorities and provided assessments, officials should include these in official reporting mechanisms

Many Indigenous partners said that the degree of consultation and cooperation needed for section 5 requires having greater access to government documents that are generally subject to Cabinet confidence. Furthermore, Indigenous partners have proposed ways in which consistency assessments could be strengthened such as by having mandatory processes, binding standards, and Indigenous-led or joint Indigenous-Federal law reform bodies as options that could advance the work required to ensure consistency of federal laws with the UN Declaration in a more coordinated and meaningfully engaging manner.

Some Indigenous partners provided suggestions for improving the consistency analyses themselves. They stressed that departments should consider alignment with the UN Declaration as the floor, not the ceiling, since the rights and standards affirmed in the UN Declaration constitute *minimum* standards. Given that the UN Declaration affirms rights broadly for Indigenous peoples in the world, partners emphasize the need for departments to give attention in their analyses to the specific situation of Indigenous peoples in Canada, including their respective inherent, treaty and constitutional rights.

We have also heard that consultation with Indigenous peoples, on its own, does not necessarily ensure that legislation is assessed for consistency with the UN Declaration. In this context, some partners have expressed concern that consistency of laws analyses should not be bypassed or abbreviated in situations where there is pressure to fast-track legislative initiatives. Partners have further noted that the current approach to consistency assessment can appear uneven and, at times, unclear, which may suggest the absence of a sufficiently structured and robust framework.



Partners also note that the concept of “consistency” appears to be too narrowly applied. In their view, this framing may overlook an important complementary dimension, namely that consistency can also involve proactively strengthening legislation by incorporating provisions that better align it with the UN Declaration.

Finally, partners have raised transparency-related concerns. They noted that existing constraints related to Cabinet confidence and commercial confidentiality may limit the extent to which compatibility analyses can be shared, which in turn may affect perceptions of accountability. A more nuanced approach could help address these concerns, for example by enabling the release of key findings while continuing to protect sensitive information through partial disclosure or redaction where appropriate.

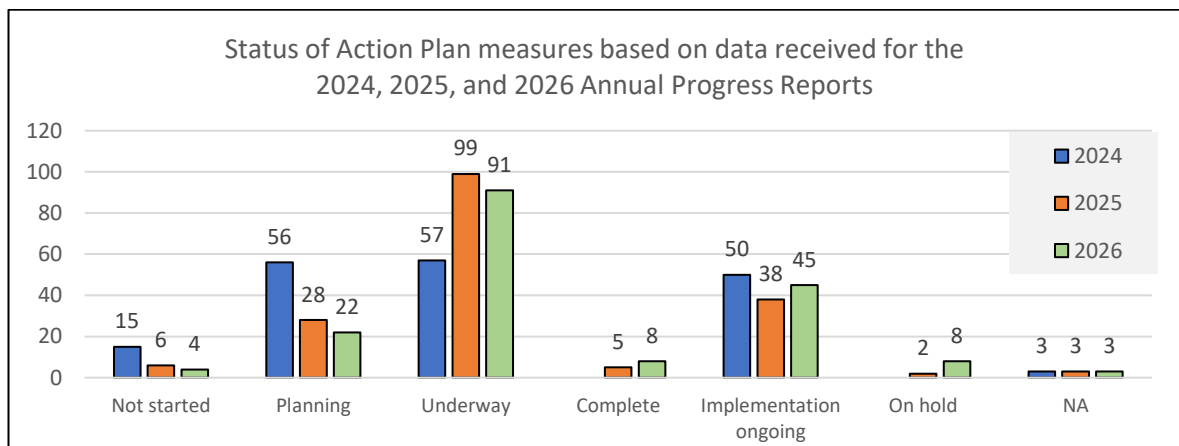
Overall, partners urged departments to deepen their analyses, validate their assumptions about jurisdictional authority, and strive to undertake the analyses through an Indigenous, as well as a federal policy or legislative lens.



Section 6 – Action Plan implementation

As summarized in the graph below, the Government of Canada continues to advance implementation of the Action Plan. Year-over-year, more APMs are now completed or in ongoing implementation (meaning that the measure is fully developed but is ongoing or evergreen in nature). At the same time, there has been an increase in the number of APMs that have been put “on hold” or paused. In some cases, changes in government priorities have required adjustments to how the measure is being advanced; in others, limited partner capacity due to insufficient funding or other reasons has led to the APM being paused.

Since the release of the Action Plan in 2023, departments have completed eight (8) measures and forty-five (45) are fully implemented ongoing measures. Of the eight (8) APMs reporting being completed, five (5) were completed in fiscal year 2024-25 and an additional three (3) were completed this past fiscal year.



(**Note:** reporting on status in 2024 there was not a clear distinction between Underway and Implementation ongoing which is the reason for the high number of Implementation ongoing values in 2024. In 2025, officials clarified the distinction: underway refers to the active stage of an initiative, whereas implementation ongoing refers to measures that are fully developed but are ongoing or evergreen in nature.)

Completed in 2025-26

- SP15 - RCMP Intercultural Learning Strategy – RCMP
- SP82 – Palliative and end-of-life care framework – Health Canada
- SP83 – Indigenous knowledge and medical assistance in dying - Health Canada



The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) consulted internally and externally to develop an Intercultural Learning Strategy. With funding sunsetting in fiscal year 2025-26, the RCMP's National Learning Services shifted focus from further consultations to implementing a targeted action plan using existing feedback. The implementation of the action plan items now forms part of regular, ongoing business operations and thus SP15 can now be considered completed.

Health Canada, in collaboration with Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), has engaged with a wide variety of Indigenous governments and representative organizations on the topic of palliative care and medical assistance in dying. Outcomes were highlighted through a [What We Heard Report](#) that was published in December 2025, which shares major themes and issues from the department's engagement with Indigenous peoples on end-of-life care including medical assistance in dying.

Departments and agencies have shared highlights from this past year of implementation under the chapter headings below. Additional updates are in [Annex B: Status of Action Plan Measures](#).

Shared priorities

Measures that address all Indigenous peoples are in the Shared Priorities (SP) chapter. There are approximately 30 departments leading 111 measures.

Implementation of this chapter is a significant and evolving undertaking. It involves complex work across departments and remains a work in progress. Indigenous partners identified several key priorities, including stronger integration of Indigenous laws (SP28), a more robust approach to free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) (SP32), and the inclusion of clear governance outcome indicators and joint performance measurement mechanisms (SP20). They emphasized that these priorities are key pathways to strengthening accountability and advancing the meaningful realization of rights – including for those who often face compounded barriers, including women, 2SLGBTQI+ people, Elders, youth, and persons with disabilities.

Addressing injustices, prejudice, violence, systemic racism and discrimination

Improving access to culturally-safe health services

In advancing SP7, in 2025-26, the Addressing Anti-Indigenous Racism in Canada's Health Systems initiative supported the continuation of Indigenous-led initiatives to improve health equity and accessibility for Indigenous peoples, including the hiring and retention of Indigenous patient advocates, health system navigators, midwives, and birth support



workers in positions to provide immediate support to Indigenous patients. The initiative has also continued to fund a first of its kind First Nations Health Ombudsperson Office in Saskatchewan, supporting accountability and redress for discrimination in health services. Two-Spirited People of Manitoba Inc. was also provided with funding to deliver information sessions to 2SLGBTQI+ people living in northern Manitoba communities on the topic of informed consent and rights when receiving health care.

The [Indigenous Health Equity Fund](#) is providing \$2 billion over ten years to support First Nation, Inuit, and Métis communities and organizations address gaps in access to quality and culturally safe health services. For example, the Indigenous Health Equity Fund has supported organizations to develop longer-term approaches to culturally safe health services, including funding for the development of an Indigenous Midwifery Bachelor's Program through the First Nations Technical Institute. The Fund has also provided funding to the Health Standards Organization to support the development of a National Standard for Cultural Safety and Humility.

In relation to SP8, the Indigenous Health Equity Fund has supported discussions between First Nation, Inuit and Métis communities and their respective provincial and territorial governments to increase access to health services. For instance, Eskasoni First Nation is planning to partner with the Government of Nova Scotia to expand their Health Centre to increase access to mental wellness services, including a mental health nurse, substance use wraparound supports, harm reduction and crisis response. Samson Cree Nation is planning to engage with Alberta's Primary Health Networks to establish collaborative partnerships and explore cost-sharing opportunities aimed at improving access to comprehensive health services for Samson Cree Nation members, including access to specialized health services such as chronic disease management, mental health supports, and preventive care.

Related to SP81, the Government of Canada renewed \$630 million of funding over two years to support the availability, accessibility, quality, and effectiveness of mental wellness services for Indigenous Peoples across the country. This investment contributes to providing Indigenous peoples with equitable access to compassionate, trauma-informed, and culturally-based mental health resources and care in communities across Canada. This investment includes the renewal of the Trauma Informed Health and Cultural Support program, which provides culturally relevant mental health counselling and emotional and cultural supports to individuals, families, and communities healing from Indian Residential Schools, Indian Day Schools, the ongoing crisis of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQI+ people, related settlement processes, and other colonial harms.



Promoting mutual respect and understanding

UN Declaration education for public servants

Justice Canada continues to work on foundational training for public servants including the development of a 3-part Self-Paced Introductory Course series on the UN Declaration Act. The first course is being developed now and will focus on the history and development of the UN Declaration and the contributions of Indigenous peoples. This year, the department prepared a [What We Heard Report](#) summarizing input gathered during the initial phase of consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners. The purpose of the report is to inform the government on recommended improvements to existing training on the UN Declaration and the UN Declaration Act; to identify priorities and opportunities for co-creation of training on various topics related to Indigenous peoples; and to share, in a transparent way, what was heard through the process.

Current training being offered by Justice Canada's Indigenous Rights Centre examines the UN Declaration Act's key statutory requirements in greater depth. Participants develop practical skills to apply legal and analytical frameworks to support implementation of the Act, including using the UN Declaration as an interpretive aid to Canadian law, assessing legislative and regulatory consistency with the UN Declaration, advising on consultation and cooperation obligations under section 5, understanding the role of Legal Services Unit counsel, and supporting the development and implementation of the Action Plan under section 6.

At the same time, the Canada School of Public Service (CSPS) continues to refresh and expand its [UN Declaration Learning Portal](#) as new materials become available. In 2025-26, CSPS delivered 11 learning events that reached more than 10,000 public servants. Several new learning products were released including a video and micro-course on microaggressions toward Indigenous peoples; an updated and redesigned version of the mobile app Reconciliation: A Starting Point; and a new job aid, Learning Quest on Indigenous Cultures (developed with Parks Canada). Together, these resources support federal employees in building the awareness, skills, and commitment necessary to uphold Indigenous rights and advance reconciliation across the public service.

Ensuring oversight and accountability

This year, the [Action Plan Advisory Committee](#) (APAC) (SP22), an Indigenous-led, advisory body made up of 10 experts from diverse First Nations, Inuit, and Métis backgrounds and experiences, was established. APAC held meetings to develop advice and guidance to the Minister of Justice on the implementation of the Shared priorities chapter of the Action



Plan. Partners have generally welcomed the establishment of an advisory body such as APAC. The work of APAC - as specified in their [terms of reference](#) - does not replace consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners.

Action Plan review and update

SP21 commits the government to co-develop and implement a process to review and update the Action Plan every five years and to establish a process for making amendments. Justice Canada has begun initial planning to identify options, informed by preliminary discussions with Indigenous partners, for how to carry out this work.

As reflected throughout this and previous annual reports, Indigenous peoples have a wealth of ideas on how to implement the UN Declaration more effectively. These perspectives are shaping how we design and implement the next Action Plan review process as we apply the lessons from the early years of implementation to sustain momentum and correct course where necessary.

This year, we asked Indigenous partners about the process to review and update the Action Plan and what changes and priorities they would like to see reflected. Those contributing to this report highlighted the following themes about the next phase of UN Declaration Act implementation:

- **Develop a clear, realistic implementation workplan with defined deliverables and timelines** – timelines, indicators and clear objectives support accountability and the achievement of results
- **Ensure appropriate and predictable resources are available to support implementation** – funding allows partners to participate in implementation in many ways including by engaging their membership, doing legal and policy analysis, and dedicating personnel to projects
- **Align laws, policies and decision-making with the UN Declaration, Treaties and section 35 of the *Constitution Act*, and develop operational frameworks for FPIC** – further embedding the UN Declaration and ensuring a consistent understanding of FPIC within Government of Canada activities that is supported with guidance could improve predictability and foster accountability
- **Address gaps or underdeveloped priorities in the Action Plan** – explore options to address the limited focus on historic treaties and urban Indigenous peoples
- **Move toward a governance-first, rights-based approach, and ensure the meaningful inclusion of Indigenous peoples in the implementation of the UN**



Declaration – shift from activity-based implementation to structural, rights-based transformation

- **Embed an Indigenous Gender-Based Analysis Plus lens throughout the Action Plan** –meaningful participation of Indigenous women’s organizations to ensure gender-specific and intersectional priorities are included from the outset

Justice Canada will work with other federal departments and agencies in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples to advance work on SP21 over the coming year, with a view to having a renewed Action Plan by Spring 2028.

Self-determination, self-government, and recognition of treaties

Indigenous data sovereignty

Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), through the Transformational Approach to Indigenous Data, supported the advancement of Indigenous-led data capacity and progress toward distinctions-based statistical institutions and functions. First Nations, Inuit, and Métis partners continued developing their respective data strategies, governance models, and as well as planning for implementation, reflecting distinctions-based priorities for data sovereignty and self-determination. In parallel, ISC continued work to strengthen its internal data governance and data sharing practices to improve Indigenous partners’ access to data held by ISC.

Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (TBS), Library and Archives Canada (LAC) and ISC co-chaired the Working Group on Indigenous Data Sovereignty to foster a whole-of-government approach to Indigenous data sovereignty. The Government, under SP30, is advancing several actions to support Indigenous data sovereignty, including streamlining timely sharing and access to federal data and information holdings with Indigenous partners, while respecting the privacy of individuals. In support of this effort, TBS [launched](#) the 2025 review of the *Access to Information Act* in June 2025 and formal engagement (consistent with section 5 of the UN Declaration Act) in March 2026. To support Indigenous partner participation, TBS issued a call for proposals to over 170 partners inviting feedback on [potential policy approaches](#), including those which aim to make the Act consistent with the UN Declaration. TBS is establishing contribution agreements with Indigenous partners who applied for financial support by the deadline.

LAC launched the first phase of its Indigenous data sovereignty initiative (SP30), grounded in a strategic orientation document called the [Indigenous Heritages Strategic Strategy](#). To develop this strategy, LAC engaged with Indigenous partners and rightsholders and consulted its Indigenous Advisory Circle on the draft strategy and the concrete actions that



should support it. The strategy aims to establish a solid foundation, renew relationships, and guide specific actions, agreements, and collaborations. LAC positions it as a long-term, ongoing priority that embeds support for Indigenous data sovereignty throughout its operations, functions, and frameworks.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is building shared understandings around priorities and barriers for Indigenous data sovereignty in the context of safeguarding and respectful use of Indigenous data and knowledge in collaboration with Aboriginal Aquatic Resources and Oceans Management departments. Through this work, a cross-Canada First Nations and DFO task force has been established to build towards co-development of departmental policy on Indigenous data sovereignty.

Métis partners emphasized the importance of data sovereignty to protect Métis identity, governance, and self-determination. They raised concerns that current practices – such as self-identification and the aggregation of Métis data within pan-Indigenous categories – undermine trust and obscure Métis realities, calling for Métis-specific data standards, research protocols, and stronger recognition of Métis data governance.

Lands, territories, and resources

Indigenous participation in natural resource projects

The [Indigenous Natural Resource Partnerships](#) (INRP) program (SP33), with a budget of \$80 million over five years (2022-23 to 2026-27), aims to increase Indigenous communities' and groups' economic participation, advancement, and leadership in natural resource development opportunities. The INRP program funding supports Indigenous capacity development and support needs related to all aspects of project planning and development. The program dedicated at least \$25 million of the five-year budget to early engagement and Indigenous capacity building related to critical minerals projects. The department has fully committed the budget – since 2022-23, they have put in place 57 contribution agreements, including six signed in 2025-26.

Indigenous partners recognize that the government must now navigate a shifting political and economic landscape. [Budget 2025: Canada Strong](#) sets out the government's plan to strengthen the economy, reduce reliance on a single trade partner, and enhance resilience to global shocks. While acknowledging the potential opportunities presented by these projects, Indigenous partners have expressed concerns about their potential impacts on rights and interests, particularly the acceleration of impact assessments and the safety and well-being of Indigenous women. Partners underscored the importance of the Government of Canada consistently upholding the principles of the UN Declaration



including clear guidance around FPIC and the need to ensure APMs aimed at protecting the safety and well-being of Indigenous women (SP9, SP10, SP12) are prioritized throughout the planning and execution initiatives. Indigenous partners also expressed the need for the Government of Canada to acknowledge and respect Indigenous decision-making authority over lands.

Incorporation of Indigenous knowledge related to fisheries and aquatic ecosystems

DFO continues to build capacity and establish mechanisms, in collaboration with Indigenous peoples, to meaningfully and respectfully include Indigenous knowledge in departmental programs, policies, and decision-making processes. This work is grounded in culturally informed approaches that align with Indigenous priorities and support respectful knowledge inclusion. Through ongoing collaboration with Indigenous partners, DFO is strengthening its understanding and application of Indigenous knowledge and supporting Indigenous participation in shared decision-making. In addition, the recently finalized [*Framework for Aquatic Species at Risk Conservation*](#) will help guide improvements to conservation outcomes by supporting multi-species and Indigenous-informed approaches under the *Species at Risk Act*.

DFO collaborated with federal partners, First Nations, and the Province of British Columbia to implement the Great Bear Sea project finance for permanence (PFP) Agreement and Marine Protected Area Network Action Plan. Fully implemented, the network would add over 30,000 square kilometres of new and enhanced marine protected areas, with sites dually designated by the Government of Canada as marine protected areas and Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas by the First Nations. In addition, DFO worked with the Qikiqtani Inuit Association to advance the establishment of the Qikiqtaik and Sarvarjuaq Oceans Act Marine Protected Areas by Ministerial Order which were established on March 28, 2026, and are anticipated to also be designated as Inuit Protected and Conserved Areas by the Qikiqtani Inuit Association. These two areas together cover more than 116,000 square kilometres and are the first sites to be designated under the SINAA PFP Agreement.

Environment

A number of Indigenous partners signaled that environmental work is ongoing and already demonstrating progress, while continuing to present important opportunities for further advancement. At the same time, Indigenous partners have expressed concern over the potential environmental impacts flowing from the government's prioritization of projects of national interest. Examples of work in various environmental areas are highlighted below.



Emergency management

In 2025, the Métis National Council hosted the *Stewards of the Future: Indigenous Conceptions of Emergency Management* Global Summit Policy Forum, which highlighted the leadership role of Indigenous Peoples in emergency management and climate preparedness, in support of SP45. Partners also highlighted the importance of engaging Indigenous women in shaping implementation strategies as their expertise is critical to designing approaches that prioritize safety and address gender-specific risks related to environment and natural resources projects.

Indigenous-Led Area-Based Conservation

In support of Measure SP47 of the Action Plan, Indigenous-Led Area-Based Conservation supported Indigenous leadership in conservation through continued funding of approximately \$28 million in 2025-26. This investment (that sunset in March 2026), supported 65 projects with 70 partners as they established and planned for Indigenous-led and co-led protected areas or other effective area-based conservation measures.

Indigenous Guardians

Partners highlighted the value of ensuring sustained funding for conservation and nature programs including long-term support for [Indigenous Guardians](#) initiatives. In December 2025, the First Nations National Guardians Network and the Government of Canada jointly announced 47 new First Nations Guardians initiatives selected for 2025-26 funding through the Indigenous Guardians program (SP47). Additionally, ongoing Guardians initiatives, include 70 First Nations initiatives, nine Inuit Guardians initiatives and seven Métis Guardians initiatives, were funded in 2025-26.

Indigenous Partnerships Initiative

The Indigenous Partnerships Initiative, which also sunset in March 2026, supported 79 Indigenous-led projects emphasizing restoration, monitoring, Indigenous knowledge gathering, and capacity-building for the conservation of caribou, grizzly bear, bison, polar bear and other species at risk and culturally significant species. Funding from the Indigenous Partnerships Initiative continued to support *Species at Risk Act* consultation and cooperation activities with dozens of communities. Projects led by the Assembly of First Nations, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, and Métis National Council provided insights on species at risk and culturally significant species, as well as distinct Indigenous approaches to the stewardship of nature. A national gathering, “Indigenous Partnerships Initiative: Taking Stock and Moving Forward”, was held in February 2026. The discussions highlighted Indigenous partners’ views that the Indigenous Partnerships Initiative has been a uniquely



flexible funding mechanism that supported participants' cultural values, advanced their communities' conservation priorities, and recognized the value of Indigenous knowledge and its transfer to youth.

NWT: Our Land for the Future

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) worked with over twenty Indigenous partners, the Government of the Northwest Territories, and philanthropic partners to negotiate and launch implementation of the [NWT: Our Land for the Future \(OLF\) PFP](#). In 2025-26, partners established the OLF Trust. The Trust has since received project applications from Indigenous partners, made funding decisions and worked to establish funding agreements with recipients (all Indigenous). The PFP will support First Nations and Métis partners in achieving shared nature-related objectives, through a collaborative governance structure and providing long term financial support for conservation and stewardship activities.

Civil and political rights

Northern and Indigenous Crime Prevention Fund

In November 2024, Public Safety Canada (PS) announced a call for applications for three programs under the National Crime Prevention Strategy including the Northern and Indigenous Crime Prevention Fund (NICPF) (SP57). Target populations for this Call for Applications were: 1) Indigenous youth; 2) racialized youth; 3) youth at risk of committing violence; and 4) youth who have had repeat contacts with the criminal justice system. Since 2021, PS funded 13 projects under the NICPF with a total funding of \$31,401,062. PS will be funding an additional six Indigenous-focused projects beginning in 2026-27 with additional projects anticipated in the next fiscal year.

Participation in decision-making

Co-development of consultation protocols

In support of SP68, CIRNAC leads the co-development of consultation protocols and resource centres with Indigenous partners through the Federal Initiative on Consultation. Consultation protocols create a process for federal departments to follow when consulting on the potential impacts to Aboriginal or treaty rights by facilitating engagement, promoting relationship building, and clarifying roles and responsibilities between governments and Indigenous communities. A consultation resource centre is a team within an existing organization that supports capacity building for Indigenous communities to respond to



requests for consultation, including training, developing best practices, coordinating research, and information gathering.

There are currently 13 consultation protocols and eight resource centres in place; collectively, these mechanisms provide consultation capacity support to more than 400 Indigenous governments, communities, and organizations in Canada. Five additional protocols are in active co-development, with varying timelines for completion.

Capacity funding for Indigenous Women's and 2SLGBTQI+ people's organizations

This past year, CIRNAC advanced SP69 through the implementation of relationship agreements as a delivery mechanism with the Native Women's Association of Canada, Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada, and Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak. These relationship agreements operationalize a gender-based and distinctions-aware approach to support the equality rights and inclusion of Indigenous women and 2SLGBTQI+ people, consistent with Articles 21(1) and 21(2) of the UN Declaration.

Additionally in support of SP70, over \$8 million in funding supported 33 projects by grassroots organizations across Canada through CIRNAC's [Supporting Indigenous Women's and 2SLGBTQI+ Organizations program](#). This funding supports initiatives that amplify and advance grassroots priorities and perspectives, increase community-level engagement, strengthen leadership and governance capacity, and contribute to research and policy-relevant work reflecting the diverse interests of Indigenous women and 2SLGBTQI+ people. These projects increase the ability of grassroots organizations to engage their communities to articulate priorities grounded in lived experience and bring forward Indigenous women's and 2SLGBTQI+ voices to inform federal policy and program development.

Feedback from partners suggested that the effective implementation of SP69 and SP70 will depend on strengthening relationships with a broader range of Indigenous partners, including regional Indigenous women's organizations, and youth organizations rather than relying solely on engagement with national Indigenous women's organizations.

Economic, health and social rights

Addressing Indigenous peoples' health priorities

During the 2025-26 fiscal year, Health Canada's Substance Use and Addictions Program supported the ongoing implementation of 22 time-limited Indigenous led and/or focused projects across Canada valued at over \$11 million (SP81). These projects support cross-cutting Indigenous health priorities related to substance use, including Indigenous



wellness and healing programming and community-based substance use prevention, treatment and harm reduction initiatives.

Over the past year, Health Canada's Emergency Treatment Fund allocated more than \$29 million to support the implementation of 47 Indigenous projects to expand access to culturally relevant, trauma-informed, and evidence-based services. These projects help expand mobile outreach and treatment access, deliver harm reduction services such as overdose prevention and naloxone distribution, strengthen crisis response and stabilization supports, and support community-based care models, including culturally responsive addiction supports, peer- and Elder-led programming, and land-based healing approaches.

Advancing Indigenous peoples' economic priorities

In advancing SP74, ISC has been working with distinctions-based Indigenous partners to inform federal Indigenous economic development policy and support partner-identified economic priorities. Through the co-development process, partners advanced initiatives ranging from economic reconciliation strategies to implementing key short-term economic projects that respond to urgent needs in the areas of procurement, business development, and participation in major projects in natural resources and infrastructure sectors.

Budget 2025 tasked ISC with exploring the development of a bid bonding and surety access pilot, one of the priorities submitted through the economic reconciliation co-development process. During this report period, ISC worked closely with the proposal proponent, the First Nations Finance Authority, to explore a bonding and surety pilot to address certain barriers to economic participation faced by First Nations contractors.

Cultural, religious and linguistic rights

In September 2025, the Department of Canadian Heritage (PCH), launched an independent review process under the *Indigenous Languages Act* (SP91) by engaging Indigenous leadership and formally requesting names of potential candidates to form the independent review body. Through engagement with over 20 federal departments and agencies, a [‘What We Heard’ report](#) has been completed, which includes services currently being offered in Inuktitut in Nunavut by departments, current capacity to provide services in Inuktitut, and the gaps that exist as it relates to capacity and demand. Building on the report findings, PCH continues to identify opportunities to further enhance access to federal services in Indigenous languages. PCH also continued to work on advancing access to federal services in Indigenous languages in alignment with the *Indigenous Languages Act* (SP93). Through information sharing initiatives with other federal



government departments and agencies, PCH is developing materials to support Indigenous language translation efforts. The department also continued to advance work related to the translation of key departmental documents into Indigenous languages. For example, PCH translated the Indigenous Languages Act into 3 additional Indigenous languages, making it available in a total of 7 Indigenous languages. The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms is also available in 11 Indigenous languages.

Education, information, and media

Post-secondary education programming

ISC implements three distinctions-based Post-Secondary Education (PSE) Strategies to support First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nation students to attain post-secondary education at comparable rates to non-Indigenous people living in Canada. These Strategies provide direct, flexible, and culturally relevant supports to students, enabling more eligible learners to access and succeed in post-secondary education. By funding academic and living expenses, and supporting community-based and culturally tailored programming, these strategies aim to remove barriers to education and strengthen Indigenous control over Indigenous education.

ISC also implements the [First Nations and Inuit Youth Employment Strategy](#) (FNIYES), which supports First Nations and Inuit youth with work experience, information about career options and opportunities to develop skills to help gain employment and develop careers. Both the PSE Strategies and FNIYES support SP102: supporting Indigenous peoples' and communities' right to self-determination on socio-economic issues including access to post-secondary education, skills training and employment.

ISC's PSE programming provides targeted funding to support consultation and/or cooperation with Indigenous peoples:

- The First Nations PSE Strategy includes the [Post-Secondary Partnerships Program](#), which is a First Nations-directed and regionally delivered program that supports First Nations-established PSE institutions and First Nations-directed community-based programming.
- The [Inuit PSE Strategy](#) includes a National Coordination component that supports activities led by Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami such as national data collection and management; national needs assessment and analysis; engagement and partnerships; management of national processes and systems to support delivery; development of culturally relevant content (curricula, as required), and post-



secondary education trends and research analysis. The Strategy also includes a Governance Capacity component that supports similar activities led by the four Inuit Treaty Organizations at the regional level. Relevant information reported is used to inform program operations and policy, where appropriate.

- The [Métis Nation PSE Strategy](#) includes a Governance Capacity component that supports activities, such as: management of processes and systems to support program delivery; data collection and management; needs assessment and analysis; engagement and partnerships; knowledge exchange and sharing of best practices; bilateral or tripartite discussions; development of culturally relevant content (curricula, as required); and, post-secondary education trends and research analysis. Relevant information reported is used to inform program operations and policy, where appropriate.

Implementation and redress

Collaboration with BC First Nations partners

Further to SP111, Justice Canada has continued to work with the First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC) in British Columbia under the framework of the Letter of Understanding that was signed in 2023. Justice and FNLC staff have met approximately monthly to advance work under this framework. Over the course of this last year, Justice and FNLC staff worked to revise and update the workplan initially developed and approved in 2024. In February 2026, the First Nations Leadership Council met with Minister Fraser and approved this revised workplan with a view to advancing work in key areas, including the alignment of laws and prioritization of Action Plan measures.

Justice Canada has also worked to liaise with officials in the BC Government, particularly within the BC Declaration Act Secretariat, with several meetings occurring in the past year.

International

UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

The 24th session of the [UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues \(UNPFII\)](#) took place from April 21 to May 2, 2025, on the territory of the Lenape in New York City, USA. UNPFII has long served as a space where Indigenous peoples bring their priorities, wisdom, and concerns to the centre of international discourse. This past year's theme was, "Implementing the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples within Member States and the United Nations system, including identifying good practices and addressing challenges."



The UN Declaration grounds UNPFII’s work and it serves as a key international platform for discussing and advancing the rights of Indigenous peoples. At the international level, UNPFII helps monitor and promote global implementation of the UN Declaration. Canada’s participation provides opportunities to share progress and challenges and learn from other countries. Domestically, discussions at UNPFII, including on emerging norms, best practices, and calls to action from Indigenous leaders, inform Canada’s efforts to implement the UN Declaration. UNPFII is also an important public accountability forum where Canada’s progress is discussed and may be challenged by Indigenous experts and peoples from around the world, increasing transparency in how Canada fulfills its UN Declaration Act commitments. Of note, several Indigenous partners from Canada attended UNPFII and organized [Side Events](#) at the UN Headquarters on a diverse range of topics, including food sovereignty and Indigenous women’s access to justice.

“The implementation of [the UN Declaration] must go beyond symbolic recognition. It must be fully integrated into national laws, policies, and institutions. It must inform development, environmental protection, and peacebuilding efforts. It must be reflected in budgets and financial investment and the work of every State at all levels, as well as every UN body.”

– Aluki Kotierk, Chair of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

Participation in processes for implementing international human rights treaties

This year, to advance SP109, Canada continued to strengthen distinctions-based engagement with Indigenous peoples across its international human rights reporting and follow-up processes. Through targeted outreach, national information sessions, and ongoing collaboration with Indigenous representative institutions, PCH ensured that Indigenous perspectives increasingly shape Canada's priorities and participation in recent United Nations reviews.

In 2025-26, PCH made considerable progress toward more inclusive and accountable post-review follow-up (SP109). Officials explored new distinctions-based engagement models and shared lessons learned from Canada’s appearance—including feedback from Indigenous participants who travelled to Geneva for human rights reviews—across federal, provincial, and territorial partners, resulting in clearer processes, improved practices, and a validated best-practices guide. Overall, these developments contributed to a more transparent and collaborative approach to implementing Canada's international human rights commitments.



First Nations priorities

Many First Nation partners tell us that meaningful implementation, for them, would involve structural transformation. These changes mean moving beyond activity-based indicators, such as number of meetings, training sessions or funds disbursed; to governance-based indicators like clear decision-making authority, recognition of Indigenous jurisdiction, defined FPIC procedures, and legislative reform. In this way, implementation would become focused on meaningful outcomes, rather than on outputs and process.

First Nation partners that entered into historic treaties have recognized the opportunity that the UN Declaration presents for Canada to uphold their treaty rights and relationships. At the same time, they view these treaty relationships as integral to UN Declaration implementation. These partners emphasized that the implementation of historic treaties are priorities and expressed a desire for the Action Plan to make more space them, similar to the Modern Treaty chapter. First Nation partners also stress the need for Canada to better reflect the spirit and intent of historic treaties by sharing financial resources in a way that allows First Nations to truly govern themselves, including through the critical work of articulating and revitalizing their own laws and governance systems.

New fiscal relationship

Through the New Fiscal Relationship Grant, ISC provides eligible recipients with flexible and predictable funding for 28 core program areas. In 2025-26, eligibility for the grant was expanded to include First Nations-led service delivery entities. This year, 13 First Nations, 15 Tribal Councils, 2 health authorities and 1 education authority joined the grant, bringing the total number of recipients to 191 as of 2025-26. Through the New Fiscal Relationship Policy working group, ISC has also undertaken exploratory scoping discussions with co-development partners including the Assembly of First Nations, First Nations Financial Management Board, and Aboriginal Financial Officers Association of Canada on mutual accountability, a First Nations Auditor General, and/or First Nations-led audit function, a First Nations Ombudsperson, and a First Nations Financial Resource Centre.

Environmental integrity of reserve lands

As of March 31, 2025, aligned with FN6, ISC has supported the closure of 2,757 contaminated sites on reserve (FN6). During the 2024–25 fiscal year, ISC continued to advance contaminated sites management through targeted funding and program support, enabling assessment activities at 67 sites, remediation activities at 97 sites, and the closure of 148 sites on reserve. Through the First Nations Waste Management Initiatives (FNWMI), ISC continued to fund waste management and expand access to diversion



programming. Since 2021, FNWMI has supported diversion programs in 93 First Nations communities that previously lacked such services. In 2024–25 alone, 43 additional communities implemented diversion programming, exceeding the program’s 2027–28 target of 60 communities. As a result of these combined efforts, the percentage of First Nations with adequate waste management systems increased from 34.6% in March 2022 to 58.9% in March 2025.

In parallel, ISC advanced initiatives to reduce environmental risks and prevent future contamination. As part of this work, ISC established a Joint Table in December 2024, bringing together federal officials, First Nations representative organizations, and First Nations technical experts. The Joint Table was assembled to develop options for improving waste management practices and addressing unauthorized dumping on reserve lands. This work resulted in a report outlining a comprehensive set of measures focused on regulatory improvements, prevention and awareness, diversion practices, and community capacity building. The report is expected to be released early in the 2026-27 fiscal year.

Health

The Health Transformation initiative, led by ISC, serves to support the full transfer of responsibility for health service delivery to First Nations-led health organizations through a tripartite process between Canada, First Nations, and provincial governments (FN12, FN13). In 2025-26, ISC collaborated closely with six First Nations partners to build organizational capacity, support the design of governance models, facilitate community engagement, undertake health systems planning, and draft Health Transformation-related agreements. ISC directed funding toward the collaborative development of health service delivery models that reflect the specific needs, cultural frameworks, and priorities of participating First Nations.

There are currently six Health Transformation initiatives covering 362 communities across Canada: Battleford Agency Tribal Council in Saskatchewan, Keewatinohk Inniniw Minoayawin Inc. and the Southern Chiefs’ Organization in Manitoba, Tajikeyimik in Nova Scotia, Nishnawbe Aski Nation in Ontario, and the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Health and Social Services Commission. Each group is working with ISC and the provincial government on the development and implementation of governance agreements that will lead to Framework Agreements and transfer. The first Tripartite Framework Agreements are expected to be approved as early as 2027-28.

ISC continues to serve as a governance partner within the BC Tripartite First Nations health governance structure, along with the First Nations Health Authority (FNHA) and BC Ministry of Health. In 2026-27, ISC is seeking to implement a renewed Canada Consolidated



Contribution Agreement with the FNHA, to update and streamline the funding instrument, reflecting the evolution of the partnership since transfer. Partners will also work to advance the 10-Year Strategy on the Social Determinants of Health; a tripartite strategy designed to improve the health of BC First Nations through a more holistic approach.

On-reserve housing

As of December 2025, ISC has invested \$6.1 billion in total (targeted and ongoing) funds towards housing projects on-reserve, with targeted funding enabling First Nations to build and renovate 15,661 homes, with another 11,211 underway. The department has also supported 2,426 completed lot servicing and acquisitions, with another 2,871 underway. Further, this targeted funding supported 1,260 completed projects toward capacity development and innovation, with another 1,615 underway. In 2025, ISC received the initial results from its support for capacity building, technical services, and training and certification. The department found that approximately 55 percent of First Nations now have housing plans, nearly 24 percent have housing managers, and over 21 percent are accessing training and certification. Effective planning and management support communities to meet their needs and makes it more likely that existing housing stock will achieve its anticipated life cycle.

First Nations' elementary and secondary education

ISC continues to advance First Nations control of First Nations education, recognizing that education services designed and delivered directly by First Nations are crucial to supporting student success and closing education attainment gaps. First Nations partners are best placed to make decisions about their education priorities, including how best to allocate resources to address the unique needs of the students in their communities. As such, First Nations have the flexibility to determine how resources are allocated for all of their elementary and secondary education programming needs.

Inuit priorities

The Inuit chapter of the Action Plan is being implemented within the context of the Inuit Nunangat Policy, which guides the Government of Canada's work in Inuit Nunangat and aims to promote prosperity and support community and individual well-being. Effective Inuit–Crown partnership is essential to advancing this chapter.



Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee

CIRNAC has been actively engaged with the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee (ICPC) to advance shared Inuit-Crown priorities (IN4). While ICPC Secretariat is led by CIRNAC, many other departments are engaged in advancing Inuit-Crown priorities, such as:

- Inuit land claims implementation
- Inuktitut revitalization
- Inuit Nunangat Policy Space
- Reconciliation measures and MMIWG+
- Education, early learning, and skills development
- Health and wellness
- Housing
- Infrastructure
- Homelessness
- Economic development and procurement
- Legislative Priorities and International Inuit priorities
- Sovereignty, defence and security and,
- Environment and climate change (paused)

The ICPC is also a mechanism to engage on other emerging priorities, including major projects and Arctic sovereignty.

In 2025-26, the ICPC Legislative Priorities Working Group co-developed a guidance document entitled "Implementing Consultation and Cooperation with Inuit", which was conditionally endorsed by ICPC Leaders. The guidance document responds to Inuit partners' interest in developing consistent and practical guidance on what is meant by the term "consultation and cooperation."

Aqqusariaq

Aqqusariaq, previously known as the Nunavut Recovery Centre, is a territorial initiative led by the Government of Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, and supported by ISC, which co-funds construction and operational costs. (IN13, IN14) The Centre will provide in-territory substance use treatment and trauma healing services grounded in Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit principles – a unified system of Inuit knowledge, values, and beliefs. The initiative provides Nunavummiut with culturally safe care, offered in Inuit languages, when possible.



In 2025-26, work on Aqqusariaq focused largely on construction of the centre, advancing program development, and determining the centre's governance; decision-makers chose a not-for-profit organization to govern Aqqusariaq. The Government of Nunavut, ISC, and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated are finalizing the multi-year budget and work plan for the operations of the centre, working towards a phased approach for the opening and intake of patients.

Construction on Aqqusariaq began in 2023 and its substantial completion date is slated for the summer of 2026.

Métis priorities

One important milestone reported by the Manitoba Métis Federation this year is the introduction of Bill C-21, the *Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty Act* in February 2026. The legislation proposes to bring into force the first self-government treaty with a Métis government in Canada.

Métis governments and representative institutions continue to advance implementation of the UN Declaration through initiatives supporting self-government, health and wellness, education, housing, economic development, environmental stewardship, emergency management, and justice reform. Métis partners continue to emphasize the importance of distinctions-based implementation approaches that recognize Métis governance structures, priorities, and jurisdiction. While progress has been made in several areas, Métis governments continue to identify structural barriers to participation in federal decision-making processes and implementation activities.

Métis partners continue to emphasize that implementation of the UN Declaration requires meaningful recognition of Métis self-determination and governance authority. Across multiple APMs, Métis governments have advocated for distinctions-based approaches that support the exercise of Métis jurisdiction, strengthen government-to-government relationships, and advance co-development processes that reflect Métis governance structures and priorities.

Addressing anti-Indigenous racism in Canada's health systems

In 2025-26, Health System Navigator and Patient Advocate positions were supported through the Otipemisiwak Métis Government, Métis Nation of Ontario, Métis Settlements General Council, and Manitoba Métis Federation (MÉ11). These positions continue to improve access to culturally safe health services and equitable health outcomes for Métis. Additionally, several Métis-specific midwifery and doula projects are underway, including work by the Métis Nation – Saskatchewan towards the development of a Métis midwifery



education and training program. Furthermore, the Otipemisiwak Métis Government offers wrap-around supports for families through community-based care and advocacy for birthing Indigenous families. The initiative also continues to provide funding to support the Métis Nation of British Columbia's Métis Health Experience Program, which supports Métis citizens experiencing healthcare harms in navigating BC's healthcare complaints system.

These initiatives demonstrate how distinctions-based investments in Métis-led health programming can strengthen culturally safe care, improve health outcomes, and support Métis self-determination in health service design and delivery.

Modern Treaty Partner priorities

“We encourage Canada to... engage with us on our priorities and ongoing concerns, and apply Canada’s efforts going forward accordingly. Part of that effort must include building long-term relationships and capacity by assigning well-informed and committed staff to these files, who can work alongside us to move this important work forward, even in challenging times.”

– Maa-nulth Treaty Society in support of the Huu-ay-aht First Nations, Ka:’yu:’k’t’h’/Che:k’tles7et’h’ First Nations, Toquaht Nation, Uchucklesaht Tribe and the Yuułu?it?atḥ Government

As in other areas, Indigenous Modern Treaty Partners noted that 2025 was a challenging year in relation to meaningfully advancing their priorities. The member nations of the Land Claims Agreement Coalition (LCAC) expressed disappointment in the lack of progress on implementing the Modern Treaty chapter of the Action Plan noting that gaps in modern treaty implementation is a systemic issue that requires a whole-of-government solution. Some advocate for Indigenous Modern Treaty Partners to be considered as a fourth distinction in national decision-making and emphasize the need for them to be included in early engagement on legislative and policy measures consistent with [Canada’s Collaborative Modern Treaty Policy](#).

Some nations from within the LCAC reflected that many of their priorities are not reflected in the Action Plan and would like to see them addressed during the renewal of the Action Plan.

While progress was slower than anticipated the advancement of Bill C-10, [An Act respecting the Commissioner for Modern Treaty Implementation](#), through the Parliamentary process was a positive development. The Bill is before Parliament and



supports partners' pursuit of a credible, effective, sustainable and independent Modern Treaty oversight mechanism to hold the federal government accountable to Parliament (MT9). Work also continued throughout the year to prioritize and advance elements of Canada's Collaborative Modern Treaty Implementation Policy.

More examples of work being advanced in consultation and cooperation can be found in [Annex B: Status of Action Plan Measures](#) and actions taken to ensure consistency of laws can be found in [Annex C: Section 5 Consistency assessment of Laws and Regulations](#) of this report.



Challenges and opportunities

While progress has not always been quick or linear, departments and agencies in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples continue to work towards the achievement of the objectives of the UN Declaration. Updates provided by departments and agencies show how they are working together with Indigenous partners throughout the various stages of implementation, ensuring the consistency of laws and regulations with the UN Declaration and advancing measures from the Action Plan.

Though work is progressing, challenges to the implementation of the UN Declaration Act remain and are affecting outcomes. Specific APMs address some of these challenges while others are issues that require novel solutions not addressed within the Action Plan itself. Compounding these challenges are the volume and complexity of the work, including the 181 measures in the Action Plan; numerous legislative and regulatory initiatives under development; multiple teams across departments leading related files; and projects connected to other government-wide initiatives requiring engagement with Indigenous peoples (e.g., Truth and Reconciliation Commission, Federal Pathway to Address Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQQIA+ People, Indigenous Justice Strategy). Some Indigenous partners feel that the length of the Action Plan hinders the Government's ability to implement it while other partners point to structural challenges, including unclear mandates; giving precedence to federal priorities, processes and timelines; insufficient coordination and communication; as well as inadequate and project-based funding.

Several Indigenous partners once again pointed to a lack of a central body with the authority to drive consistent implementation as a key structural challenge: with responsibility for advancing the Action Plan measures dispersed across departments, each department interprets and operationalizes commitments within its own mandate and policy lens. Partners have noted that this decentralized approach has resulted in uneven application, varying levels of ambition, and limited accountability for outcomes, making it more difficult to understand progress on implementing the UN Declaration Act.

“Meaningful implementation of the Declaration requires a shift in control over agenda setting, interpretation, and evaluation. Without that shift, reporting risks remaining a federal exercise in self assessment rather than a Nation grounded measure of change.”

- Silent Drums



Several partners also emphasized the importance of ensuring that commitments made under the UN Declaration are sustained over time and continue to guide government action, regardless of changes in government or political priorities.

The sections below outline some of the challenges encountered during implementation, describe how officials are addressing them, and present Indigenous partners' reflections on how they would like to see these challenges resolved.

Capacity

Indigenous governments and representative organizations manage many competing priorities that can affect their ability to dedicate focus to implementation of the UN Declaration. While funding is available for many initiatives, current federal funding structures often require Indigenous partners to navigate multiple application processes, and compete for limited funding allocations, which can limit sustained participation and continuity in this work. In many cases, access to funding determines whether an Indigenous nation or organization can participate in an initiative. Indigenous partners have called for a whole-of-government fund to support consultation and cooperation for the implementation of the UN Declaration Act.

Funding supports partners to:

- engage leadership and community members
- undertake legal and historical analysis and technical reviews
- deliberate with Knowledge Keepers and Elders
- participate in decision-making processes, and more

Long-term, sustainable funding remains critical for many Indigenous organizations to participate fully and to establish strong governance structures.

Indigenous Partnership Fund

To support with capacity and consultation and cooperation, the Indigenous Partnership Fund (IPF) continues to support a broad range of Indigenous partners including: First Nations, Inuit, and Métis governments and representative organizations, such as national and provincial/territorial Indigenous organizations, regional historic treaty, modern treaty and self-governing nations, and national and regional diversity organizations representing women, youth, urban and off-reserve communities, and persons with disabilities and accessibility needs.



In fiscal year 2025–2026, the IPF allocated \$7 million to support 77 Indigenous partners through grants and contributions. While available funding was not sufficient to meet all of the needs and requests identified by Indigenous partners, it supported strategic initiatives across a range of priority areas. Grant funding recipients reported that their funded projects addressed critical priority areas, including (but not limited to) governance, consultation, legislative alignment, education, capacity building, justice, economic development, cultural revitalization, data sovereignty, and inclusion. This contribution funding supports the development and sustainability of Indigenous-led initiatives that foster broader implementation and ongoing collaboration and dialogue related to the UN Declaration Act and the Action Plan.

One Indigenous partner declined the funding indicating that the level of grant funding offered was not enough to appropriately engage and consult with communities in the implementation of UN Declaration Act and APMs.

Strengthening Indigenous research capacity

The Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council (NSERC), and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC), in collaboration with the Canadian Foundation for Innovation (CFI), co-developed three new research funding opportunities with Indigenous partners: the Indigenous Capacity and Leadership in Research Connection Grants (for First Nations and Métis); the Indigenous Innovation and Leadership in Research Network Grants (for First Nations and Métis); and the Inuit Research Network Grant. These funds support Indigenous researchers, post-secondary institutions, and not-for-profit organizations exclusively. This new investment totaling \$30M continues to shape a research funding environment that supports Indigenous leadership, accountability, and respectful research partnerships across disciplines and institutions.

The [Setting New Directions to Support Indigenous Research and Research Training in Canada](#), a strategic plan that was co-developed with First Nations, Inuit and Métis through dedicated outreach, is the foundation for this work. National and regional Indigenous organizations, Indigenous women's organizations, the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation, post-secondary institutions, academics, Elders, Indigenous knowledge keepers, women, youth, community leaders and representatives, and rights-holders from across Canada were engaged in the development of the New Strategic Directions.

Level and nature of engagement



Consultation and cooperation are at the heart of Canada's implementation of the UN Declaration. Indigenous governments and representative organizations may have different priorities from government and propose different approaches to address them. When not included from the beginning, partners' priorities cannot be part of the development of solutions, including on legislative initiatives. While work with national and/or regional organizations and tribal councils is valuable, rightsholders expect to be engaged directly on matters that affect their rights. Partners have pointed out that consultation is most effective when it functions as an ongoing exchange.

“When the MMF provides feedback on the implementation of an Action Plan Measure, the federal government must commit to reporting back to the MMF to provide updates regarding how the feedback has been meaningfully considered and implemented”

- Manitoba Métis Federation

Some other challenges and opportunities related to consultation and cooperation include:

- Compressed timelines can limit partners' ability to meaningfully participate
- Ensuring clear feedback demonstrating how Indigenous peoples' input informs decision-making
- Incorporating Indigenous input, or collaborating to find suitable alternatives to address Indigenous interests
- Overcoming consultation fatigue, ensuring approaches are trauma-informed and trust-building is embedded into the consultation process
- More in-person engagement can help foster stronger relationships
- Developing common understandings of requirements for consultation and cooperation including FPIC
- The lack of flexibility limits the capacity of Indigenous peoples to participate fully in ways that reflect and respect their own priorities, needs, concerns, and visions

Indigenous organizations and the Government of Canada are engaged in exploring ways to increase Indigenous participation in decision-making. Departments and agencies continue to engage with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis nations, governments and organizations to advance shared priorities.



Uneven understanding of obligations under the UN Declaration Act across the Government of Canada

Several partners shared experiences working with Government of Canada representatives who either indicated that the UN Declaration did not apply or demonstrated limited understanding of their responsibilities under the UN Declaration Act. The UN Declaration Act establishes a framework that must guide the exercise of federal responsibilities. yet some Indigenous partners find that every department interprets their obligations differently. One partner mentioned Natural Resources Canada as a good example of a department that has demonstrated improvement in their integration of the UN Declaration throughout their work. These examples highlight the need to continue developing training for public servants, including through the implementation of SP14.

Difficulty in gaining a clear picture of UN Declaration Act implementation

Many partners spoke of the challenge of knowing what is happening regarding UN Declaration Act implementation, which can create the impression that progress is not advancing as quickly as they would like. At the same time there is a great deal happening across government as detailed in this report. According to a number of Indigenous partners, some of these challenges include:

- **Cycle** – the legislative requirement to report annually can seem both too quick and too slow as the reporting cycle begins only a few months after the publishing of the previous report while the information in the report is already several months old when the Government publishes it
- **Forward agenda** – information on upcoming consultations and milestones in real time could provide added benefit to Indigenous organizations interested in contributing to implementation while also increasing transparency
- **Reporting focus** - rather than focusing mostly on process, reporting may be more meaningful by focusing on what concrete changes have been made to uphold Indigenous rights and advance implementation from a nation-to-nation perspective, as well as by setting out clear objectives and specific commitments for the coming year, rather than general engagement or aspirational narratives
- **Information collection** – for both Indigenous partners and the Government, the annual exercise can conflict with other ongoing priorities and may not reflect well because they may not have completed the initiatives



- **Accessibility** – much of the available detail about the advancement of implementation appears in a lengthy report that readers can find difficult to navigate
- **Need for indicators** - social indicators – such as rates related to suicide, the number of Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQI+ people who are murdered or go missing, substance use and addiction, health outcomes, and homelessness – that help measure overall progress in the implementation of the UN Declaration Act should be co-developed with Indigenous partners and use an Indigenous Gender-Based Analysis
- **Implementation approach** – pan-Indigenous approaches can obscure the distinct priorities of First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples and one-size fits all approaches may not address regional realities of Indigenous communities that may differ significantly

Partners have suggested that having a public website tracking progress and providing updated information that departments can update on an ongoing basis would address many of the issues listed above. The Government of Canada can also build trust, demonstrate accountability, and foster stronger relationships with Indigenous peoples by providing more frequent updates. Other partners suggested tracking and reporting ongoing litigation between the Crown and Indigenous groups involving the Declaration.

“First Nations Leadership in Ontario have expressed to Chiefs of Ontario their interest in the creation of a mechanism to track federal cases against First Nations. It is important that this data is reflected in [UN Declaration Act] annual reporting as litigation often conflicts with positive legislative and policy developments and the stated alignment purposes of [UN Declaration Act]. Further, increased transparency on this topic will help meet the expressed intention within the fourth annual report: “mechanisms for transparent reporting, accessible communication, and grassroots involvement are essential to fostering accountability and trust.”

– Ontario Regional Chief Abram Benedict



Coordination with other levels of government

The UN Declaration Act applies only at the federal level and does not apply to provinces and territories. At the same time, much of the work to implement the UN Declaration requires federal/provincial/territorial collaboration. Partners view provincial and territorial collaboration as an essential component of successful UN Declaration implementation, and many would like the federal government to encourage them to adopt the UN Declaration.

According to some Indigenous partners, jurisdictional overlaps, gaps, and conflicts among the federal government, provinces and territories, impact their communities. These issues often affect critical areas such as education, health care, housing, social services including child welfare, the justice system and policing, creating barriers to timely and culturally appropriate support. These partners emphasized the need for greater coordination, clearer accountability, and more collaborative approaches across jurisdictions to ensure that services are accessible, responsive, and aligned with the needs of Indigenous peoples and their communities.

We also heard that when the Government of Canada delegates authority over matters to provincial or territorial governments, appropriate measures must be put in place to ensure the rights contained in the UN Declaration continue to be protected post-transfer. Such measures would help to ensure that the commitments contained in the UN Declaration Act persist beyond the transfer.

Urban and off-reserve Indigenous people

Organizations that represent Indigenous individuals living off-reserve and in urban areas, have continued to stress the challenges and gaps inherent in Canada's UN Declaration Act implementation approach in relation to these individuals. They have argued that federal implementation continues to centre distinction-based approaches and governance relationships in ways that insufficiently account for or exclude urban, off-reserve, and non-status Indigenous realities. Urban Indigenous organizations seek opportunities to participate in decision-making, policy development, and implementation, arguing that without their inclusion, gaps in representation and access will persist and could widen over time. As a result, they view coordinated implementation of shared priorities within the Action Plan as critical to addressing systemic issues for Indigenous individuals whether they are living.



“While the intention of the distinction-based approach is to recognize the unique rights and governance structures of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people, its current application has created persistent gaps... As a result, a significant portion of the Indigenous population are not just underrepresented in policy design and resourcing tied to [UN Declaration Act] implementation but also underserved as a result of it.”

- Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres



Conclusion

Mindful that reconciliation is a journey, not a destination, this year's Annual Report details some of the work that the Government of Canada has undertaken with Indigenous peoples to implement the UN Declaration federally in Canada over the fiscal year 2025-26.

Government departments continued to advance work with Indigenous partners towards achieving the objectives of the UN Declaration in Canada. These achievements can be seen in both the laws and regulations that were assessed for consistency as well as the APMs that were advanced.

At the same time, partners have reported that there continues to be a gap between federal commitments and tangible on-the-ground change that enable Indigenous peoples to exercise their rights. Indigenous partners have identified a number of challenges that if addressed can help push forward implementation. While some of these challenges are being addressed through the Action Plan and/or legislative and regulatory changes, other challenges require new solutions and concerted action. Indigenous partners have identified many solutions to these challenges have been included in this report which can guide departments and agencies in the continued implementation of the UN Declaration.

With the UN Declaration Act now five years old and the Action Plan three years old, this report provides valuable perspective on the success and practical challenges of implementing the UN Declaration. As attention begins to turn towards the review and update of the Action Plan, lessons learned to date from Indigenous peoples and from departments and agencies will help to ensure that progress to date can be consolidated and future progress will have a strong foundation to build upon.



Annex A: List of Indigenous governments and representative organizations that provided input into the development of the Annual report

- 2 Spirits in Motion Society (2SiMS)
- Alderville First Nation (AFN)
- Anishinaabe Nation in Treaty 2 Territory (ANT2T)
- Anishinabek Nation and Union of Ontario Indians (UOI)
- Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs (AMC)
- Blackfoot Confederacy Tribal Council (BCTC)
- Chiefs of Ontario (COO)
- Congress of Aboriginal Peoples (CAP)
- Curve Lake First Nation (CLFN)
- Eskasoni First Nation (EFN)
- Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations
- File Hills Qu'Appelle Tribal Council (FHQTC)
- First Nations Education Council (FNEC)
- First Nations Leadership Council (FNLC)
- First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Sustainable Development Institute (FNQLSDI)
- First Nations With Schools Collective (FNWSC)
- Haudenosaunee External Relations Committee (HERC)
- Hiawatha First Nation (HFN)
- Indigenous Advisory and Monitoring Committee – Line 3 (IAMC-Line 3)
- Indigenous Advisory and Monitoring Committee for the Trans Mountain Expansion (IAMC-TMX)
- Indigenous Youth Roots (IYR)
- Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami (ITK)
- Keewatin Tribal Council (KTC)
- Keewatinook Fishers of Lake Winnipeg (KFLW)
- L'nuey
- The Land Claims Agreements Coalition* (LCAC)
 - Carcross/Tagish First Nation
 - Champagne and Aishihik First Nations



- Council of Yukon First Nations:
 - Selkirk First Nation
 - Ta'an Kwäch'än Council
 - Kluane First Nation
- First Nation of Na-Cho Nyäk Dun
- Gwich'in Tribal Council
- Huu-ay-aht First Nations
- Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations
- Kwanlin Dun First Nation
- Little Salmon Carmacks First Nation
- Makivvik
- Naskapi Nation of Kawawachikamach
- Nisga'a Lisims Government Nunavut Tunngavik Inc.
- Sahtu Secretariat Inc.
 - Déljñę Got'jñę Government
- ɬaʔamɫn Nation
- Teslin Tlingit Council
- Tłıchǫ Government
- Toquaht Nation
- Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in First Nation
- Tsawwassen First Nation (TFN)
- Uchucklesaht Tribe Government
- Vuntut Gwitchin First Nation
- Yuułuʔitʔatẖ Government
- Maa-nulth Treaty Society* (MTS)
 - Huu-ay-aht First Nations
 - Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations
 - Toquaht Nation
 - Uchucklesaht Tribe
 - Yuułuʔitʔatẖ Government
- Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak Inc. (MKO)
- Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF)
- Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO)
- Métis National Council (MTC)
- Métis Nation–Saskatchewan (MN-S)
- Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC)
- Northlands Denesuline First Nation (NDFN)
- Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres (OFIFC)



- Ontario Native Women's Association (ONWA)
- Samson Cree Nation Treaty Protectorate and Enforcement (SCN)
- Sayisi Dene First Nation (SDFN)
- Shoal Lake Cree Nation (SLCN)
- Silent Drums Inc. (SDI)
- Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta (T8FNA)
- Tsawwassen First Nation (TFN)
- Wendat Nation
- Wolastoqey Nation of New Brunswick (WNNB)
- Zagime Anishinabek First Nation

* This submission incorporates input from other Nations represented by the submitting Nation.

Annex B: Status of Action Plan measures

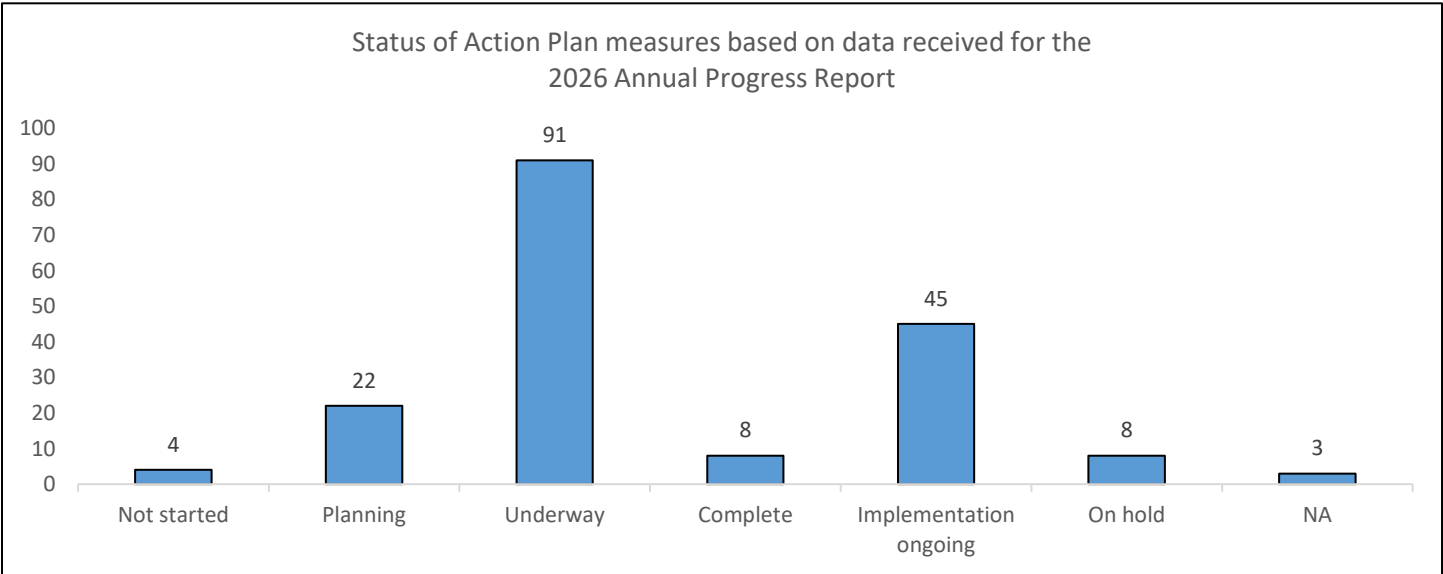
This Annex provides an overview of the self-assessments departments and agencies were asked to complete for each of the Action Plan measures (APM) for the 2025-26 fiscal year. Where there are multiple perspectives on individual APMs, these comments are reflected under Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation. Justice Canada performed an analysis to determine the overall APM status where multiple submissions were received for a single measure. This analysis provides a single value for various fields such as APM status, links to related Articles of the UN Declaration, links to other APMs, the work completed during 2025-26, and if consultation and cooperation occurred. A similar analysis was performed for APMs where multiple Indigenous partners submissions were received.

Individual Sections

Related Articles: highlights the initiative's alignment with specific Articles of the UN Declaration.

Related APMs: highlights if the APM is related to or supports other APMs.

Action Plan measure status definitions



Status: Indicates the current APM status department and agencies are leading, co-leading, or supporting.

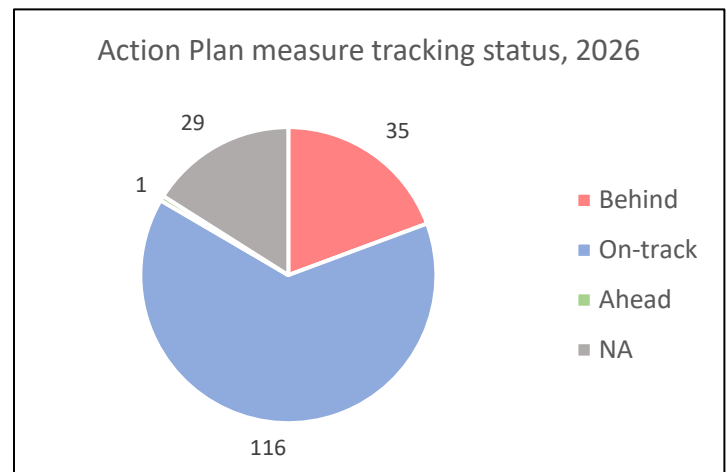
- **Not started (4):** Work on the APM has not been initiated.
- **Planning (22):** Phase for creating management and execution plans, defining boundaries and timelines, and identifying milestones like budget submissions and partner meetings.
- **Underway (91):** Active project stage where the team produces deliverables for partners and management by executing tasks, coordinating efforts, ensuring quality, managing resources, and providing updates.
- **Complete (8):** APM has been fully implemented.
- **Implementation ongoing (45):** APM has been completed but is evergreen in nature or requires review/funding every few years.

- **On hold (8):** An APM that had been active but is no longer being actively worked (for example, an APM that was started but requires additional funding or policy authorities to continue).
- **Not applicable (NA) (3):** No status updates were provided for this APM.

Action Plan measure tracking definitions

Tracking: Indicates how APM implementation is advancing relative to expected timelines.

- **Behind schedule (35):** The initiative is progressing slower than planned.
- **On-Track (116):** The initiative is progressing according to schedule.
- **Ahead of schedule (1):** The initiative is progressing quicker than planned.
- **Not applicable (NA) (29):** The initiative is either complete, has not started, or the timeline is yet to be determined.



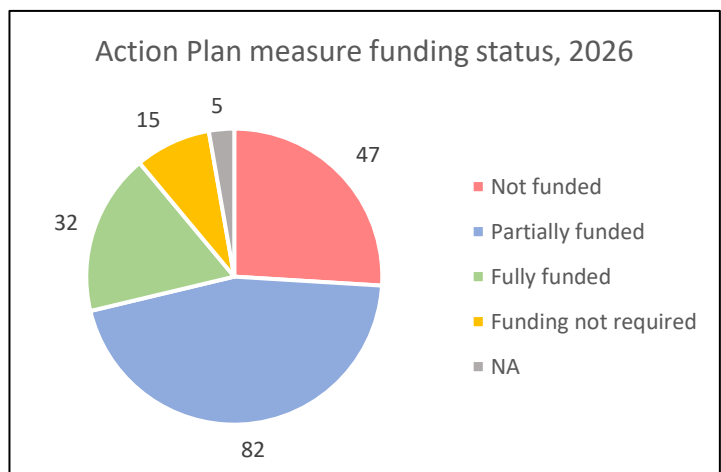
Legislation: Asked whether the APM necessitated new legislation or amendments to existing laws.

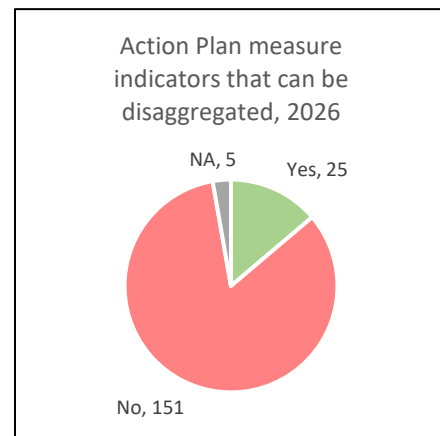
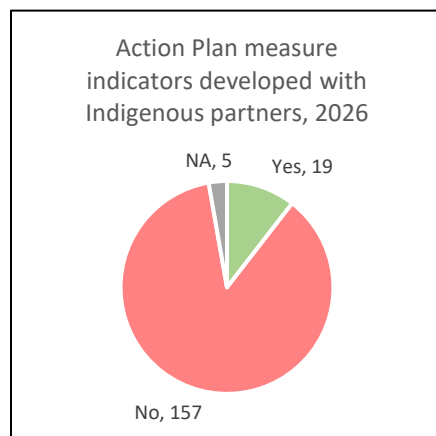
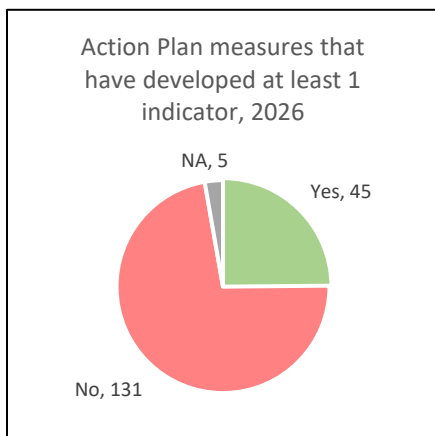
Regulations: Asked if the APM required new regulations or changes to current regulations.

Funding status definitions

Funding Status: Refers to the budget available to the department or agency to carry out the actions necessary to implement the APM. This includes funding to support Indigenous peoples' participation.

- **Not funded (47):** No funding is available or has been secured to advance this initiative.
- **Partially funded (82):** Some funding is secured to advance the initiative but may be insufficient for all aspects or may expire before full implementation.
- **Fully funded (32):** Funding is available/secured to complete the entirety of the measure, sub-element, or initiative being reported upon.
- **Funding not required (15):** Initiative does not require funding to be accomplished.
- **Not applicable (NA) (5):** No status updates were provided for this APM.





Indicators: Departments and

agencies were asked to provide information on indicators developed to measure success. This section outlines if:

- There are one or more indicators identified to measure success, and the number of indicators identified
- Were indicators developed in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners
- If the data collected can be disaggregated

Links to Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action (TRC-CTAs): determined if there was a connection between the APM and the work done in response to the TRC-CTAs.

Links to Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls' Calls for Justice (MMIWG-CFJs): determined if there was a connection between the APM and the work done in response to the MMIWG-CFJs.

Work to advance APM in 2025-26: Summarized the efforts undertaken by departments and agencies for the APM, emphasizing activities during the 2025-26 fiscal year.

Consultation and cooperation: Outlines the work completed in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples. Section also explores how Indigenous peoples influenced decision-making processes, if any limitations or barriers were encountered during the consultation process, and whether any lessons learned or best practices emerged.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation: Provides a summary of Indigenous partner perspectives received for a particular APM. The perspectives shared in this section come from the 58 partner submissions that contributed to this report and not every partner contributed a perspective on each APM. They are meant to provide insight beyond departmental reporting. The perspectives reflect the views of the contributing Indigenous partner(s) and are not meant to reflect the perspectives of all Indigenous peoples.

Milestones timeline definitions

Milestones: Upcoming milestones that would contribute to the initiative's advancement.

- **Short-term:** 0 to 6 months
- **Medium-term:** 6 to 18 months
- **Long-term:** longer than 18 months

Other departments and agencies that provided a submission for this APM: If departments and agencies are not identified as a lead but provided a submission for an APM, they will be listed here.

Shared Priority 1

Processes and guidance on consistency of laws

Lead department(s)	Justice Canada (JUS), Treasury Board Secretariat (TBS), Privy Council Office (PCO), Various	Related articles	18, 19
		Related APMs	SP2, SP3

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

JUS developed the Interim Guide for Officials on How to Assess Consistency with the UN Declaration, with input from Indigenous partners still being received in the 2025-26 fiscal year. Over the last year, a Shared Priority 1 working group between JUS, TBS and the PCO continued internal discussions about how Canada will coordinate itself to work collaboratively on implementation. In response to requests by Indigenous partners, some tools are being developed to explain key concepts to support consultation and cooperation, including backgrounders explaining certain government processes.

In addition, a guidance document titled “Implementing Consultation and Cooperation with Inuit” was co-developed by the Legislative Priorities Working Group of the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee, which included representatives from Justice, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami. This document was finalized in Fall 2025 and conditionally approved at the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee Leaders Meeting on November 24, 2025. It responds to Inuit partners' interest in developing consistent guidance on what is meant by the term "consultation and cooperation" and contributes to the implementation of this Action Plan measure.

Transport Canada (TC) also noted that the department put in place mandatory internal assessments and guidance processes to ensure that all new or amended legislation and regulations align with the UN Declaration Act. In 2025-26, 18 UN Declaration Act assessments on regulatory and legislative initiatives were completed.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

JUS met with some Indigenous partners on the Interim Guide for Officials on How to Assess Consistency with the UN Declaration. In addition, JUS, TBS, and PCO participated in preliminary discussions with some Indigenous partners. These meetings were an opportunity to understand partners' interest in

participating in future consultation and cooperation meetings, to provide background information that would contribute to an understanding of current processes and concepts, and to inform plans for the broader process, including any relevant parameters around what tools or processes might be explored. Meetings with Inuit Tapiirit Kanatami in the co-development of the “Implementing Consultation and Cooperation with Inuit” guidance also provided useful insights for future products that could be developed. Following these preliminary discussions with Indigenous partners, a broader consultation and cooperation process is anticipated with those who have identified this Action Plan measure as a priority. This process will include partners who have received funding through the Indigenous Partnership Fund. Additional distinctions-based outreach and further broadening of consultation and cooperation will follow as more substantive discussions take place.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

While some partners welcome the development of the interim Guide for Officials to help advance section 5 of the UN Declaration Act, others believe the guide could go further to recognize Indigenous laws and jurisdiction and support structural change. Partners from British Columbia noted that they met with JUS regularly through a technical working group to discuss the interim guide for officials as well as the UNDA Action Plan and Annual Reports. A workplan developed in the Fall of 2024 was revised in early 2026 that outlines an ambitious agenda for progress on this Action Plan measure to develop a process, tools and policy on legislative alignment based on lessons learned from implementation of the British Columbia’s [*Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*](#).

Many partners believe more concrete work is needed to review and amend federal laws to ensure consistency with the UN Declaration, including in the areas of policing, human rights, impact assessment, and health. Additionally, some advocate for a distinct mechanism, such as a joint Indigenous-federal entity or distinctions-based law reform bodies that would review legislation and develop legislative changes to align with the UN Declaration. One First Nation partner in Manitoba put forward a proposal for a Manitoba First Nations UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Law Reform Commission. Other partners point to the Northwest Territories UN Declaration Implementation Act’s “Statement of Consistency” and recommend a similar approach be taken for federal laws and regulations to ensure consistency with the UN Declaration as well as with Treaties. To strengthen implementation of this measure, some partners suggest more specific commitments, including publishing a statute review schedule and identifying priority statutes for amendment. Some Métis governments also called for direct distinctions-based engagement regarding section 5 implementation priorities and recommended that Canada co-develop a transparent schedule for reviewing federal laws for consistency with the UN Declaration.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: PCO, TBS, TC

Shared Priority 2

Consistency of laws – review/amendment of specific statutes

Lead department(s)	Justice Canada (JUS), Various	Related articles	5, 7, 13, 15, 18, 19, 37, 38
		Related APMs	SP1, SP3

Status	Planning
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	Yes
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

JUS noted that for the 2025-26 fiscal year, the department undertook preliminary planning work on bullet number 2 (an interpretive provision). This included an analysis of interpretive provisions that provide for the use of the UN Declaration in the interpretation of federal enactments. Justice is still in the process of planning and determining next steps on this action plan measure.

Transport Canada (TC) also noted that the department put in place mandatory internal assessments and guidance processes to ensure that all new or amended legislation and regulations align with the UN Declaration Act. In 2025-26, 18 UN Declaration Act assessments on regulatory and legislative initiatives were completed.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

The department noted that no consultation and cooperation took place during the reporting period.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Indigenous partners have pointed to numerous pieces of legislation that would require review as well as specific amendments to ensure consistency with the UN Declaration. For example, many First Nation partners in the Prairies have raised the need to review the three *Natural Resources Transfer Acts* and related Agreements, while recognizing that these are constitutional documents so each of the provincial governments would have to agree to come to the discussion tables. One partner also pointed to the need to prioritize review of the Indian Lands Registration Manual and other on-reserve federal regulations and policies through the lens of the UN Declaration. Additionally, partners have also pointed to prioritizing reform of the [Species at Risk Act](#), and one partner mentioned that a non-derogation clause or interpretive provision specifically referencing the Declaration should be added to the [Interpretation Act](#). Another partner pointed to the need to amend the [Building Canada Act](#) to clearly state when a requirement to

consult or to engage in a process of consultation with Indigenous peoples reflects the Crown's Duty to Consult. More generally, some Métis governments also expressed concern that Canada has not clearly communicated what statutes are being prioritized for review or how Indigenous peoples will participate in determining legislative reform priorities. Similarly, one First Nation partner recommended that Canada prioritize a comprehensive review of legislation affecting lands, resources, environmental assessment, fisheries, agriculture, infrastructure, and economic development. These reviews should be jointly prioritized with First Nations and include transparent reporting on outcomes, timelines and implementation commitments to demonstrate progress. Moreover, this partner stressed that legislative review alone is insufficient. Implementation must be grounded in the recognition and affirmation of treaty rights, inherent First Nations jurisdiction, and the principle of free, prior and informed consent.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: TC

Shared Priority 3

Consistency of laws – periodic statutory reviews

Lead department(s)	All	Related articles	13, 15, 18, 19
		Related APMs	SP1, SP2, SP30

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

As a regulatory department, Transport Canada (TC) ensures that new and amended legislation and regulations align with the UN Declaration Act, in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples. TC has adopted a robust process to assess all regulatory and legislative proposals to identify potential intersections and ensure alignment with the Declaration. This lens is similarly applied to any periodic reviews and any resulting amendments. The department has also made significant efforts to ensure that all employees at all levels are aware of and understand their obligations under the UN Declaration Act. In 2025-26, TC has completed 18 assessments on new or amended regulatory or legislative initiatives.

The President of the Treasury Board, as designated minister, is responsible for overseeing the administration of the [Access to Information Act](#) across the Government of Canada, including leading a mandatory review of the Act every five years pursuant to section 93(1). The current review launched on June 20, 2025.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Implementation of TC's internal Section 5 review assessment tool and review process is based upon the current interim guidance from Justice Canada and did not involve external engagement with Indigenous Partners. The department will continue to update the assessment tool as the revised interim guidance is released following input from Indigenous Partners.

The Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat (TBS) is engaging with Indigenous partners on the review of the [Access to Information Act](#) throughout the current and next fiscal year. This engagement is being conducted in a manner consistent with section 5 of the UNDA and aligns with Shared Priority measure 3. To support participation, TBS is establishing contribution agreements with Indigenous partners who applied for financial support by the deadline.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Urban and off-reserve Indigenous organizations noted that they prepared a funding proposal to support their full participation in the periodic review of the [*Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families*](#); however, they noted there was no communication beyond the pre-engagement phase of the review process. In their view, meaningful engagement in the legislative review would benefit all communities and would lead to successful implementation.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: TC, TBS

Shared Priority 4

Canada's Anti-Racism Strategy

Lead department(s)	Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)	Related articles	8, 14, 21, 24
		Related APMs	SP5, SP7, SP14, SP43

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In June 2024, the Government of Canada launched Changing Systems, Transforming Lives: Canada's Anti-Racism Strategy 2024–2028, renewing federal action on systemic racism and initiating foundational work to co-develop a dedicated anti-Indigenous racism approach under the UN Declaration Act Action Plan. ESDC's Anti-Racism Secretariat is using guidance from Indigenous partners to support early planning, strengthen collaborative engagement, and uphold co-development principles in shaping this proposed approach.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

ESDC's engagement efforts have included connecting to and building on the many aspects of collaborative work that are happening across federal departments to support anti-Indigenous racism objectives. Rather than duplicating efforts and contributing to engagement fatigue, ESDC will continue to learn from strategies to address anti-Indigenous racism brought forward through engagement linked to implementing the Calls for Justice stemming from the Inquiry on Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQQIA Indigenous peoples, combatting anti-Indigenous racism in health care and justice systems, and addressing system gaps in labour market equity caused by anti-Indigenous racism.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 5

Community initiatives to combat anti-Indigenous racism

Lead department(s)	Canadian Heritage (PCH)	Related articles	2, 11, 15
		Related APMs	SP94

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Through the Multiculturalism and Anti-Racism Program, PCH continues to support Indigenous, Black, racialized, and religious minority populations who experience disproportionate barriers to equality, by delivering Canada's Anti-Racism Strategy 2024-2028 and Canada's Action Plan on Combatting Hate. Within 2025-26, the Program supported a total of 79 projects, representing investments of more than \$10.5 million for anti-racism projects. Furthermore, the Program provided \$5.5 million to support 31 anti-hate initiatives between 2024-25 and 2025-26. The department also renewed its Memorandum of Understanding with Statistics Canada to improve data disaggregation and produce statistical products that support the Strategy's goals. Program funding allocated under Canada's Action Plan on Combatting Hate will continue through 2028-29, at which point the Action Plan is set to sunset.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

The department noted that consultation and cooperation is not applicable for this Action Plan measure. The delivery of the Multiculturalism and Anti-Racism Program supports several groups, including Indigenous, Black, and other racialized and religious minority communities.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 6

Indigenous health legislation and Joyce's Principle

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	ME11

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (4)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

ISC noted that the Addressing Anti-Indigenous Racism in Canada's Health Systems initiative supports efforts to address anti-Indigenous racism through Indigenous-led and community-informed projects that advance cultural and patient safety, improve access to culturally appropriate services, and strengthen Indigenous representation across all levels of the health care system, driven by Joyce's Principle. In 2025-26, National Indigenous health organizations continued to be supported such as the First Nations Health Managers Association, which is developing a training program for Indigenous health system navigators. The initiative also provided funding to support the activities of a Joyce's Principle Office coordinated by the Manawan community, and the First Nations Health Ombudsperson Office, supporting accountability and redress for discrimination in health services in Saskatchewan.

While ISC received new authorities in 2024 to work on separate approaches with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis partners to co-develop policy and/or legislative options, this work remained on hold throughout 2025-26.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

In 2025-26, ISC engaged with Indigenous partners through the Addressing Anti-Indigenous Racism Advisory Circle, with national Indigenous women's organizations and additional ad hoc partner meetings as required and will continue into 2026-27. However, these meetings are intended for information sharing purposes such as providing updates on program decisions and activities or learning about partner projects that are underway. These engagements are not intended to respond to Section 35 rights, or the principles of free, prior and informed consent. The department also engaged with Indigenous partners through the Indigenous Women's Wellbeing Advisory Committee, that provides policy and program advice on issues impacting the health and wellness of First Nations, Inuit and Métis women and 2SLGBTQI+people across the lifespan.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Many partners have noted that it has been difficult to secure meetings with federal departments, making it difficult to advance meaningful partnerships. One partner noted that there has been no further meetings in 2025-26 with a high-level Intergovernmental Policy Forum intended to provide a dialogue between federal leadership and self-governing treaty partners. A forum was scheduled for early 2026 but was postponed, creating continued uncertainty about when leaders will next be able to collectively raise urgent issues. Consistent with what we heard for First Nations Priority 12 and 13, partners also stated that the lack of funding to support health transformation work and advance partners' health-related mandates are also of concern. Affected self-governing communities still have not received any federal response to a previously submitted, evidence-based funding proposal aimed at addressing the toxic drug crisis. The absence of both a confirmed intergovernmental forum and timely feedback on the proposed funding model is hindering efforts to design and implement health interventions tailored to local community needs across these communities. Partners also noted that health transformation requires involvement from Indigenous women and the organizations they choose to represent them. Indigenous women in Canada continue to experience disproportionate health outcomes and Indigenous women's organizations continue to fill critical gaps in public health service delivery, particularly in mental wellness and addictions. They call for a distinctions-based PLUS approach to ensure Indigenous women's organizations are able to inform policy and receive funding to continue to fill gaps in mainstream service delivery.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Implement the authorities granted in October 2024 by the Prime Minister to work on separate approaches with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis partners to co-develop health policy and/or legislative options. [ISC]	On hold	NA

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 7

Addressing anti-Indigenous racism in health systems

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), Health Canada (HC)	Related articles	18, 24
		Related APMs	SP8, SP71, IN13, IN14, ME11

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	Yes (2)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	Yes (2)

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The Addressing Anti-Indigenous Racism in Canada's Health Systems initiative advances Indigenous-led and community-informed projects to address anti-Indigenous racism, enhance cultural and patient safety, and strengthen Indigenous representation across the health system in line with Joyce's Principle. In 2025–26, the initiative continued to support Health System Navigator and Patient Advocate positions across the country, which help improve access to culturally safe care and increase patient safety and accountability. The initiative also continued funding the First Nations Health Ombudsperson Office in Saskatchewan to support accountability and redress for discrimination in health services. Additionally, Two-Spirited People of Manitoba Inc. delivered information sessions in northern Manitoba on informed consent and health care rights for 2SLGBTQI+ people. First Nations, Inuit and Métis communities and organizations also continue to be supported in their ongoing work to enhance access to culturally safe services through the restoration of Indigenous midwifery. A number of initiatives are underway, including new pathways for Indigenous midwifery education.

Additionally, the Addressing Anti-Indigenous Racism Advisory Circle provides an opportunity for members to share best practices on efforts to address Indigenous-specific racism at the national systems level and increase collaboration among intergovernmental partners. For example, members include Indigenous partners, National Indigenous Organizations, national Indigenous and non-Indigenous health organizations, such as the Indigenous Physicians Association and the Canadian Association of Schools of Nursing, as well as Health Canada's anti-racism division and ISC intradepartmental colleagues. To inform the longer-term approach, the Addressing Anti-Indigenous Racism initiative identifies systemic gaps in health services impacting Indigenous partners and develops strategic policy initiatives aligned with departmental and program priorities to address emerging needs and advance health equity.

In parallel, the Indigenous Health Equity Fund supports First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities and organizations to improve access to quality, culturally safe health services, with implementation underway across all regions. ISC is working with Indigenous communities to strengthen program administration, including updating community plans, refining reporting and outcome measures, and determining effective approaches for tracking and communicating progress.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025-26, ISC engaged with Indigenous partners on a consistent basis through the Addressing Anti-Indigenous Racism Advisory Circle, national Indigenous women's organizations, and additional ad hoc partner meetings as required. However, these meetings are intended for information sharing purposes such as providing updates on program decisions and activities, and/or learning about partner projects that are underway. These engagements are not intended to respond to Section 35 rights, or the principles of free, prior and informed consent. The department also engaged with Indigenous partners through the Indigenous Women's Wellbeing Advisory Committee, that provides policy and program advice on issues impacting the health and wellness of First Nations, Inuit and Métis women and 2SLGBTQI+ people across the lifespan.

Consultation and cooperation activities in relation to the Indigenous Health Equity Fund varied by region based on partner capacity, existing governance structures, and regional engagement mechanisms. In some regions, engagement was effectively supported through established forums such as Health Directors' meetings, while in others, consultations required more individualized, community-level engagement.

ISC will continue to engage with Indigenous partners in 2026-27, and will continue holding Advisory Circle and Indigenous Women's Wellbeing Advisory Committee meetings where Indigenous partners, National Indigenous Organizations, Indigenous health professional organizations and Health Canada's anti-racism division can attend and participate. Provincial and Territorial representatives are also invited to attend the Advisory Circle.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Urban and off-reserve Indigenous organizations noted that Article 18 of the UN Declaration affirms the right of Indigenous Peoples to participate in decision-making through representatives they have chosen, in accordance with their own procedures. When implementation mechanisms do not recognize or include those chosen representatives, significant segments of Indigenous rights holders may be excluded from decision-making processes.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 8

FPTI collaboration for culturally safe health services

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), Health Canada (HC)	Related articles	18, 24
		Related APMs	SP7, SP71, IN13, IN14, ME11

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	Yes (2)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	Yes (2)

**Link to TRC-
CTAs:** Yes

**Link to MMIWG-
CFJs:** Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, the Addressing Anti-Indigenous Racism in Canada's Health Systems initiative supported various Health System Navigator positions across the country, with organizations, communities, and governments such as Kwanlin Dun First Nation, Inuvialuit Regional Corporation, Nunavik Regional Board of Health and Social Services, Otipemisiwak Metis Government, Manitoba Metis Federation, and the National Association of Friendship Centres. These positions help patients navigate provincial and territorial health systems, and improve access to culturally safe care.

The Addressing Anti-Indigenous Racism in Canada's Health Systems initiative also supported Indigenous partners across the country to streamline service delivery and cohesion within Provincial and Territorial health systems. In 2025-26 the Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nations Chiefs, in collaboration with ISC, created Provincial Indigenous Healthcare Resource Roadmaps for each Atlantic province to help Indigenous peoples navigate complex healthcare systems across multiple jurisdictions and health authorities. The resources were created to strengthen meaningful engagement, improve access to culturally safe care, support better coordination Indigenous health care providers, and better health outcomes for Indigenous patients in Atlantic Canada. ISC Saskatchewan Region office established the Saskatchewan Anti-Indigenous Racism Navigator Network, that supports Health System Navigators from First Nations organizations to improve collaboration, knowledge sharing, networking, and resource exchange across the Province. The Métis Health Experience Program, led by the Métis Nation British Columbia, has established partnerships with regional health authorities and the College of Physicians and Surgeons to improve access and navigation of the health system for clients.

ISC also noted that the Indigenous Health Equity Fund supported several projects that may help increase seamless service delivery across jurisdictions, including the Health Standards Organization's development of a National Standard for Cultural Safety and Humility. Several First Nation, Inuit, and

Métis communities have also leveraged their funding to build relationships with their provincial or territorial government. For example, Eskasoni First Nation planning to partner with the Government of Nova Scotia to expand the Health Centre to improve access to mental wellness services, including a mental health nurse, substance use wraparound supports, harm reduction and crisis response. Samson Cree Nation is planning to engage with Alberta's Primary Health Networks to establish collaborative partnerships and explore cost-sharing opportunities aimed at improving access to comprehensive health services for Samson Cree Nation members, including access to specialized health services such as chronic disease management, mental health supports, and preventive care.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025-26, ISC engaged with Indigenous partners on a consistent basis through the Addressing Anti-Indigenous Racism Advisory Circle, national Indigenous womens organizations, and additional ad hoc partner meetings as required. However, these meetings are intended for information sharing purposes such as providing updates on program decisions and activities, and/or learning about partner projects that are underway. These engagements are not intended to respond to Section 35 rights, or the principles of free, prior and informed consent.

Consultation and cooperation activities varied by region based on partner capacity, existing governance structures, and regional engagement mechanisms. In some regions, engagement was effectively supported through established forums such as Health Directors' meetings, while in others, consultations required more individualized, community-level engagement.

ISC will continue to engage with Indigenous partners in 2026-27, and will continue holding Advisory Circle meetings where Indigenous partners, National Indigenous Organizations, and Health Canada's anti-racism division can attend and participate. Provincial and Territorial representatives are also invited to attend the Advisory Circle.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One partner noted that, in 2025-26, attempts to secure meetings with lead departments were left unanswered for several months making it difficult to advance meaningful partnerships. Lack of funding to support health transformation work and advance partners' health-related mandates are also of concern.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 9

Ending systemic violence against Indigenous women, girls and gender-diverse people

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), Various	Related articles	1, 2, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 29
		Related APMs	SP10

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (7)
Developed with partners	Yes (2)
Can be disaggregated	Yes (3)

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

CIRNAC leads and coordinates annual federal reporting on progress of the Federal Pathway to Address Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQIA+ People. The department continued to facilitate ongoing engagement with Indigenous partners, provinces, and territories through the Indigenous-Federal-Provincial-Territorial Meeting on MMIWG and 2SLGBTQI+ People. The 2026 meeting focussed on the issue of human trafficking, the Red Dress Alert and Major projects. CIRNAC met routinely with the National Family and Survivors Circle Inc. and other Indigenous partners to engage them in the design, development and implementation of policies and programs and delivered funding through the Indigenous-led Data Research Projects Program and the Support for the Wellbeing of Families and Survivors. CIRNAC, under the leadership and guidance of Giganawenimaanaaning, collaborated with the government of Manitoba on the Red Dress Alert Pilot to develop a regionally based alert system, and enhance the safety and well-being of Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQI+ individuals. The fifth annual report, to be published in June 2026, will illustrate federal progress made in 2025-26 that contributes towards the ultimate goal of reducing violence against Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQI+ people.

Indigenous Services Canada's (ISC) Family Violence Prevention Program funds the operations of emergency shelters and transitional housing to improve safety for Indigenous women, children, families and 2SLGBTQI+ people across Canada, including northern and urban areas. It also supports over 400 community-driven violence prevention projects. The program worked with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) and Indigenous partners on the Indigenous Shelter and Transitional Housing Initiative, under which 80 projects (38 shelters and 42 transitional homes) had been selected. The program will fund operations of these facilities and advance Indigenous partners' priorities.

The Public Health Agency of Canada's (PHAC) Preventing Family Violence Program funds projects that prevent youth dating violence and child maltreatment. It also funds externally hosted communities of

practice, led by external organizations, to strengthen learning and coordination within each project stream. The Preventing Family Violence Program invests over \$14 million annually to support evidence-informed, community-based approaches to preventing family violence in Canada.

In 2025-26, Women and Gender Equality Canada (WAGE) provided funding to 79 organizations through funding received in 2021. This funding increases the capacity of Indigenous women and 2SLGBTQI+ organizations to provide gender-based violence prevention programming aimed at addressing the root causes of violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQI+ people.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CIRNAC continued to fund organizations and work with the National Families and Survivors Circle Inc. for the fourth annual National Indigenous-Federal-Provincial-Territorial meeting on MMIWG2S+. Some Indigenous partners have expressed concerns that despite efforts, the pace of implementing the Pathway and the Calls for Justice is too slow. In addition, engagement fatigue has been experienced by Indigenous partners working across all levels of government, affecting the overall efficacy and sustainability of consultations.

The Family Violence Prevention Program collaborates regularly with Indigenous shelter, women's, and 2SLGBTQI+ organizations and staff on the delivery of family violence services. The program also supports CIRNAC's implementation of the Federal Pathway to Address Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and 2SLGBTQI+ People. While the Family Violence Prevention Program does not engage in formal consultation activities with Indigenous partners, informal discussions have noted that limited partner capacity can be a barrier to participation in consultation and cooperation activities.

PHAC, on an ongoing basis, collaborated with Indigenous-led youth dating violence and child maltreatment projects on project and financial monitoring and supported recipients in navigating PHAC processes and reporting requirements. These activities will be expanded upon in 2026-27. PHAC noted that it has aimed to reduce administrative burdens that support meaningful participation with Indigenous partners. The agency noted that contribution agreements have mechanisms that provide greater flexibility and control over financial management, helping Indigenous partners focus on program delivery rather than administrative requirements.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Urban and off-reserve Indigenous organizations noted ongoing work with CIRNAC on the implementation of the Federal Pathway, as well as processes to report on progress. These organizations were also engaged in conversation on the Red Dress Alert and human trafficking, but felt excluded on some critical issues and plans for the upcoming year. Partners also continue to call for core funding to Indigenous women's organizations delivering culturally-grounded, community-based programming that prevents gender-based violence and promotes healing. They note that Indigenous women must inform all policies, plans and strategies that impact, or have the potential to impact, their lives.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: ISC, PHAC, WAGE

Shared Priority 10

MMIWG and the National Action Plan to End Gender-Based Violence

Lead department(s)	Various	Related articles	22
		Related APMs	SP9

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	Yes (3)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	Yes (3)

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, 79 organizations continued to receive funding for to increase the capacity of Indigenous women and 2SLGBTQI+ organizations to provide gender-based violence prevention programming aimed at addressing the root causes of violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQI+ people. This fiscal year also marked the third year for the implementation of The National Action Plan to End Gender-based Violence at the provincial and territorial levels. However, Women and Gender Equality Canada (WAGE) noted that additional funding is needed to support the remaining six years of the Action Plan.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

WAGE indicated that no consultation and cooperation took place in 2025-26 with external Indigenous partners. The department noted that any engagement would be conducted through WAGE's Indigenous Women's Circle.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Urban and off-reserve Indigenous organizations noted that, while not in a decision-making capacity, they had participated in previous discussions and were hopeful that the advancement of this Action Plan measure would result in further outreach.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Provincial-Territorial implementation will continue for the National Action Plan to End Gender-based Violence. [WAGE]	Underway	Long-term
2	Progress and outcomes will be measured against the Expected Results Framework now that baseline data measures are established. [WAGE]	Underway	Long-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: WAGE

Shared Priority 11

Federal 2SLGBTQI+ Action Plan

Lead department(s)	Various	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, Women and Gender Equality Canada (WAGE) continued to advance Priority Area 3 of the 2022–2027 Federal 2SLGBTQI+ Action Plan. This included the promotion and understanding of the “2SLGBTQI+” acronym across the federal government, hiring a Senior Advisor on Indigenous 2SLGBTQI+ considerations, and supporting capacity-building projects via grants and contributions, while expanding engagement with Indigenous 2SLGBTQI+ community organizations, National Indigenous leaders, and the Indigenous Women’s Circle to inform policy and program advice. Budget 2022 provided \$100 million to implement the Action Plan, including \$75 million for the 2SLGBTQI+ Community Capacity Fund and Projects Fund. In 2025–26, WAGE funded five projects addressing discriminatory policies, harmful norms, and supports for Indigenous 2SLGBTQI+ communities, and one project focused on building the capacity of Indigenous 2SLGBTQI+ organizations and those primarily serving these communities. The department also advanced Indigenous 2SLGBTQI+ equality through the Increasing Capacity of Indigenous Women and 2SLGBTQI+ Organizations to Address GBV initiative, supporting 21 projects aimed at preventing and addressing gender-based violence against Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQI+ people.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

As noted above, WAGE engaged Indigenous 2SLGBTQI+ community organizations, National Indigenous leaders and representatives, and the Indigenous Women’s Circle on Priority Area 3 of the federal 2SLGBTQI+ Action Plan, focusing on community priorities, implementation progress, and collaboration opportunities, with feedback informing policy and program advice across the department and other federal initiatives. On January 28th, 2026, the department hosted a full-day virtual engagement with Indigenous 2SLGBTQI+ organizations across Canada to deepen federal understanding of community-identified priorities, challenges, needs, and best practices. WAGE plans to continue this engagement on WAGE-led policies and programming that affect Indigenous 2SLGBTQI+ peoples.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: WAGE

Shared Priority 12

Safe and secure resource development for Indigenous women, girls and 2SLGBTQI+ persons

Lead department(s)	Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)	Related articles	21, 22, 25, 26, 32
		Related APMs	SP9, SP10, SP11, SP33, SP51, SP56

Status	Planning
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

NRCan is leading federal efforts to advance Calls for Justice 13.1 to 13.5 and implement this Action Plan measure, in partnership with many departments and agencies such as Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), Public Safety Canada (PS), Women and Gender Equality Canada (WAGE), Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC), and the Major Projects Office (MPO). In 2025-26, NRCan worked with CIRNAC to establish a senior management federal interdepartmental committee to steer this work and established an MMIWG2S+ in Resource Development Regulatory Working Group to coordinate federal efforts and share wise practices during the review of regulatory frameworks. NRCan continued to engage with Indigenous partners and federal counterparts, including through joint engagements with the Chief Advisor to Combat Human Trafficking, to conduct research and to strengthen strategic partnerships to develop practical tools and supports to advance safe and equitable resource development for Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQI+ people. While NRCan has not received dedicated funding for this initiative and long-term funding for community-led safety initiatives remains limited, the department is collaborating with other federal departments to maximize federal policy, funding, and partnerships to advance safe and equitable resource development for Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQI+ people.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025-26, NRCan continued to engage with Indigenous partners across all distinctions, including grassroots advocates, matriarchs, Elders, families, and survivors, to gather recommendations and promising practices to inform its work. As Canada accelerates major resource and infrastructure projects, Indigenous communities have raised increasing concerns about heightened risks to Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQI+ people, particularly along major project and human trafficking corridors.

These risks include increased exposure to gender-based violence, trafficking, and service gaps, and reflect long-standing patterns associated with large-scale resource development. Indigenous partners clearly stated that there cannot be a repetition of past harms associated with major projects and that sustained investments are needed in locally-driven solutions, including community safety programs, healing supports, culturally grounded youth programming, family supports, housing and transportation.

Transport Canada (TC) also noted that at the 2025 Federal-Provincial-Territorial Ministers of Transportation meeting with National Indigenous Organizations, the Minister of Transport committed to creating a joint working group with these organizations to explore and advance transportation-related responses to the Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Calls for Justice. As a first step, TC identified internal senior representatives for the working group and begun engaging with National Indigenous Organizations.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One Indigenous 2SLGBTQAI+ organization emphasized the critical need to be actively engaged in the co-development of strategies aimed at enhancing safety, well-being, and inclusion for Two-Spirit, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and other gender-diverse Indigenous peoples. Active collaboration with these organizations is essential to create sustainable, rights-based approaches that prioritize safety of Two-Spirit identities.

Another Indigenous partner noted that an intersectional and gender-responsive approach cannot be realized if the structures of implementation exclude organizations Indigenous peoples experiencing discrimination in urban and off-reserve contexts. Without inclusive participation, commitments to Gender-Based Analysis Plus and social determinants frameworks risk remaining procedural rather than transformative.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Develop Indigenous GBA+ type products and tools, in collaboration with other government departments to ensure more consideration is given to the connections between MMIWG2S+ and energy and resource development at all stages of federal program and policy design and implementation. [NRCan]	Planning	Medium-term
2	To empower Indigenous-led solutions, bring federal partners together and engage with communities to coordinate a horizontal initiative on safety and security for Indigenous women, girls and 2S+ people at all stages of resource development. [NRCan]	Planning	Long-term
3	Working closely with industry and regulators to develop guidance for project proponents to ensure community-informed safety, prevention and mitigation practices and measures are embedded early in major project planning. [NRCan]	Planning	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: TC

Shared Priority 13

Ending coerced sterilization

Lead department(s)	Justice Canada (JUS)	Related articles	21, 22, 23, 24
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Yes
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Funding not required
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

JUS noted that on June 5, 2025, Senator Boyer re-introduced the substance of former Bill S-250 through Bill S-228, [An Act to amend the Criminal Code](#) (sterilization procedures). The Bill would clarify that a sterilization procedure constitutes a “wounding” or a “maiming” for the purposes of the aggravated assault offence provision in Criminal Code. Bill S-228 carried following Third Reading in the Senate and is currently being studied by the Standing Committee on Indigenous and Northern Affairs in the House. Departmental officials continue to support the Minister's Office on Bill S-228.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

The department noted that no broad consultation and cooperation took place during the last fiscal year, however, engagement with Survivors’ Circle for Reproductive Justice on Bill S-228 occurred in 2025 through an in-person presentation and in 2026 through webinars. In addition, JUS officials consulted and cooperated with Indigenous partners, including Survivors’ Circle for Reproductive Justice and the Indigenous Women’s Advisory Council, on former because Bill S-250, an identical Bill that died on the Order Paper in January 2025. For additional information on this process, please refer to the 2025 Annual Report.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

2 Spirits in Motion Society has advanced Shared Priority 13 through community-led initiatives that promote awareness, prevention, and healing related to forced and coerced sterilization. By centering Indigenous self-determination, survivor voices, and cultural knowledge, the organization supports strategy development, advisory engagement, public education, and ceremonial practices that honour survivors. Collaborating with Indigenous-led partners and federal bodies, the 2 Spirits in Motion Society contributed community-informed perspectives to guide policy, governance, and reproductive justice

efforts. These initiatives have strengthened trust, created safer spaces for education and healing, and advanced culturally safe, survivor-centred approaches. Continued Indigenous leadership and engagement aim to ensure reproductive healthcare is safe, informed, dignified, and accountable, fostering long-term prevention and community well-being.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Second reading of Bill S-228 second reading in the House of Commons [JUS]	Implementation ongoing	Short-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 14

Federal public service training on the UN Declaration

Lead department(s)	Justice Canada (JUS), Various	Related articles	1, 2, 13, 15, 16, 18, 21, 22
		Related APMs	SP15, SP16, SP17, SP18

Status	Underway
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Following outreach to Indigenous partners in 2024-25, JUS developed a What We Heard Report, which was then validated by Indigenous partners. This report summarizes what was heard in the initial phase of consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners and organizations. The department sought and received input and feedback on existing training materials on the UN Declaration and the UN Declaration Act that will ensure inclusion of diverse Indigenous perspectives moving forward. The purpose of the report is to inform JUS, the Canada School of Public Service (CSPS) and other government departments about how to improve existing training, to identify priorities and opportunities for co-creation of training on various Indigenous topics, and to share, in a transparent way, what was heard through the process.

The CSPS Indigenous Learning business line supports Canada's commitment to reconciliation and to implementation of the UN Declaration, the UN Declaration Act, and the associated Action Plan. Throughout 2025-26, the UN Declaration Learning Portal continued to be refreshed and expanded as new materials became available. Two additional learning videos—one on the UN Declaration and one on the UN Declaration Act—are in development and are scheduled for release on the portal in 2026. CSPS also delivered 11 learning events that reached more than 10,000 public servants.

Numerous federal departments and agencies have developed Indigenous learning pathways to support employees to advance their understanding of Indigenous issues, enhance their personal and professional competencies, and support reconciliation. For example, Indigenous Awareness Week within Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) consisted of 24 events and reached over 1,500 participants across 30 federal departments. In addition, the Public Health Network Unlearning Club consisted of a 19-month structured learning journey grounded in an Indigenous-developed curriculum to strengthen federal, provincial and territorial public health leaders' capacity to identify racism and take Indigenous-specific anti-racist action in public health policy and decision-making. Aligned with the agency's Indigenous learning policy, PHAC also compiled and promoted 145 Indigenous learning opportunities, including 41 PHAC hosted sessions to over 3,000 participants across 35 departments.

PHAC also facilitates ethical access to Elders and Knowledge keepers for its programs through an Elder-in-Residence program and through an Indigenous cultural support program.

In addition, Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) updated its UN Declaration Act Training Strategy, which aims at ensuring that ISC employees possess an increased awareness of the rights contained in the UN Declaration, the obligations and transformational nature of the UN Declaration Act, and the commitments under the Action Plan. The strategy is being implemented by raising general awareness, as well as sharing information and best practices through the 101 information sessions offered, bi-monthly Network meetings and other one-time events.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

JUS noted that Indigenous partners that were engaged in Phase 1 of the consultation and cooperation period were further engaged to validate the understandings presented in the draft What We Heard Report. As projects develop, consultation and cooperation will take place on an individual project basis due to limited availability of resources.

Throughout 2025-26, the CSPS undertook several key activities to ensure that the Indigenous Learning curriculum is informed by Indigenous perspectives, expertise, and lived experience. This included working closely with Elders and Knowledge Holders to support the cultural integrity of learning content and to ensure it reflects Indigenous values and traditions. Elders and Knowledge Holders contributed to learning design and delivery, participating in events as well as virtual and in-person courses. Specific examples include the co-creation with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami on a video on the Inuit Nunangat Policy, content review by Métis Elders from the Knowledge Circle for Indigenous Inclusion Elders Advisory Circle and External subject matter experts, and co-hosting the 2025 National Day for Truth and Reconciliation with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation. Some Indigenous organizations faced limitations in terms of available resources or capacity, which impacted their availability to engage with the CPCS, maintain regular bilateral meetings, or receive feedback on learning products.

ISC noted that although the department was not involved in any consultation and cooperation related to this Action Plan measure in 2025-26, the department took into account comments and recommendations made by Indigenous Peoples through engagement with JUS. In the future, consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples will be required to meet the commitments under Shared Priority 14, and ISC hopes to learn from JUS, the CPCS experience and other government departments, while co-developing training together.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Some partners noted they would welcome additional updates when in consultations related to Shared Priority 14 and Shared Priority 18. In particular, there is interest in seeing how partner input is reflected in training materials and in the ongoing development of these initiatives. Continued communication on progress and outcomes would help ensure partners remain informed on how their contributions are clearly integrated into final products. A national strategy was recommended for Indigenous-specific anti-racism education, including sector-specific training requirements and tailored content. Organizations working with Indigenous youth also emphasized that reconciliation is a priority and addressing systemic

and institutional racism is critically important. This underscores the need for sustained education and awareness initiatives aimed at public servants, political leaders as well as the broader public. A Métis partner called for the development of training to strengthen understanding of Métis identity and governance, distinctions-based training to strengthen federal understanding of Métis identity, governance, jurisdiction, and self-government relationships. However, urban and off-reserve Indigenous organizations noted that perspectives and recommendations regarding Indigenous identity and the realities of urban, off-reserve, and non-status populations were not clearly reflected in the What We Heard report.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Completion of draft What We Heard report, validation by Indigenous partners and organizations and finalization. [JUS]	Complete	NA
2	Incorporation of recommendations and ideas provided by Indigenous partners and organizations into foundational UNDA training for public servants. [JUS]	Underway	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: CSPS, CRA, ISC, PHAC

Shared Priority 15

RCMP Intercultural Learning Strategy

Lead department(s)	Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Complete
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The RCMP National Learning Services conducted internal and external consultations, as well as an environmental scan, to inform an Intercultural Learning Strategy Action Plan for improving intercultural learning within the RCMP. With less than a year of funding remaining within the Intercultural Learning Strategy, the National Learning Service has shifted from planning further broad consultations to implementing a targeted action plan using existing feedback, while funding for Addressing Systemic Racism, received in 2021, is set to sunset in 2025–26.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

As noted above, the Intercultural Learning Strategy has less than a year of funding and limited internal capacity, the RCMP National Learning Services is shifting from broad external consultations to implementing a more targeted action plan, using feedback from previous consultations and focused external engagement as needed. Other RCMP areas are now leading external partnerships and community engagement, and the National Learning Services will draw on the results of those activities to inform potential learning solutions.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

To support eliminating systemic bias, racism and over representation in the justice system, one First Nations partner has consistently recommended that RCMP members complete training and ongoing education in anti-racism, trauma-informed policing and cultural competency. The Letters of Expectations between this First Nation and various external agencies, including the RCMP, each require provincial and federal enforcement officers to undergo a 2-day cultural sensitivity session. Significant resources have been allocated to develop curriculum for a workshop to provide cultural sensitivity training for enforcement officers, including the RCMP.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 16

Ensuring inclusive federally regulated workplaces

Lead department(s)	Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)	Related articles	17, 21
		Related APMs	SP7, SP74, SP77

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Facilitated by \$2.4M flowed through Engagement Protocol Agreements, the Labour Program engaged with national Indigenous partners to discuss opportunities to engage Indigenous governments and rights holders through their governance and collaboration mechanisms. Continued dialogue on the [Pay Equity Act](#) and [Employment Equity Act](#) was paired with outreach on proposed shifts to the Canada Labour Code intended to respond to evolving economic conditions. Employer engagement through established mechanisms such as the Labour Standards Advisory Committee and the Occupational Health and Safety Advisory Committee continued to emphasize the importance of addressing systemic barriers to equitable opportunities for Indigenous peoples in federally regulated workplaces.

The [IT Apprenticeship Program for Indigenous Peoples](#) is a whole-of-government initiative designed to increase the representation of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples in the Government of Canada's IT workforce. The program addresses long-standing employment and education gaps by reducing systemic barriers and providing access to meaningful careers in IT. Since its inception in 2020 through March 31, 2026, 211 apprentices have been hired across 39 federal organizations, with 93 graduates to date. In 2025-26, 18 apprentices were hired and 54 successfully graduated from the program. Close to 1 in 5 of all apprentices hired (19%) worked from or lived in an Indigenous community. In fall 2025, the program also recognized the successful graduation of 80% of participants in the fair chance hiring pilot.

ESDC also leads the whole of government Indigenous policy candidate process that applies a coaching and mentorship approach to evaluating Indigenous policy candidates through a co-developed assessment process. As of 2025-26, the inventory contains over 2,660 Indigenous candidates.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Engagement through national Indigenous partners' governance and collaboration mechanisms builds on decades of collaboration to improve labour market outcomes for Indigenous peoples. The

recommendations and demonstrated success of Indigenous-led workforce development systems provide concrete best practices to inform how federally regulated employers can address systemic barriers to equity for Indigenous peoples.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 17

Judiciary training options on UN Declaration

Lead department(s)	Justice Canada (JUS)	Related articles	5, 34
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Complete
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	NA
Requires regulation	NA

Funding	NA
Indicators	NA
Developed with partners	NA
Can be disaggregated	NA

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

This Action Plan measure was identified as completed.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: NA

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: NA

This Action Plan measure was identified as completed.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

This Action Plan measure was identified as completed.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 18

Public education on UN Declaration and Indigenous human rights

Lead department(s)	Justice Canada (JUS), Various	Related articles	1, 2, 15, 22
		Related APMs	SP14, SP109

Status	Underway
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Following outreach to Indigenous partners in 2024-25, JUS developed a What We Heard Report which was then validated by Indigenous partners. The purpose of the report is to inform JUS, the Canada School of Public Service and other government departments on recommended improvements to existing training on the UN Declaration and the UN Declaration Act, to identify priorities and opportunities for co-creation of training on various Indigenous topics, and to provide transparency based on what the department heard through the process. JUS sought and received feedback on existing training materials on the UN Declaration and the UN Declaration Act that will ensure inclusion of diverse Indigenous perspectives moving forward. The department has relied on existing resources to implement this Action Plan measure, however, dedicated funding is needed for consultation and cooperation with diverse Indigenous perspectives and co-creation of training with Indigenous subject matter experts. JUS is working with other government departments to share information and collaborate on Indigenous learning initiatives where possible. In January 2026, JUS established a bilateral relationship with McGill University's School of Continuing Studies for the development of a new specialized course in their Parliamentary Ecosystem Programmes' thematic stream on applied Futures and Foresight, entitled Intersecting Futures and the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. The focus of this course is the UN Declaration and its implementation within Canada, with JUS serving in an advisory capacity on course components. The overall intent of this partnership is to strengthen knowledge, capacity, and collaboration among key actors in the implementation of international human rights obligations, with a focus on practical impacts and inclusive dialogue.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

Indigenous partners that were engaged in the development of the What We Heard Report were further engaged with to validate the understandings presented. As projects develop, consultation and cooperation will take place on an individual basis due to limited availability of resources.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Some partners noted they would have welcomed additional updates when in consultations related to Shared Priority 14 and Shared Priority 18. In particular, there was interest in seeing how partner input was reflected in training materials and in the ongoing development of these initiatives. Continued communication on progress and outcomes would help ensure partners remain informed on how their contributions are clearly integrated into final products. A national strategy was recommended for Indigenous-specific anti-racism education, including sector-specific training requirements and tailored content. Organizations working with Indigenous youth also emphasized that reconciliation is a priority and addressing systemic and institutional racism is critically important. This underscores the need for sustained education and awareness initiatives aimed at public servants, political leaders as well as the broader public. A Métis partner called for the development of training to strengthen understanding of Métis identity and governance.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Completion of draft What We Heard report, validation by Indigenous partners and organizations and finalization. [JUS]	Complete	NA

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 19

Indigenous rights monitoring mechanism(s)

Lead department(s)	Justice Canada (JUS)	Related articles	18, 32, 34, 40
		Related APMs	SP109

Status	Planning
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In the last year, JUS continued to engage internally on this Action Plan measure. It is anticipated that a robust, multi-stage process would be required to adequately explore approaches to the implementation of an Indigenous Rights mechanism(s), in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners. This consultation and cooperation process will build on discussions that took place during the development of the Action Plan. JUS also seeks to ensure that any new mechanisms are complementary to, and do not duplicate, existing monitoring, oversight, and dispute resolution processes.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

The department's work over the past year has focused on monitoring related initiatives and mapping existing monitoring and oversight mechanisms to ensure that any Indigenous Rights Mechanism(s) will complement current structures rather than duplicate.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Some First Nation partners felt the advancement of this Action Plan measure should be prioritized with specific timelines, given its potential to adjudicate and remedy rights violations. This Action Plan measure has been highlighted by First Nations, Inuit and Métis partners as an area of particular interest. Partners have expressed interest in engaging in discussions with Canada to explore how the proposed mechanisms could be aligned with the distinct priorities and needs of Métis rights-holding communities and citizens.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 20

UNDA Annual Reporting

Lead department(s)	Justice Canada (JUS), Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), Various	Related articles	18, 19, 38
		Related APMs	SP1, SP2, SP3

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (1)
Developed with partners	Yes (1)
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

JUS has developed a cyclical process for developing and improving its Annual Report. Following the release of the previous report, the department engaged with Indigenous partners to seek feedback on the overall reporting process, the types of information that they would like to see added, as well as on the report itself. Feedback from this year's cycle led to the adjustment of the input period to ensure Indigenous partners had sufficient time to review and comment on the draft report to ensure their perspectives were reflected. Additionally, JUS also hosted several information sessions to communicate to Indigenous governments, communities, and organizations about the different ways to participate during the process and answer any questions that partners had. Through the Indigenous Partnership Fund, the department provides capacity funding to some Indigenous partners to support their participation in the implementation of the UNDA, including the participating in the development of the annual report.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

JUS noted that legislated timelines continue to cause pressure for all participants during the development of the annual report. The August tabling of the 2025 Annual Report meant there was compressed time to debrief with partners and adapt the process based upon the feedback received. There is risk of engagement fatigue on the annual report and consideration will have to be given to how this can be mitigated within the confines of the legislated timeline. The department worked with several Indigenous partners during the drafting of this year's annual report. Following its tabling, JUS will debrief with partners and seek ways to improve the report. Furthermore, the department will work with Indigenous partners to develop metrics and guidance for Action Plan measure leads to develop metrics to support UN Declaration Act implementation.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Several partners recommended more frequent progress highlights to give Indigenous peoples a clearer picture of which Action Plan measures have advanced. They also called for more accessible reports, such as through videos, as well as more truth-telling. They further noted that the annual report would benefit from going beyond a simple description of activities undertaken. They indicated that it could also serve as a tool to establish objectives, indicators, and concrete actions, as well as government commitments for the following year, in order to strengthen the relevance and value of accountability reporting. Other recommendations include publishing report addendums created by Indigenous partners; establishing an Indigenous-led body, or other independent review process, that would assess implementation; taking a distinctions-based and treaty-specific approach to reporting; and following the thematic focus of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action. For many First Nation partners, indicators of tangible outcomes would include recognition of First Nations jurisdiction, support for First Nations laws and legal orders, operational approaches to free, prior and informed consent, and the strengthening of treaty relationships.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Preparation of the 4th Annual Progress Report under the UNDA. [JUS]	Complete	NA
2	Develop metrics with Indigenous peoples to ensure that useful measurements are being reported on. [JUS]	Planning	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 21

Updating UNDA Action Plan

Lead department(s)	Justice Canada (JUS)	Related articles	19
		Related APMs	SP20

Status	Planning
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

JUS noted that planning has begun to scope Action Plan renewal options. Preliminary discussions have taken place with a few Indigenous partners. The department also included a question on Action Plan renewal into the Annual Report template for 2025-26. The feedback received will inform the process going forward.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No **Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation:** Yes

As Action Plan renewal is still in the early stages, JUS noted that focused consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners is expected to take place in 2026-27.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Indigenous partners made numerous recommendations for an updated Action Plan. These include determining what to do with measures that have not started or are on hold, adding new measures that address gaps such as protecting in-land fisheries, and measures related to safety of women and youth in specific areas such as food insecurity and housing precarity. Partners also recommended leading with Indigenous priorities and implementation standards, rather than predefining scope and structure. They noted this could include incorporating action plans developed by Indigenous partners. In addition, some partners recommended that the next iteration of the Action Plan should prioritize measures that are realistic, measurable, and supported by clear timelines in order to facilitate more effective implementation and monitoring of progress. Also, the next plan should adopt a Nation-to Nation, Distinctions-based PLUS approach, and include governance-based benchmarks to strengthen accountability and coherence. In this context, Distinctions-based PLUS refers to Indigenous peoples that are excluded from the First Nation, Métis, and Inuit governance structures, particularly Indigenous women and Indigenous peoples living outside of their home community.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	A draft discussion paper and workplan, outlining options must be completed by March 31, 2026. [JUS]	Complete	NA

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 22

UNDA Action Plan Advisory Committee (APAC)

Lead department(s)	Justice Canada (JUS)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The United Nations Declaration Act Action Plan Advisory Committee met 7 times in 2025-26. It met several times in spring and summer 2025 to develop and finalize its Terms of Reference. The committee received its first request for advice from the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada in October 2025 APAC's advice is anticipated in the early part of the 2026-27 fiscal year.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025–26, JUS engaged Indigenous partners to provide input on the topics for which the Committee advised the Minister. Future opportunities to consult or cooperate on the APAC's mandate, membership and work may arise periodically over the coming year.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Partners have welcomed the establishment of the UN Declaration Act Action Plan Advisory Committee as a key step for advancing UN Declaration Act implementation and strengthening collaboration. They emphasized the need for clear mandates, sufficient resources, and mechanisms to validate decisions with Indigenous peoples, while ensuring Advisory Committee complements rather than replaces broader consultation processes.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Develop Terms of Reference for the United Nations Declaration Act Action Plan Advisory Committee. [JUS]	Complete	NA
2	Advice from Minister requested and provided by United Nations Declaration Act Action Plan Advisory Committee. [JUS]	Underway	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 23

Withdrawal of Comprehensive Land Claims and Inherent Right Policies

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	3, 4, 27, 37
		Related APMs	SP24, SP31

Status	Planning
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Internal analysis is underway and discussions with some Indigenous partners have taken place to explore the development of a public statement on Canada's rights-based approach for the negotiation of treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

The department noted that no funding is currently available for consultation and cooperation on this Action Plan measure. While CIRNAC will continue preliminary discussions with some Indigenous partners, additional resources would be required to consult and cooperate more broadly with Indigenous partners in fiscal year 2026-27.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One First Nation partner has requested more clarity on the status of this Action Plan measure, citing that the policy has yet to be officially withdrawn at the time of reporting. Some partners expressed concern that federal policies such as the [Renewing the Comprehensive Land Claims Policy: Towards a Framework for Addressing Section 35 Aboriginal Rights](#) continue to emphasize the concepts of certainty and predictability in ways that may limit the recognition of Indigenous rights that are not expressly set out in treaty agreements. They suggested that this approach may be inconsistent with Article 45 of the Declaration, which provides that nothing in the Declaration may be interpreted as diminishing or extinguishing existing Indigenous rights. These partners recommended that the updated Action Plan include measures to review relevant federal policies, in collaboration with Indigenous Peoples, to ensure consistency with the principles and objectives of the UN Declaration.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 24

Co-developing approaches to self-determination

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	3, 4, 37, 27
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Planning
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The department noted that internal analysis continues on the Action Plan measure, including a review of partner interests based on information from negotiation tables, that can support implementation of this Action Plan measure in the short-medium term.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

The department noted that no consultation and cooperation took place due to a lack of resources. CIRNAC officials are considering options on how to best to work with Indigenous peoples for the Action Plan measure.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 25

Implementing historic and modern treaties/self-government

Lead department(s)	All	Related articles	3, 4, 13, 15, 18, 19, 37
		Related APMs	SP24, MT1.h

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Funding not required
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Transport Canada (TC) noted that the department has a dedicated team that ensures the completion of Assessments of Modern Treaty Implications for all initiatives requiring Cabinet submissions, such as Memoranda to Cabinet, Treasury Board submissions, regulatory proposals and decks for Cabinet decisions. These assessments are meant to help ensure TC's compliance with modern treaty agreements. The department also provided a virtual training and information session to all Indigenous Relations employees.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

TC noted that the Assessment of Modern Treaty Implications is a standardized internal tool across government and did not involve external engagement with Indigenous Partners.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Many First Nation partners have called on the federal government to advance meaningful discussions regarding historic treaties and uphold pre-1975 treaties. They urge the government to create a predictable forum outside of the Recognition of Indigenous Rights and Self-Determination Discussion Tables process, such as Annual Treaty Councils, for treaty nations and the Crown to review treaty implementation, set priorities, and track progress against shared commitments. They call on clear mandates as well as adequate and stable funding for historic treaty initiatives that reflect needs of treaty partners tables, directorates, gatherings, cabinet directives, and institutions such as Offices of Treaty Commissioners. Diligent implementation of historic treaties would address areas such as cumulative effects, self-government, annuities and Natural Resources Transfer Agreement reform. Partners also noted that the next Action Plan should include specific deliverables to guide the implementation of treaty promises.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: TC

Shared Priority 26

Implementing standalone self-government agreements

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	3, 4, 37
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Planning
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Throughout the 2025-26 fiscal year, CIRNAC has engaged Self-Government Arrangement Holders primarily through the Intergovernmental Policy Circle collectively with Indigenous Modern Treaty Partners to advance shared priorities. Current funding supports policy and engagement mechanisms under the Modern Treaty Implementation Policy to support education, awareness and collaboration with Indigenous partners.

Additionally, CIRNAC represents the Crown at implementation committees established under self-government agreements. These committees are tripartite when a provincial or territorial government is a signatory to the agreement, and representatives from other federal departments participate in these committee meetings when agenda items relate to their mandates, reflective of the whole of government nature of Modern Treaty and Self Government agreements. Implementation committees are the prime venue for intergovernmental consultation and co-operation.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Through the engagements noted above, CIRNAC and Self-Government Arrangement Holders work together to identify shared priorities and areas of collective work, with the goal of removing barriers to the implementation of self-government arrangements.

Through regular implementation committee and other meetings with partners – typically, implementation committees meet three times per year with mid-point calls and ongoing communications – discussions include the parties' view on implementation, the resolution of disagreements, the negotiation of amendments, and other activities necessary to the intergovernmental relationships.

Additionally, CIRNAC and Indigenous Governments continue to engage, through the Collaborative Fiscal Process, in the co-development of funding models for the implementation of self-government jurisdictions.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Several priorities for Self-Governing Agreement Holders will be discussed at the 2025-26 Intergovernmental Leaders' Forum. [CIRNAC]	Underway	Short-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 27

Indigenous Service Transfer Policy Framework

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	NA

Status	On hold
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The development of a Service Transfer Policy Framework is currently on hold, due to evolving policy context and lack of dedicated funding. In 2025-26, ISC identified good practices, lessons learned, and the conditions for effective and efficient service transfer based on service transfer initiatives and discussions with ISC programs and sectors. The input and knowledge gathered will support the development of an internal strategy on departmental transfer of responsibilities as stated in the 2026-2027 ISC Departmental Plan. The strategy will provide ISC with greater consistency and coherence to the departmental approach, while addressing barriers to transfer in a manner that responds to the unique needs and priorities of Indigenous partners.

Meaningful work on service transfer continues department-wide through initiatives such as Health Transformation, Infrastructure and Housing transfer, and co-developed Regional Education Agreements. More than half of the ISC-led or co-led Action Plan measures listed in the UN Declaration Act Action Plan are related to service transfer, including Shared Priority 29 regarding the implementation of [An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families](#), Shared Priority 30 regarding supporting Indigenous Data Sovereignty, and First Nations Priority 15 regarding housing and infrastructure improvements on reserve. To learn more about what ISC is doing to advance service transfer and the UN Declaration Act, see the 2026 ISC Annual Report to Parliament.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

Due to a lack of funding and evolving policy context, activity to co-develop a service transfer policy framework is on hold. ISC continues to build a better understanding on service transfer through active internal ISC program engagement and where possible, through informal dialogue with Indigenous partners.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	An internal transfer strategy is planned for 2026-2027, which will guide the work on transfer of responsibilities. [ISC]	Planning	Short-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 28

Indigenous Justice Strategy and revitalization of Indigenous laws

Lead department(s)	Justice Canada (JUS), Public Safety Canada (PS), Various	Related articles	3, 4, 5, 18, 37
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

As lead, JUS noted that work toward the development of an early Indigenous Justice Strategy implementation plan started in Spring of 2025. To date, implementation has been taking a regional and phased approach, working with Indigenous partners at existing justice-related tables and processes with British Columbia, Manitoba, Ontario, New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, as well as with Inuit. At these tables, Indigenous partners will identify their short, medium, and long-term priorities, which may include initiatives related to revitalization and enforcement of Indigenous laws and legal orders. Once priorities have been identified, focus will shift to the development of implementation plans. It is yet to be determined how funding will be allocated to support future consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples for this initiative.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In the summer of 2025, JUS began targeted regional discussions with Indigenous partners at existing justice-related tripartite tables regarding interest in participating in implementation discussions. By Fall 2025, the department initiated a targeted call for proposals to Indigenous partners to support their participation at the existing tripartite tables. In early 2026, meetings were being scheduled up to March 31, 2027 for the various tripartite tables and processes to determine regional priorities and implementation plans. JUS will review options to expand participation in future phases and is working to ensure that early efforts pave the way for the next phase of implementation and discussions with additional jurisdictions.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Some Métis partners noted that the development of the Indigenous Justice Strategy was largely conducted through discussions with the Métis National Council and suggested that additional direct engagement with Métis governments could better ensure that their distinct priorities, rights, and

jurisdictional perspectives are reflected. In 2025-26, Métis partners provided Métis-specific recommendations, sought clarity on co-development and distinctions-based implementation, requested specific commitments to legislative reform and engaged with JUS to advance the Strategy's implementation and secure capacity support. While concerns remain regarding aspects of the strategy's development and implementation, legislative amendments introduced through Bill C-16 partially address commitments and the legislative priorities of Métis governments.

Some concerns were raised regarding funding allocations that prioritize limited participation for the tripartite table instead of including regional coordination, policy development, governance, and engagement functions, or to implement partner priorities. This includes implementation of Call for Justice 5.1 to implement the recommendations from the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry of Manitoba: Public Inquiry into the Administration of Justice and Aboriginal People. Partners also expressed concern with Canada's unilateral decision to undertake a funding process that makes nations and organizations compete for limited resources. Sustainable funding is required to support the systemic justice reforms envisioned by the Aboriginal Justice Inquiry of Manitoba and the MMIWG2S+ National Inquiry.

Urban and off-reserve Indigenous organizations noted that the Indigenous Justice Strategy does not explicitly recognize urban Indigenous communities or the role of urban and off-reserve Indigenous organizations in combating Indigenous overrepresentation and systemic racism. These organizations also noted that while they were included in initial conversations in developing the Strategy, they have not been included in any work since, including in work related to implementation.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 29

Implementation of Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	3, 4, 23, 37
		Related APMs	ME5

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (3)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

ISC noted steady progress continues in implementing [An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families](#), driven by growing interest and supported by ongoing jurisdictional and partnership developments. As of March 31, 2026, 12 coordination agreements and 3 bilateral agreements have been signed, 26 coordination table discussions are under way including 5 renewals. In addition, 284 Indigenous communities or groups have expressed interest in exercising jurisdiction through accessing capacity-building funding. Reflecting a significant shift toward an inherent-jurisdiction approach that advances self-determination, 19 Indigenous laws have the force of federal law in accordance with section 21(1) of the Act. ISC remains committed to working with National Indigenous Organizations, and provincial and territorial partners to identify approaches that best supports the implementation of this Action Plan measure. Resources have been directed toward engagement activities, technical and administrative support, capacity-building needs identified by Indigenous partners, and coordination agreement discussion tables to ensure Indigenous governing bodies participate in discussions with Canada and the relevant province or territory, to exercise jurisdiction.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

The department noted that consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners has been grounded in a distinctions-based approach that recognizes the inherent rights and governance structures of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis peoples. This includes working collaboratively through formal tables, bilateral and trilateral discussions, federal-provincial technical working groups, and engagement activities that support transparency, co-development, and informed decision-making. Implementation of [An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth, and families](#) requires sustained consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners to ensure decisions remain informed, distinctions-based, and aligned with community-driven priorities. This work is supported by the Act's five-year legislative review.

Work has begun in relation to the five-year review with national and regional Indigenous organizations, and Indigenous governing bodies, with a preliminary focus on definitions and provisions of the Act.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One First Nation partner has mentioned that the adoption of [An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families](#) is a concrete example of legislation that recognizes Indigenous authority over child and family services and should serve as a model for implementing the principles of the Declaration, including through the enactment of additional legislation that recognizes and protects the jurisdictions and powers of Indigenous governments in all appropriate areas.

However, Modern Treaty Partners have noted that this work is not yet complete and Modern Treaty Partner specific agreements have not yet been reached. They have noted that the ongoing absence of clarity as to the equal jurisdiction of Modern Treaty Partners as compared to other First Nations has had adverse impacts on communities.

Urban and off-reserve Indigenous partners have noted their lack of inclusion and resourcing in the periodic review of [An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families](#).

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Every five years, the Minister must, in collaboration with Indigenous peoples, including representatives of First Nations, the Inuit and the Métis, undertake a review of the provisions and operation of the Act. [ISC]	Underway	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 30

Supporting Indigenous data sovereignty

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), Treasury Board Secretariat (TBS), Library and Archives Canada (LAC), Various	Related articles	1, 2, 3, 4, 11, 13, 18, 21, 23, 31, 37
		Related APMs	SP3, ME5

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Yes
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

TBS, LAC and ISC co-chair the Working Group on Indigenous Data Sovereignty to foster a whole-of-government approach to Indigenous Data Sovereignty. This working group includes over 10 federal organizations and met to coordinate on Indigenous Data Sovereignty issues and on consultations. To reduce engagement fatigue, participating members shared engagement plans. The 2025 review of the [Access to Information Act](#) provided an opportunity for the Government to examine potential legislative and policy approaches that respond to access to information challenges identified by Indigenous peoples.

Under the Transformational Approach to Indigenous Data, ISC supported the development of Indigenous-led data capacity that will culminate in future distinctions-based statistical institutions and functions. In 2025-26, the First Nations Information Governance Centre worked to finalize a blueprint to implement its network of Regional Information Governance Centres. Moreover, the Manitoba Métis Federation and the Métis National Council released distinct data strategies, while the other signatories of the Canada-Métis Nation Accord as well as Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami made significant progress on their respective strategies. All partners also advanced workplans for demonstration projects, which would be carried out if the Transformational Approach to Indigenous Data is funded for future years. Through the Transformational Approach to Indigenous Data, ISC also enhanced its data governance and data sharing capacities. Engagement with Indigenous partners on the upcoming ISC Policy on External Data Sharing continued, with a draft What We Heard Report shared with partners for feedback. Internal consultations on the draft Policy were also conducted. In addition, ISC delivered internal training sessions on external data sharing and continued to administer approximately 58 Information Sharing Agreements with external parties, including 16 agreements with First Nations, Inuit, or Métis partners.

LAC launched the first phase of its Indigenous data sovereignty initiative, by developing the Strategic Pathways for Indigenous Heritages, a strategic plan which will guide LAC moving forward. To develop this

strategy, LAC undertook an initial phase of engagement with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis organizations with interests and expertise in Indigenous Data Sovereignty and direct connections to rightsholders. LAC's Indigenous Advisory Circle also provided input throughout the strategy's development and on concrete actions that should support it. The strategy aims to establish a solid foundation, build cultural competency internally, renew relationships, and guide specific actions, agreements, and collaborations. LAC positions it as a long-term, ongoing priority that embeds support for Indigenous data sovereignty throughout its operations, functions, and frameworks.

PHAC advanced Indigenous Data Sovereignty by strengthening how principles are reflected across its surveillance systems, standards, and analytical practices. This included explicitly naming Indigenous Data Sovereignty principles within the pan-Canadian Public Health Information Sharing Agreement being negotiated with province-territory jurisdictions, developing guidance to support surveillance programs, providing technical and analytic support to enable distinctions-based, Indigenous-led analysis and reporting, and providing funding to the First Nations Information Governance Centre to develop a report on mental wellness inequalities among First Nations living on-reserve and in northern communities.

Statistics Canada (StatCan) initiatives continued to support Indigenous data sovereignty and capacity. The Indigenous Statistical Capacity Development Initiative delivers training in survey design, data management and analysis, and navigating StatsCan data, as well as provided customized support. For the 2026 Census, Indigenous liaison advisors conduct outreach and develop Indigenous community profiles. Though funding paused for the longstanding Indigenous Peoples Survey, this information still informs reports. The Nunavut Inuit Labour Force Analysis, co-developed with Inuit partners, tracks employment related to the Nunavut Agreement.

Transport Canada (TC) has taken steps to protect and provide legal consideration for Indigenous Knowledge. Transport Canada co-developed an Interdepartmental Indigenous Knowledge Policy Framework for Project Reviews and Regulatory Decisions with other departments to guide the relationship between federal officials and communities when working with Indigenous Knowledge.

A joint First Nations and DFO task force was established to support cross-Canada engagement for co-development of departmental policy on Indigenous Data Sovereignty. Task force activities focused on establishing an initial task force membership and developing materials to guide efforts throughout future co-development. Internal efforts have additionally been made to develop interim guidance for the department on Indigenous Data Sovereignty. This includes a requirements document on roles and responsibilities for employees with respect to interactions with Indigenous data and guidance documents to support the development of data sharing agreements that respect assertions of data sovereignty from Indigenous partners.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

ISC continued engagement with Indigenous partners on the development of its upcoming departmental Policy on External Data Sharing. Partners were notably asked to provide feedback on a draft What We Heard Report. In parallel, ISC continued to engage and cooperate with the Indigenous Delivery Partners leading workstreams under the Transformational Approach to Indigenous Data initiative. This was

facilitated through regular bilateral functions with each partner, including continued meetings in connection with a Memorandum of Collaboration between ISC and the First Nations Information Governance Center. The purpose of these bilateral functions was to continue to support partners in the development and/or implementation of their respective data strategies.

TBS [launched](#) the mandatory cyclical review of the [Access to Information Act](#) in June 2025, followed by [public engagement](#) in March 2026. Engagement with Indigenous partners, consistent with section 5 of the UNDA, is a key element of the review. To support participation, TBS published a [policy paper](#) for the purpose of obtaining feedback and issued a call for proposals to over 170 Indigenous partners in March 2026. The policy paper was informed by feedback gathered from Indigenous partners during previous reviews and in the context of pre-engagement activities for the current review in the previous fiscal year. TBS is establishing contribution agreements with Indigenous partners who applied for financial support by the deadline.

LAC continued to consult with its Indigenous Advisory Circle made up of Indigenous professionals with expertise in the heritage sector. The department engaged early in the development of their strategy and action plan and have continued the conversation with the Advisory Circle during the development of the draft. LAC also met with the Manitoba Métis Federation, the First Nations Information Governance Centre, and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami to discuss high-level approaches to Indigenous Data Sovereignty, and these engagements will continue into 2026-27.

PHAC engaged Indigenous public health advisors and incorporated feedback to include specific Indigenous Data Sovereignty language in the Public Health Information Sharing Agreement. The agency also engaged in early discussions with National Indigenous Organizations to introduce the Economic Cost of Illness in Canada and explore a proposed framework for collaboration. The Nunatsiavut Government and Inuit Treaty Organizations were engaged through ongoing bilateral meetings, email exchanges, and data working groups to coordinate activities and advance distinctions-based Inuit reporting on child welfare indicators as part of the Canadian Child Welfare Information System. Lastly, PHAC continued engagement with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, the Assembly of First Nations, and federal-provincial-territorial partners on Tuberculosis surveillance.

Statistics Canada's Centre for Indigenous Statistics and Partnerships advance Indigenous data priorities with Indigenous partners. The Centre worked with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami to improve data services for Inuit and support Inuit Nunangat Policy implementation. The Centre co-authored tailored articles and tables with Indigenous organizations, held quarterly or ad hoc working-level meetings, and engaged monthly on pre-release publications to incorporate partner feedback. Consensus-based work continued on the Nunavut Inuit Labour Force Analysis with Nunavut partners and StatCan conducted outreach with First Nations, Métis and Inuit communities to prepare for the 2026 Census.

DFO has worked with First Nations organizations to establish a collaborative cross-Canada task force on Indigenous data sovereignty which will support co-development of departmental policy on roles and responsibilities around Indigenous Data Sovereignty. The task force has developed a thematic analysis of past collaborative efforts and relevant literature on Indigenous Data Sovereignty to guide task force activities. Cross-Canada engagement with First Nations in support of the policy co-development is

planned for 2026-27. In preparation for the engagement, the task force has additionally developed a draft set of principles to guide the creation of responsible mechanisms for engagement.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One Modern Treaty First Nation launched a strengthened census initiative in partnership with the British Columbia First Nations Regional Information Governance Centre. They created a comprehensive, community-wide census that integrated previous research and engagement results and generated detailed demographic, socio-economic, and well-being data to guide community planning and programming. The First Nation also noted they are piloting a Build Your Own Data Centre platform that supports security, storage, governance, and analysis of community information in a self-determined way. This platform is aligned with the First Nations Principles of Ownership, Control, Access, and Possession, and is compliant with British Columbia's [Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act](#). This pilot advances long-term goals for culturally grounded, sovereign data governance and future evidence-based decision-making. The census officially ran from November 2025 to February 2026, representing the community's most extensive data-collection effort to date.

Separately, a number of other Modern Treaty First Nations provided input into the federal review of the [Privacy Act](#) and [Access to Information Act](#) but received no updates on those reviews or how their feedback will be addressed.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Co-develop departmental policy on Indigenous data sovereignty, including safeguarding of Indigenous Knowledge, through a joint Indigenous and DFO task force. The task force will plan and implement cross-Canada engagement with Indigenous Peoples. [DFO]	Underway	Long-term
2	Develop guidance materials to support departmental understanding and implementation of responsibilities around Indigenous data sovereignty. [DFO]	Underway	Long-term
3	Data strategies of Transformational Approach to Indigenous Data's Indigenous Delivery Partners. [ISC]	Underway	Short-term
4	Workplans for demonstration projects of Transformational Approach to Indigenous Data's Indigenous Delivery Partners. [ISC]	Underway	Short-term
5	Publication of the Indigenous Heritages Strategy. [LAC]	Underway	Short-term
6	Development and Collection of the Nunavut Government Employee Survey and Nunavut Inuit Labour Force Analysis. [StatCan]	Underway	Long-term
7	Development of Memorandum of Understanding with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami. [StatCan]	Underway	Long-term
8	Finalize the Canadian Child Welfare Information System pilot study on Inuit children in out-of-home care in Newfoundland and Labrador and produce key knowledge translation	Underway	Short-term

	products to support evidence-informed policy and practice. [PHAC]		
9	Provide support to With the First Nations Information Governance Centre to, develop a report on mental wellness inequalities among First Nations living on reserve and in northern communities, to address gaps in national mental health inequalities reporting. [PHAC]	Underway	Short-term
10	Continue the review of the Access to Information Act launched on June 25, 2025. The Access to Information Act mandates a review of the Act every 5 years to ensure transparency and accountability. [TBS]	Underway	Medium-term
11	Continue the work of the Indigenous Data Sovereignty Working Group. [TBS]	Implementation ongoing	Short-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: DFO, PHAC, StatCan, TC

Shared Priority 31

Ongoing section 35 rights-based policy and program reforms

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	3, 4, 37, 38
		Related APMs	SP23, SP24

Status	Planning
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Funding not required
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The department noted that internal planning and analysis is underway to support the implementation of this Action Plan measure, informed by lessons learned, federal priorities and perspectives from Indigenous partners.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

CIRNAC noted that no consultation and cooperation took place during the 2025-26 fiscal year. Elements that are related to this Action Plan measure are in the planning phase and it is not expected that the department will be ready to consult on these elements in 2026-27.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 32

Guidance on engaging on natural resources projects to obtain FPIC

Lead department(s)	Various	Related articles	18, 19, 26, 27, 28, 29, 32
		Related APMs	SP33, SP34, SP51, SP66, SP68, MT14

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) continued to lead the implementation of the development of guidance for engaging with Indigenous peoples on natural resource projects in order to seek to obtain free, prior and informed consent (FPIC) and provide advice to teams internally on how to consider FPIC in their work. NRCan hosted monthly meetings of an interdepartmental Director Table to support the development of guidance, serve as a sounding board for federal departments and agencies, provide a forum to share new or updated guidance or direction, and support implementation of guidance and training tools. In early 2026, the Major Projects Office was invited to join the Director Table. NRCan began working with provincial and territorial partners through the Energy and Mines Ministers' Conference on the development of a compendium of innovations in proponent-Indigenous partnerships in energy, mining and related infrastructure. The compendium will be finished in mid-2026 and will contribute to the guidance being developed under Shared Priority 32. NRCan and other departments and agencies continue to monitor Court decisions affecting FPIC.

The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission (CNSC) continued to support NRCan on the implementation of this Action Plan measure, participating in the Director Table and providing updates on its consultations with Indigenous partners that are being conducted in a manner aiming towards consent. The CNSC also conducted a listening tour with Indigenous Nations, communities and organizations to allow an opportunity for these groups to provide input on CNSC policy, processes and practices. A What We Learned Report is in the process of being validated by Indigenous partners and will be shared with NRCan for its consideration.

Transport Canada (TC) participated at the Director Table to ensure alignment with whole-of-government efforts to achieve FPIC with Indigenous partners on natural resource projects. TC's Indigenous Participant Funding Program funds projects and initiatives designed to support the capacity of Indigenous communities and organizations to take part in processes related to the [Canadian Navigable](#)

[Waters Act](#), the [Wrecked, Abandoned or Hazardous Vessels Act](#), the Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan, and the Community Participation Funding Program.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

From May to September 2025, the CNSC conducted a listening tour and met with 19 Indigenous Nations, communities and organizations across the country. The tour provided a space for those partners to engage on broader policy topics, beyond project-specific discussions. CNSC staff noted that input received during the listening tour could be used to support UN Declaration Act Action Plan measures that the CNSC is supporting on. The CNSC plans to continue to leverage existing relationships with Indigenous Nations, communities and organizations to support implementation of this Action Plan measure.

TC noted that the department will continue to distribute the Engagement Opportunities Bulletin to over 1,575 individuals representing approximately 893 Indigenous nations, organizations, governments and communities nationally. Comments and concerns received by Indigenous partners will be addressed and incorporated into considerations and/or amendments to legislative and regulatory initiatives to ensure alignment with the UN Declaration.

Given lack of dedicated funding, NRCan explored low-cost consultation and cooperation opportunities with Indigenous partners and met regularly with NRCan's Elders-in-Residence to advance this Action Plan measure. NRCan continues to keep Indigenous groups informed through updates shared on NRCan's website and engagements with the Indigenous Advisory and Monitoring Committees for the Trans Mountain Expansion Project and Enbridge Line 3. In March 2026, NRCan also engaged with the Indigenous Advisory Council that supports the Major Projects Office. Discussions on FPIC with Indigenous thought leaders and organizations in the context of Shared Priority 12 also informed the work on Shared Priority 32.

CanNor's work with Indigenous partners focused on supporting meaningful participation across the Agency's programs and initiatives. CanNor's Northern Project Management Office provided consultation processes for impact assessments of major projects across the territories. Indigenous governments and organizations were engaged with CanNor's Northern Project Management Office during impact assessments of major projects including initial notifications, and direct meetings and correspondence throughout all stages of impact assessment, particularly the decision-making phases. With federal decision-makers, the Northern Project Management Office collaboratively developed Indigenous issues trackers, "What We Heard" reports summarising concerns voiced at community meetings, and decision-related documents to incorporate Indigenous issues and interests, potential impacts to rights, mitigations and accommodations, into the decision rationale for a project. In the last year, CanNor also worked with Inuit partners, including Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., who provided feedback into the evaluation of the Pilimaksaivik Centre for Excellence in Inuit Employment.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Some Métis partners provided guidance on Shared Priority 32, as well as Shared Priority 66 regarding FPIC and economic participation mechanisms. With funding from NRCan, partners were able to engage

early with Métis governments to define what good-faith consultation and cooperation should look like in major resource projects, especially when multiple regulators and jurisdictions are involved, and to emphasize the importance of integrating Métis knowledge into project planning. Although reduced funding has limited engagement capacity, and inhibits partners' ability with Canada to support the advancement of joint-priorities, partners remained committed to collaborating with Canada and supporting Métis-specific, equitable participation in natural resource initiatives. Additionally, some First Nation partners advocated for the creation of a body which would ensure Indigenous partners have decisional jurisdiction in resource governance, not just advisory powers.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Continue engagement on approach for free, prior and informed consent guidance using a low-cost consultation and cooperation. [NRCan]	Underway	Short-term
2	Develop guidance in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples, and in collaboration with provinces, territories and industry. [NRCan]	Underway	Medium-term
3	Publish free, prior and informed consent guidance in 2027-28. [NRCan]	Underway	Long-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: CanNor, CNSC, NRCan, TC

Shared Priority 33

Increasing economic participation in natural resources projects

Lead department(s)	Natural Resources Canada (NRCan)	Related articles	26, 27, 28, 32
		Related APMs	SP34

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	Ahead
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (1)
Developed with partners	Yes (1)
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The Indigenous Natural Resource Partnerships program had an \$80 million budget over 2022-23 to 2026-27 to increase Indigenous communities' and groups' economic participation, advancement, and leadership in natural resource development. This included providing supporting capacity development across all aspects of project planning, including at least \$25 million dedicated to early engagement and capacity building for critical minerals projects. By the end of 2025-26, all funding was allocated through 57 multi-year contribution agreements, 6 of which were signed in 2025-26. Indigenous communities and organizations apply to the Indigenous Natural Resource Partnerships program based on their needs, and funding to support consultation and cooperation is recommended when proposed activities align with the program's objectives and expected results.

In the context of the Canada Indigenous Loan Guarantee Program initiative, the Investment Analysis and Due Diligence program design was informed by engagements for the National Benefits Sharing Framework from 2022 to 2024. This engagement highlighted that tools and programs should be developed to facilitate Indigenous ownership of energy and natural resource projects, while providing capacity supports to allow meaningful Indigenous participation in the natural resources and energy sectors. NRCan, in coordination with the Canada Indigenous Loan Guarantee Corporation, provided targeted contribution funding to support Indigenous groups in carrying out financial, legal, commercial, and technical analysis related to potential equity ownership opportunities. Six contribution agreements have been signed since the program opened on April 1, 2025. The program concluded on March 31, 2026.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

With the Indigenous Natural Resource Partnerships program funding allocated, officials focused on strengthening relationships with current Indigenous recipients. The department gathered input on program improvements and effectiveness through questionnaires, virtual and in-person meetings, and

many recipients also contributed to a formal program evaluation to help ensure the next iteration of the program better addresses evolving capacity needs for meaningful participation, advancement, and leadership in the natural resource sector. Some partners faced capacity or availability constraints that limited timely feedback, underscoring the value of offering multiple engagement options to reduce administrative burden. As the evaluation progresses and program renewal advances, Indigenous partners will continue to provide feedback on the analysis, findings, program design, key performance indicators, and expected outcomes.

With respect to the Indigenous Loan Guarantee Program initiative, NRCan noted that formal engagement took place prior to 2025-26, with the Investment Analysis and Due Diligence program function shifting to delivery on April 1, 2025. During this phase, targeted engagement with Indigenous partners was undertaken to promote the funding stream and encourage applications from those groups that would benefit most from the capacity funding as the program concluded at the end of March 2026. The program is expected to undergo a third-party review in 2026-27 as part of the mandate outlined for program operations in connection with the Indigenous Loan Guarantee Program. This review may include further consultation and cooperation, but will not be led by NRCan.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One First Nation partner believes this Action Plan measure has potential if Indigenous partners are offered financing in a non-coercive manner and they are given the room to make an informed decision. Using funds secured from NRCan in 2024-25, one Métis partner advanced Métis participation in natural resource development. The funding supported Métis governments as equity partners, streamlined access to loans and strategic supports, and strengthened governance and economic opportunities in the critical minerals sector, which contributed to the Critical Minerals Perspectives Paper.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Launch of the Indigenous Natural Resource Partnerships program in November 2022. [NRCan]	Complete	NA
2	In-depth engagements with Indigenous groups. [NRCan]	Underway	Medium-term
3	Delivery of contribution funding through contribution agreements (Investment Analysis and Due Diligence/Indigenous Loan Guarantee Program). [NRCan]	Underway	Short-term
4	Launch and use of Investment Analysis and Due Diligence capacity funding of the Indigenous Loan Guarantee Program on April 1, 2025. [NRCan]	Complete	NA
5	Published National Benefits Sharing Framework What We Heard report. [NRCan]	Complete	NA

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 34

Enhancing participation in natural resource projects regulated by the CER

Lead department(s)	Natural Resources Canada (NRCan), Canada Energy Regulator (CER)	Related articles	18, 19, 23, 29, 31, 32
		Related APMs	SP12, SP32, SP66, SP67, SP74, SP101

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Yes

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

NRCan completed Phase 2 engagement with Indigenous groups and stakeholders to inform the potential development of proposed Indigenous Ministerial Arrangements Regulations. If developed, the regulations would enable arrangements to be negotiated between Indigenous governing bodies and the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources to undertake specified powers, duties, and functions under the [Canadian Energy Regulator Act](#). NRCan launched an Indigenous participant funding program in 2025-26 with funding up to \$2.4 million that received 77 applications, and published a What We Heard Report 2024-25. Themes within this report informed a January 2026 Discussion Paper on the potential development of proposed regulations on issues related to governance, capacity building, and regulatory development approaches. Input on the Discussion Paper is being considered in the potential development of a proposed regulatory package.

There has been significant progress on the review of the CER's Onshore Pipeline Regulations and Filing Manuals to improve the regulator's oversight of impacts to the rights and interests of Indigenous peoples, and socio-economic effects and engagement requirements. In 2025-26, the CER completed its second phase of engagement (Phase 2). During this engagement phase, the CER led or participated in over 115 sessions with First Nations, Metis Governments and communities, industry and other stakeholders. Over \$2.6 million in participant funding was provided to support Indigenous participation in this stage of review. The CER received over 125 submissions representing about 3500 individual comments or suggestions about 13 topic papers. Work is now underway, including engagement with the CER's Board of Directors and the Indigenous Advisory Committee to draft the regulatory proposal and to update sections of the Filing Manuals. The CER also began planning for its third phase of engagement (Phase 3), anticipated to be launched in Fall 2026. The regulator also conducted a regulatory pilot, conducting two mock compliance verification activities. The purpose of these mock activities was to test

a compliance verification process to involve Indigenous Peoples in overseeing pipeline activities that could affect their rights and interests.

A systemic model to enhance Indigenous Peoples' involvement in compliance and oversight (Systemic Model) is in the first of a multi-phased process. Through early engagement, this initiative has benefited from the guidance of the CER Indigenous Advisory Committee, the Co-Chairs of the Trans Mountain Expansion and Enbridge Line 3 Replacement (Line 3) Indigenous Advisory and Monitoring Committees, as well as the CER's Board of Directors. In addition, the CER, in collaboration with NRCan and Indigenous partners participating in Indigenous Advisory and Monitoring Committee Line 3, have updated the Committee's Terms of Reference to explicitly reference the Systemic Model which will help clarify Line 3's role in contributing to and informing the Systemic Model's development. Lastly, CER is finalizing a co-written What We Heard report with Indigenous technical experts that reflects input from Indigenous partners on their desired role in compliance and oversight of the Nova Gas Transmission Ltd System. This will help inform and shape the next steps on the Systemic Model.

A Leadership Table for this Action Plan measure consisting of the Indigenous Co-Chairs of the Indigenous Advisory and Monitoring Committees for Line 3 and the Trans Mountain Expansion, CER, and NRCan leadership is in place with established Terms of Reference to collaborate to drive the successful implementation of Shared Priority 34.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

NRCan, with support from CER, worked collaboratively to engage and inform the development of proposed Indigenous Ministerial Arrangements Regulations. CER provided subject matter expertise on NRCan's engagement materials, produced engagement materials on the CER's mandate, tools, and operations, and supported engagements with CER officials, where possible. A What We Heard report will be circulated in Fall 2026, following engagements which took place in 2025-26.

The CER noted that, while formal Phase 2 engagement for the Onshore Pipeline Regulations and Filing Manuals update concluded on March 31, 2025, additional consultation and cooperation activities occurred during the 2025-26 fiscal year as partners provided additional submissions and requested meetings. Engagement also took place with Indigenous partners through the Indigenous Advisory and Monitoring Committees, the Indigenous Oversight Forum for the Nova Gas Transmission Line system, and the Shared Priority 34 Leadership Table. Phase 3 engagement will seek to consult and cooperate with Indigenous partners by soliciting feedback on the draft regulatory proposal and Filing Manual changes. Phase 3 activities will include requesting written feedback and, in the case of the Onshore Pipeline Regulations, information sessions and meetings upon request. The CER also provided a progress report to members of its Indigenous Advisory Committee and provided guidance on initiative implementation and planning.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

In 2025-26, the terms of reference for the Leadership Table, that guides the overall implementation of Shared Priority 34, were adopted and the group met to establish outcomes and indicators of success. The Indigenous Caucus for the Indigenous Advisory and Monitoring Committee – Trans Mountain

Expansion conducted engagement of its constituent communities through a Line Wide gathering focused on the theme of Indigenous Regulatory Excellence. Work in 2025-26 focused on concrete actions to create a systemic model for Indigenous monitoring and advice. Some partners felt this Action Plan measure has potential to enhance Indigenous participation in natural resources projects, especially through the Indigenous Ministerial Regulations Arrangements, but its ability to succeed in the long term must still be determined. They indicated that trust building, with greater transparency and on-the-ground engagement, will be important. Previous experience has provided some positive working relationships with federal officials and has helped to advance the work, though barriers to creativity and partnership still exist. In general, partners advocated for greater inclusion of Indigenous worldviews in the regulatory space, noting the importance of both public and Indigenous interests. Some Métis partners engaged with NRCan to advance Métis participation in the proposed Indigenous Ministerial Arrangements Regulations strategy and apply co-development principles in its delivery. They also promoted federal recognition of Métis governance to strengthen regulatory involvement and decision-making related to lands and resources.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Phase 1 and 2 engagement on the proposed Indigenous Ministerial Arrangements Regulations and considerations to help inform the development of regulations. [NRCan]	Complete	NA
2	Phase 3 engagement on the draft regulatory proposal for the proposed Indigenous Ministerial Arrangements Regulations. [NRCan]	Planning	Medium-term
3	Publication in Canada Gazette Part I of the proposed Indigenous Ministerial Arrangements Regulations. [NRCan]	Not started	Long-term
4	Publication in Canada Gazette Part II of the Indigenous Ministerial Arrangements Regulations. [NRCan].	Not started	Long-term
5	Phase 3 Engagement on the draft regulatory proposal for the Onshore Pipeline Regulations. [CER]	Planning	Medium-term
6	Phase 3 Engagement on draft Filing Manual changes. [CER]	Planning	Medium-term
7	Publication of updated Filing Manual. [CER]	Planning	Medium-term
8	Publication in Canada Gazette Part I following the Onshore Pipeline Regulations review. [CER]	Not started	Long-term
9	Publication in Canada Gazette Part II of the Onshore Pipeline Regulations. [CER]	Not started	Long-term
10	Inform the development of the systemic model through consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples, industry, and other governmental departments and agencies. [CER]	Underway	Long-term
11	Implement/pilot a systemic model to enhance Indigenous Peoples' involvement in compliance and oversight of CER-regulated infrastructure. [CER]	Not started	Long-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 35

Harvesting rights and Parks Canada

Lead department(s)	Parks Canada (PC)	Related articles	11, 12, 13, 29
		Related APMs	SP95, SP96, SP97, SP110

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Yes
Requires regulation	Yes

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (2)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	Yes (2)

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

During 2025-26 fiscal year, draft guidance on supporting Indigenous harvesting requests was developed and an overview of the status of harvesting in heritage places was presented to the PC Indigenous Stewardship Circle, an advisory body of Indigenous thought leaders, for discussion and review of next steps.

The second Indigenous ceremonial bison hunt was held in Banff National Park between Oct-Dec 2025, led by the Indigenous Advisory Circle for Banff National Park. This harvest is a significant step in strengthening Indigenous partnerships, renewing connections to the land, and revitalizing ceremonial and cultural hunting practices within Banff National Parks. A sub-circle of the Indigenous Stewardship Circle was established to advise on the development and launch of the Indigenous cultural learning framework and program, and an internal to PC learning campus was developed to provide a centralized learning portal. Additional resources will be required for national-scale consultations as this work advances.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

The department noted that consultation and cooperation continued with regards to proposed National Marine Conservation Area General Regulations in relation to the interactions with, and potential barriers to exercise of Indigenous harvesting rights, with the Assembly of First Nations and co-management boards within the conservation areas. Work also advanced with the Banff Indigenous Circle to co-develop the approach for the ceremonial bison harvest in Banff National Park. PC maintains a partnership-based approach to communications regarding harvesting and develops messages in collaboration with Indigenous communities. Officials put significant efforts into building internal to Government and public understanding and acceptance of Indigenous harvesting within protected

heritage places as a stewardship activity that has been disrupted by colonial policy. However, dedicated additional resources to advance shared priorities with Indigenous partners continues to be a challenge.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Development and review of policy tools to support exercise of Indigenous harvesting rights supported by the Indigenous Stewardship Circle. [PC]	Underway	Medium-term
2	Development and launch of new mandatory training to support Parks Canada employees' cultural learning regarding work with Indigenous partners to support Indigenous stewardship. [PC]	Planning	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 36

Fishing rights – legislative, regulatory, or policy amendments and reforms

Lead department(s)	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, DFO partnered with the Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nations Chiefs Secretariat and the First Nations Fisheries Council of British Columbia to convene workshops in relation to the modernization of the Policy for the Management of Aboriginal Fishing (1993 Policy). The purpose of these workshops was to engage with Indigenous participants and organizations on policy topics related to Indigenous fishing, and discuss forward direction for the project. Additionally, DFO consulted Indigenous partners on a draft Communal Commercial Fisheries Licensing Policy for Eastern Canada to hear their information and perspectives.

DFO also noted that any potential changes to communal commercial licensing in Eastern Canada under this Action Plan measure would be pursued using currently available departmental resources and funding. However, any potential future in-person engagements or consultations with Indigenous partners would require additional project funding.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

As noted above, DFO partnered with the Atlantic Policy Congress of First Nations Chiefs Secretariat and the First Nations Fisheries Council of British Columbia to convene workshops to support engagement on the 1993 Policy. Separate conversations were held on East and West Coasts, given differing Indigenous fishing contexts, and to account for various perspectives from Indigenous partners. Nationally, four workshops were held in 2025-26. The department also continued to meet with Indigenous communities and organizations in Eastern Canada to understand their perspectives on the draft Communal Commercial Fisheries Licensing Policy for Eastern Canada and where changes could be made to better reflect their visions and interests.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Some First Nation partners have recommended that the [Species at Risk Act](#) be reformed to ensure full participation of First Nations in the identification, protection and recovery of species at risk.

One Modern Treaty partner noted that it has invested significant time and resources trying to work with DFO to remove barriers and restrictions on fisheries and barriers presented by other fishery sectors that marginalize their participation in the domestic and economic fisheries and inhibit meaningful implementation and exercise of treaty rights.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 37

Collaborative fisheries management and fish habitat conservation

Lead department(s)	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

DFO work continued across Canada to strengthen collaborative governance, agreements, and transparent approaches to support shared fisheries management with Indigenous partners. In the Pacific Region, implementation of the 2021 Coastal First Nations Fisheries Resources Reconciliation Agreement and Incremental Reconciliation Agreement for Fisheries Resources with the Five Nations remained key examples of collaborative fisheries governance. New long-term fisheries arrangements were signed in early 2026, including the A-Tlegay Reconciliation Agreement for Fisheries Resources, Musqueam Fisheries Agreement, and Musqueam Stewardship and Marine Management Agreement. On the East Coast, 7 Rights Reconciliation Agreements with Mi'kmaq, Wolastoqey, and Peskotomuhkati Nations continued to implement collaborative management structures capable of providing joint recommendations to the Minister. The Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program continued advancing the implementation of consultation protocols, based on successes of the Consultation Protocols with the Kitselas First Nation, to further the collaboration with Indigenous Peoples to improve program delivery, strengthen staff understanding of Indigenous Nations' interests, and reinforce relationships. The Department noted that no dedicated funding has been allocated for the implementation of this Action Plan measure, and all activities are being carried out using existing funding initiatives.

Building on the success of the co-developed and signed Consultation Protocols with the Kitselas First Nation, DFO continued to work with Indigenous Peoples to develop program-specific, regional, and case-by-case, operational guidelines to assist staff throughout the consultation process by providing clarity on existing requirements and timelines, thereby enhancing program delivery, deepening staff understanding of Indigenous Nations' interests, and strengthening the relationship with Indigenous Peoples.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

DFO noted several meetings were regularly held throughout 2025-26 to advance treaty and reconciliation agreements in Pacific region, such as joint executive committees, bioregional management committees, sub-regional management councils, and community-based fishery sub-committees. Meetings were also held with Treaty Nations in the East Coast as part of their Rights and Reconciliation Agreements, and exploratory discussions on collaborative fisheries management proceeded with 18 of the 20 Treaty Nations that rejected the Rights and Reconciliation Agreements mandate. DFO also engaged with the Listuguj Mi'gmaq Government in Quebec regarding the renewal of their Rights and Reconciliation Agreement set to expire in 2026. DFO noted that the new Indigenous committee for Atlantic seals was created and met twice in 2025-26, providing a platform for Indigenous participants to discuss and develop recommendations on a range of issues related to Atlantic seals, with potential for application to other fishery advisory processes in the future. Virtual round tables were held with Indigenous organizations from across the country to discuss how the Fish and Fish Habitat Protection Program can increase collaboration and early engagement with Indigenous partners on the conservation and protection of fish and fish habitat. The outcomes from these engagements will inform the approach of the program. Factors that have been found to be important for working with Indigenous Peoples include early engagement, sufficient funding, reasonable timelines to respond to requests, and holding in-person meetings.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One partner noted that work with DFO, as well as with Transport Canada, Environment and Climate Change Canada, the Canadian Coast Guard, and the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada resulted in some regulatory improvements (for example, oil response regulations) and some improvements that are underway (for example, establishing response regulations for hazardous and noxious substances). However, many regulatory gaps remain including shared decision making, invasive species, anchorages, and a compensation regime.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	In collaboration with Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada, continue to explore ways to advance Aboriginal and treaty rights and interests with Indigenous partners across Canada, through the development or implementation of reconciliation agreements and other collaborative, governance tables and opportunities. [DFO]	Implementation ongoing	Long-term
2	Creation of two-year pilot of the Indigenous Atlantic Seals Committee to support collaborative development, delivery, and management of Atlantic seals. [DFO]	Underway	Long-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 38

Capacity funding for fisheries, oceans and marine-related services and decision-making

Lead department(s)	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	SP42

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, DFO's suite of Indigenous Collaborative Programs delivered more than \$60 million in ongoing contributions to support the monitoring and stewardship objectives of more than 200 Indigenous program participants across the country. This includes continuous investment in the staffing and deployment of over 1,600 full and part-time positions filling managerial, scientific, technical and Indigenous Guardian roles. Collectively, this capacity represents a broad network of Indigenous leadership, expertise and knowledge that contributes to range of advisory and decision-making processes, whether community-based, governmental, or private sector. Core funding delivered through the programs was further supplemented by flexible short-term investments in the training, tools and activities relied on by Indigenous communities and organizations as they advance and grow different fisheries, habitat and marine-related service offerings. The programs also made focused investments in Resource Management Officer Technician training involving nearly 70 people from 35 participating Indigenous communities, took important steps in the co-development of strategies to increase awareness and recognition of Indigenous leadership and excellence, and worked to advance the co-design of tools, practices and performance metrics that can improve administrative efficiency and better communicate the successes and challenges experienced in the fisheries and aquatic resource management space.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

DFO noted that Indigenous Collaborative Programs rely on several different co-development, co-design, and co-delivery processes to ensure effective engagement and cooperation with Indigenous partners. This includes the holding of 10 monthly meetings with each of the joint DFO-Indigenous Collaborative Programs Management Committee and National Aboriginal Aquatic Resource and Oceans Management Steering Committee, as well as bi-weekly planning discussions with the third-party and Indigenous-led Capacity Development Team. Meetings were held with the goal of facilitating continuous dialogue on

program implementation and improvement, specifically as it relates to the capacity building objectives of its Indigenous partners. Further consultation and cooperation occurred at the local level, with regional DFO staff regularly engaging more than 200 Indigenous communities and organizations in fisheries and aquatic resource management work-planning, budget development and related results reporting and knowledge sharing. Consultation and cooperation is expected to continue into 2026-27, as this is embedded into DFO's Indigenous Collaborative Programs.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 39

Support for fisheries Guardians

Lead department(s)	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

DFO is advancing work to support the development of training for new designated Aboriginal Fishery Guardians, this also included a comprehensive framework to address policy needs, training gaps, and curriculum design. This work is advancing collaboratively with Guardians, Indigenous Knowledge holders, and departmental representatives to ensure the curriculum meets both departmental and community needs, and is complemented by a draft policy, developed with multiple Indigenous groups, on minimum standard equipment for Guardians. In 2025-26, funding to advance this initiative was reallocated from other areas of the department through risk management exercises.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Please see above how DFO has advanced this Action Plan measure in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners, such as to develop a comprehensive training framework that addresses policy development, updates, and training gaps.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	The curriculum developer, in collaboration with program officials, Indigenous groups, and Indigenous subject matter experts, finalizes initial assessment of training material, new training program development, and standardization. [DFO]	Underway	Medium-term
2	Collaboratively review and update operational policies with Indigenous groups, including collaborative management,	Underway	Long-term

	strengthening relationship building strategies, and integrating Indigenous Knowledge and practices. [DFO]		
3	Identify, review and update policies and procedures, ensuring the enhancement of professionalism, safety and security, promoting national consistency, and the reinforcement of cultural sensitivities. [DFO]	Underway	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 40

Incorporation of Indigenous knowledge related to fisheries

Lead department(s)	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)	Related articles	28, 29, 32
		Related APMs	SP30, SP37, SP38, SP39, SP41, SP42

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

DFO continued to build capacity and create mechanisms in collaboration with Indigenous Peoples to ensure Indigenous Knowledge and Indigenous data are meaningfully included in departmental programs, policies, and decision-making processes in ways that are respectful, culturally informed and aligned with Indigenous priorities. The recently finalized Framework for Aquatic Species at Risk Conservation will guide improvements to conservation outcomes by supporting multi-species approaches under the [Species at Risk Act](#). New governance models are advancing shared decision-making by integrating Indigenous Knowledge into collaborative conservation efforts across the Pacific, Arctic, and Quebec regions. To build shared understandings around priorities and barriers for Indigenous data sovereignty in the context of safeguarding and respectful use of Indigenous Knowledge, seven workshops have been held with First Nations communities and a joint First Nations-DFO task force was established to support cross-Canada engagement. Additionally DFO analyzed over 20 reports to better understand Indigenous perspectives and recommendations related to the inclusion of Indigenous Knowledge in fisheries, ocean protection, and federal decision-making.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

DFO began early outreach in 2025-26 with the Assembly of First Nations and several co-governance tables to share information on how the Department currently respects and includes Indigenous Knowledge in programs, policies and decision-making processes, as well as the proposed implementation approach and associated engagement plans. The joint First Nations-DFO task force will guide engagement prioritized around practices and protocols of respecting and safeguarding Indigenous data and knowledge. The Department has also worked with several communities to integrate Indigenous Knowledge, including integrating the concept of "Etuaptmumk", or "Two-Eyed Seeing", across various Marine Planning and Conservation initiatives, documenting ancestral territories of First Nation

communities in Quebec, working with Kitasoo Xai'xais Nation and additional collaborators on the “*Git qmsistá (people of the moon tipped over): learning together to revitalize herring*” project to provide guidance on Pacific herring management, and providing support for Inuit Guardians (Nauttiqsuqtiit) and enabling Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit as a foundation for long-term marine protection in Inuit Protected and Conserved Areas. The approach to engagement will continue to advance this Action Plan measure in a transparent, accountable manner that is guided by Indigenous Peoples and respects the right to self-determination.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Engage with Indigenous Organizations, Governments, and Partners to ensure meaningful inclusion of Indigenous worldviews, principles and protocols related to Indigenous Knowledge and Indigenous Data Sovereignty. [DFO]	Implementation ongoing	Long-term
2	Co-delivery of workshops and development of workshop reports on Indigenous Data Sovereignty and its application to the safeguarding and respectful use of Indigenous Knowledge. [DFO]	Complete	NA
3	Co-develop departmental policy on Indigenous Data Sovereignty, including safeguarding of Indigenous Knowledge, through a joint Indigenous and DFO task force. [DFO]	Underway	Long-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 41

Collaborative Pacific Salmon Strategy Initiative Implementation

Lead department(s)	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)	Related articles	3, 25, 29, 32
		Related APMs	SP36, SP37, SP38, MT13

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, implementation continued to focus on advancing collaborative salmon actions, processes and policy modernization supported by the Pacific Salmon Strategy Initiative. Progress on collaborative actions included ongoing partnerships to support salmon enhancement, Indigenous harvest transformation projects, Indigenous-led stewardship/salmon restoration/innovation, and collaborative planning and response to extreme climate events affecting Pacific salmon.

DFO continued to support twelve collaborative salmon processes with First Nations through Pacific Salmon Strategy Initiative, including integrated rebuilding of Nanaimo River Chinook with the Snuneymuxw First Nation, implementation of the Fraser Salmon Management Board (78 signatory First Nations in the Fraser River watershed), and the new Trilateral Salmon Accord. DFO is collaborating with BC First Nations and the Yukon Salmon Sub-Committee to update the Pacific Salmon Allocation Policy and develop distinct versions for Yukon and British Columbia.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025-26, DFO consulted, cooperated, and collaborated with First Nations in British Columbia and the Yukon through the implementation of a subset of Pacific Salmon Strategy Initiative actions, processes, and policy modernization activities that involve a high degree of collaboration. Shared Priority 41 implementation was also profiled again in 2025-26 as a key topic for the Assembly of First Nations Fisheries Committee as part of a broader DFO presentation at First Nations Fisheries Council of British Columbia's 2025 Annual General Assembly. As part of the Salmon Allocation Policy Review in British Columbia, the Department undertook a broad, external consultation process in which all British Columbia First Nations were invited to provide feedback on proposed changes to the policy. DFO also met with individual First Nations and First Nation organizations to discuss potential changes. Moving

forward, this Action Plan measure will continue to be advanced under the renewed Pacific Salmon Strategy Initiative.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	DFO will continue to engage with First Nations to seek guidance and perspectives about implementation now and into the future. [DFO]	Implementation ongoing	Long-term
2	DFO will continue to implement collaborative actions with First Nations to protect and revitalize salmon populations and their habitat. [DFO]	Implementation ongoing	Long-term
3	DFO will continue to implement collaborative processes and discuss collaborative policy modernization to protect and revitalize salmon populations and their habitat where appropriate. [DFO]	Implementation ongoing	Long-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 42

Marine Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas

Lead department(s)	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)	Related articles	20, 25, 29, 32
		Related APMs	SP36, SP37, SP38, SP39, SP40

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The Government of Canada has worked with First Nations and Inuit to empower Indigenous-led marine conservation and advance Shared Priority 42 using transformative innovative financing approaches and collaborative governance.

DFO collaborated with federal partners, First Nations, and the Province of British Columbia to implement the Great Bear Sea project finance for performance Agreement and Marine Protected Area Network Action Plan, supporting the establishment and stewardship of a collaboratively governed network of marine protected and conserved areas with long-term conservation funding. Once fully implemented, the network will add over 30,000 square kilometres of new and enhanced marine protected areas, with sites applying dual designation as Government of Canada and Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas. DFO also partnered with the Haida Nation to establish two co managed Marine Refuges in G̱aw Káahlii (Masset Inlet) and X̱aana Kaahlii (Skidegate Inlet), covering approximately 29.58 square kilometres.

DFO also collaborated with the Qikiqtani Inuit Association to advance the implementation of the SINAA Project Finance for Permanence Agreement. The SINAA conservation plan lists many proposed and existing marine protected and conserved areas that is aimed to be federally protected and that Qikiqtani Inuit Association aspires to designate as Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas. DFO is committed to supporting Qikiqtani Inuit Association in their efforts to designated all sites as Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas.

In addition, DFO worked with the Qikiqtani Inuit Association to advance the establishment of the Qikiqtait and Sarvarjuaq Oceans Act Marine Protected Areas

which were established on March 28, 2026, and are anticipated to be dually designated as Government of Canada and Inuit Protected and Conserved Areas. These two areas together cover more than 116,000

square kilometres and are the first sites to be designated under the SINAA Project Finance for Permanence Agreement.

Finally, DFO collaborated with the Assembly of First Nations' Water Sector to jointly identify policy opportunities, gaps, and challenges for future policy work to advance marine Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas with First Nations, and re-engaged with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, alongside federal partners, to advance Inuit led marine conservation through policy development and a whole of government approach across Inuit Nunangat.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

DFO delivers on consultation commitments through site establishment processes for Marine Protected Areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, and through the implementation of agreements that support Indigenous-led conservation. During 2025-26, progress on consultation and cooperation activities to advance marine Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas continued, but several barriers affected the pace and consistency of engagement. Within the department, organizational capacity constraints contributed to delays. Staff availability, competing priorities, and the need for specialized expertise affected the ability to advance work in a timely and coordinated manner, including follow-up with partners and preparation of materials required for collaborative discussions. Some Indigenous partners likewise faced limited capacity, including small teams managing multiple government processes and regional initiatives simultaneously. These pressures affected their ability to engage as frequently or as deeply as desired, contributing to slower progression in some areas. Capacity challenges cited by Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami have also limited DFO's ability to engage on Inuit Protected and Conserved Areas and DFO-specific matters.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Collaborative workshops and co-development of a document with the Assembly of First Nations to support First Nations in advancing marine Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas. [DFO]	Underway	Medium-term
2	Establishment of Marine Protected Areas and Marine Refuges, and Indigenous/Inuit Protected and Conserved Areas under the Great Bear Sea and SINAA Project Finance for Permanence Agreements. [DFO]	Underway	Long-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 43

Addressing systemic racism in enforcement of fisheries laws and regulations

Lead department(s)	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

A key priority of DFO's Conservation and Protection work is to amplify the voices of Indigenous people in Canada. A recurring theme across initiatives is centered on listening to feedback from various Indigenous groups and Knowledge Holders. Indigenous cultural awareness training begins at the cadet stage during the Fishery Officer Initial Training program which includes 3 days of mandatory Indigenous perceptions training. During 2025-26, 3 of these trainings were facilitated in-person, each including presentations by an Elder for a full day. Elders also attended the Graduation ceremonies for cadets, including one ceremony that included the option for cadets to swear their Oath on an Eagle Feather as an alternative to swearing it on a Bible. The department also advanced work with the Indigenous Engagement Teams Network, made up of Indigenous Engagement Teams in each region and at National Headquarters that meets monthly. This group works on coordination of efforts and finding efficiencies while sharing best practices. Work also continued with the Indigenous Fishery Officer Network, and while the annual in-person meeting was not possible with all Indigenous Fishery Officer Network members, a smaller meeting with a Steering Committee made up of Regional Representatives was held to advance work on key items and priority setting that will contribute to reducing systemic racism.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

All the training organized by the Indigenous Engagement Programs of Conservation and Protection is delivered by Indigenous providers or co-facilitated internally with Indigenous employees. When any policies or procedures are developed, they are done by contacting Indigenous Knowledge holders directly to have them inform how the new procedure should be done. Additionally, opportunities for in-person meetings allow employees to listen to community members who can share their priorities and proposals for how to make meaningful change. Through the Indigenous Engagement Team with Conservation and Protection, DFO will continue to amplify and the voices of Indigenous people through

training opportunities, cultural experiences delivered by Indigenous groups, and other opportunities to consult and cooperate whenever possible.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Host third annual event in support of the Indigenous Fishery Officer Network. [DFO]	Complete	NA
2	Short-term work assignment created for current Indigenous employee to broaden work experience and to collaborate on Indigenous programs with a National scope. [DFO]	Implementation ongoing	Long-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 44

National aquaculture legislation

Lead department(s)	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Planning
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	Yes
Requires regulation	Yes

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

DFO noted that departmental resources have focused on the transition of salmon aquaculture in British Columbia, the outcomes of which will inform the development of the proposed federal *Aquaculture Act*.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

DFO noted that it has not undertaken consultation or cooperation with Indigenous partners within 2025-26 as work on the proposed *Aquaculture Act* is delayed.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 45

Aligning DND and CAF programs with the UN Declaration

Lead department(s)	Department of National Defence (DND)	Related articles	30
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Planning
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Funding not required
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

DND and the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) continued to progress this Action Plan measure by continuing engagement on DND and CAF processes and mechanisms. A new tracking device was developed to ensure that all engagements with Indigenous communities are tracked as to better inform the formal processes of co-developing future policies and frameworks. Both DND and the CAF are aligning programs and activities with Article 30 of the UN Declaration, and other relevant articles where applicable. This work is being done using existing resources and, if required, additional support and consultations can be funded through an internal grants and contributions program.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

DND and CAF regularly consult with Indigenous partners on a range of topics including military activities, funding allotments, as well as infrastructure and procurement processes. For example, DND and CAF met with community members in Rigolet, Postville and Cartwright to discuss access and activity planning in Happy Valley–Goose Bay in relation to air force processes. Recognizing that communities may at times face resource barriers to effective engagement, where required DND and CAF now offers funding to support engagement and consultation activities. Both federal organizations are in the process of co-developing engagement and consultation Protocol Agreements that will help continue to build and maintain strong Crown-Indigenous relationships, while the Agreement itself can support engagement processes or in fulfilling the duty to consult.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Milestones and key performance indicators to be co-developed with Indigenous partners in fiscal year 2026-27. [DND]	Planning	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 46

Indigenous Climate Leadership Agenda

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)	Related articles	18, 20, 23, 29
		Related APMs	MT1

Status	On hold
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The Indigenous Climate Leadership Agenda was on hold in 2025-26 as governmental priorities continue to evolve. Federal implementation of Indigenous climate recommendations has not yet been realized. Through bilateral engagement with Indigenous governments and organizations across Canada, as well as through the three distinctions-based Senior Bilateral Tables on Clean Growth and Climate Change with First Nations, Inuit and Métis, Indigenous partners have continued to articulate that advancing Indigenous climate priorities through implementation of the Indigenous Climate Leadership Agenda is a key priority. Co-development of the agenda is complete, however federal support is required to advance implementation.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

As policy and fiscal authorities are required to implement the co-developed approach, no consultation and cooperation on the Indigenous Climate Leadership Agenda occurred in 2025-26. However, conversations regarding Indigenous-led climate action will continue in 2026-27 at the distinctions-based Senior Bilateral Tables on Clean Growth and Climate Change and by request of Indigenous governments and organizations.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One First Nation partner acknowledged the ongoing consultation and engagement, however they believe that a substantive action plan is required for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 47

Indigenous leadership in conservation

Lead department(s)	Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)	Related articles	3, 29, 32
		Related APMs	SP67

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	Yes (4)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, Indigenous conservation initiatives focused on advancing Indigenous-led stewardship, governance, and capacity. Indigenous Guardians supported 86 ongoing initiatives - including 70 First Nations, 9 Inuit and 7 Métis Guardians initiatives - as well as 47 new First Nations Guardians initiatives, under distinct governance models co-developed with Indigenous partners. The Indigenous Partnerships Initiative supported 79 Indigenous-led projects emphasizing restoration, monitoring, Indigenous knowledge gathering, and capacity-building for the conservation of caribou, grizzly bear, bison, polar bear and other culturally significant species. Funding from the Indigenous Partnerships Initiative continued to support [Species at Risk Act](#) consultation and cooperation activities with dozens of communities. Projects led by the Assembly of First Nations, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, and Métis National Council provided insights on species at risk and culturally significant species, as well as distinct Indigenous approaches to the stewardship of nature. A national gathering highlighted Indigenous partners' views that the Indigenous Partnerships Initiative has been a uniquely flexible funding mechanism that honoured and reflected participants' cultural values, advanced their communities' conservation priorities, and recognized the value of Indigenous knowledge and its transfer to youth. ECCC also worked with more than 20 Indigenous partners, the Government of the Northwest Territories (NWT), and philanthropic donors to negotiate and launch the NWT: Our Land for the Future Project Finance for Permanence initiative, establishing the Our Land for the Future Trust. The Trust enables Indigenous-led projects under an Indigenous-led governance model, with the first suite of projects now approved for funding. Through the Indigenous-Led Area-Based Conservation initiative, ECCC supported approximately 65 projects with 70 partners to plan and establish Indigenous-led and co-led protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, enabling relationship building, providing opportunities for Indigenous partners to work collaboratively with provinces and territories on land use planning, and identifying areas for conservation and socio-economic outcomes.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

As noted above, ECCC worked with Indigenous partners to advance Indigenous-led stewardship and conservation through multiple collaborative activities. In June 2025, the First Nations National Guardians Network hosted over 200 Guardians, Elders, youth, and community leaders in British Columbia to strengthen Indigenous-led stewardship. Additionally, in December 2025, the First Nations National Guardians Network and the Government of Canada jointly announced 47 First Nations Guardians initiatives through ECCC's Indigenous Guardians program. To better consult and cooperate with Indigenous partners, ECCC sought to apply a distinctions-based approach, implement flexible contribution agreements, and initiate engagement early to ensure respectful and transparent collaboration. ECCC co-designed the agenda for the Indigenous Partnerships Initiative National Gathering in February 2026 with the Assembly of First Nations, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, and Métis National Council, focusing on Indigenous-led conservation of species at risk and culturally significant species. The [Species at Risk Act](#) Consultation, Cooperation and Accommodation project continued to support Indigenous participation in implementation, while reporting timelines and funding scope were adapted to better reflect Indigenous partners' capacity and priorities. Canada supported planning, implementation and partner engagement for the Indigenous-led NWT: Our Land for the Future Project Finance for Permanence initiative through participation in the Our Land for the Future Partners Table.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Some partners expressed concern about the limited funding available and stressed the importance of providing sustainable funding to advance work focused on lands and stewardship, including Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas. One partner noted that discussions with ECCC on enforcement continued in 2025-26 and confirmed their ability to enforce treaty migratory bird provisions but no other environmental priorities. One Métis partner recommended that Canada reintroduce the *Nature Accountability Act* to be consistent with the Declaration. Priority actions should include establishing a "Nature & Rights" table with ECCC, CIRNAC, Métis Governments, and the Métis National Council to coordinate protected areas, Guardians programs, and environmental monitoring; finalizing a Métis Environmental Monitoring framework with predictable funding and reporting; clarifying ministerial responsibilities through an interdepartmental system to deliver nature commitments; and providing resources to support Métis-led engagement that centers the voices of women, youth, Elders, and 2SLGBTQI+ people.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Examine options to establish Métis and Inuit Guardians Networks or alternative governance structures ensuring that distinctions-based approaches respect and recognize the unique perspectives, needs and interests of partners. [ECCC]	Underway	Short-term
2	Funding agreements between the NWT: Our Land for the Future Trust and ultimate (all Indigenous) recipients are executed for first year of projects. [ECCC]	Underway	Short-term

3	Creation of an Indigenous-led, NWT-specific Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for the NWT: Our Land for the Future. [ECCC]	Underway	Medium-term
4	Indigenous-Led Area Based-Conservation program sunsets March 2026. [ECCC]	Complete	NA
5	Indigenous Partnerships Initiative funding program sunsets March 2026. [ECCC]	Complete	NA

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 48

Indigenous science in ECCC scientific inquiry

Lead department(s)	Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (3)
Developed with partners	Yes (2)
Can be disaggregated	Yes (1)

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The Indigenous Science Division at ECCC, established in January 2022 as an Indigenous-led division, brings together Indigenous science on par with Western science to improve decision-making, guided by principles such as Rematriation, Reconciliation, Respect, and Reciprocity. The division develops an Indigenous lens for ECCC's science, policy, and programs, builds equitable partnerships with Indigenous Knowledge Holders, aligns science planning with Indigenous governments and communities, and supports Indigenous methodologies, language and cultural revitalization, and recognition of local and regional Indigenous science capacities. Within the 2025-26 fiscal year, Indigenous Science Division projects have included the Aki Navigators, the Anishinaabemowin Language Series, the Indigenous Stewardship Research Program, the IndigenEthics Project, the Indigenous Voices in Science Series, and work on Indigenous Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. However, existing resources are largely project-based and time-limited, constraining the divisions ability to sustain long-term partnerships with Indigenous communities and governments, Knowledge Holders, and to meet increasing demand from internal divisions for Indigenous science expertise, document review, and governance participation.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

The Indigenous Science Division has engaged with a number of Indigenous communities. For example, they engage regularly with the Ugpi'ganjig First Nation and the Gespe'gewagi Institute of Natural Resources to address climate change priorities, funding and capacity gaps in support of a community-led Calm Gardens restoration initiative. In addition, work with the Aki Navigators, which lead Indigenous community engagement and provide technical guidance to project staff, integrated health, safety and environmental requirements into project planning and implementation. Lastly, in collaboration with the Wildlife Research Division within ECCC, the Williams Lake First Nation, and the University of Northern British Columbia, the weaving section of the Indigenous Science Division is co-developing a research

program that seeks to elevate, advance, and mobilize Indigenous scientific understandings of terrestrial ecosystem-level responses to Secwépemc-guided land stewardship across Secwepemcúlecw in interior British Columbia.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	The Voices of Indigenous Science Series aims to elevate Indigenous scientists to speak on Indigenous Science. [ECCC]	Implementation ongoing	Long-term
2	Establish the Indigenous Scholars Network initiative co-developed by the Indigenous Science Division and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada through the Interdepartmental Indigenous STEM Cluster. [ECCC]	Not started	Long-term
3	Advancing Indigenous Stewardship Research to improve biodiversity, food security, and carbon storage. [ECCC]	Implementation ongoing	Long-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 49

Canada Water Agency and the *Canada Water Act*

Lead department(s)	Canada Water Agency (CWA)	Related articles	29
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The CWA reported that pre-engagement with Indigenous partners began in 2024 to gather input on engagement approaches for reviewing the Act. Pre-engagement was paused during the 2025 election and the period that followed while the CWA sought government direction and funding confirmation, with follow-up meetings used to maintain relationships and clarify prior submissions. With direction and funding confirmed through 2028-29, pre-engagement resumed in February 2026, including discussions about engagement activities supported by multi-year funding agreements. Going forward, the CWA will engage national, provincial, territorial, and regional Indigenous organizations across First Nations, Inuit, and Métis distinctions.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Pre-engagement on the [Canada Water Act](#) review was paused for the 2025 election and the period that followed while government direction and funding were confirmed. During this pause, the CWA held follow-up meetings with Indigenous partners to maintain relationships and clarify their earlier submissions. Once direction was confirmed and funding for Indigenous partners was secured through 2028-29, pre-engagement resumed in February 2026, with a focus on establishing multi-year funding agreements. However, limited funding and allocation meant some partners received only partial support for their engagement needs.

Indigenous partners emphasized that engagement should be distinctions-based, regionally tailored, and inclusive. Many partners prefer direct, bilateral, in-person discussions; while some support multi-party forums, bilateral engagement was most often identified as the preferred approach. Partners also asked for: longer lead times and flexible scheduling that respects cultural and seasonal activities; participation by a wide range of Indigenous representatives; culturally safe practices (including the use of Indigenous languages, where appropriate); clear scopes, timelines and expectations; and recognition of past input.

Indigenous partners also stressed the need for early, adequate, and flexible multi-year funding with simplified reporting. Pre-engagement will continue in 2026-27, working with distinction-based national and regional Indigenous partners.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Completion of pre-engagement phase, with a target of October 2026. [CWA]	Underway	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 50

Federal Sustainable Development Strategy

Lead department(s)	Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)	Related articles	29
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Yes
Requires regulation	Yes

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The Sustainable Development Advisory Council, created under the [Federal Sustainable Development Act](#), advises the Minister responsible for Environment and Climate Change Canada on sustainability issues and reviews draft Federal Sustainable Development Strategies. The council has 28 seats, including 6 for Indigenous Peoples, but currently only has 18 active members. The Sustainable Development Office began renewing some of the Council's seats by issuing a Notice of Opportunity in October 2024, and 3 Indigenous members were recently appointed. Within 2025-26, research has supported drafting the 2026–29 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy, including analysis of sustainable development priorities identified by National and other Indigenous organizations, and efforts have been made to ensure these groups are informed of the 120-day public consultation period and have multiple ways to provide input.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025-26, the Sustainable Development Office engaged Indigenous partners to support the development of the the public consultation plan and Indigenous engagement approach for the draft 2026-29 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy, including early outreach and consultation notices to National and regional Indigenous organizations. The Sustainable Development Office sought to leverage established mechanisms, such as Indigenous climate tables, and participated in the Goose Moon Table in February 2026 to engage Métis partners. Key limitations included difficulty maintaining consistent communication with National Indigenous Organizations due to limited capacity funding, leading to lessons learned on the importance of early notice, sufficient time, and use of trusted mechanisms to reduce engagement fatigue. Ongoing consultation and cooperation is occurring through a 120-day public consultation on the draft 2026-29 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy, open until May 12, 2026. Funding to support consultation and cooperation will depend on available resources. The Sustainable Development Office will continue, where feasible, to explore options to facilitate Indigenous

participation through low-barrier methods like virtual sessions, online questionnaires, written submissions, and support in activities delivered with external partners.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Meeting of the ECCC Minister's Sustainable Development Advisory Council to discuss the draft 2026-2029 Federal Sustainable Development Strategy. [ECCC]	Planning	Short-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 51

Impact assessments and alignment with UN Declaration

Lead department(s)	Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	Yes

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

IAAC implements the [Impact Assessment Act](#) in a manner that aligns with the objectives and spirit of the UN Declaration, emphasizing free, prior, and informed consent, protection of Indigenous rights and Indigenous Knowledge, and a collaborative consultation and cooperation model with Indigenous Peoples. During the 2025-26 fiscal year, IAAC advanced several agreements and initiatives with Indigenous groups related to project-specific consultations and knowledge-sharing, became the first federal agency to sign on to a consultation and engagement protocol between the Government of Canada and the S'ólh Téméxw Stewardship Alliance, worked with Indigenous groups on an Offshore Wind Readiness Team, formed an External Technical Review of project impacts, co-drafted to different extents a number of assessment reports with Indigenous groups, and published guidance on cultural safety. IAAC also funds Indigenous participation and capacity building in impact assessments and policy development through core mandate resources and dedicated programs such as the Participant Funding Program, the Indigenous Capacity Support Program, and the Policy Dialogue Program.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

At the end of the 2025-26 fiscal year, IAAC had 33 active impact assessments, of which 9 were paused awaiting proponent action or information. Other projects were in the pre-planning stage Through ongoing consultation, funding programs, partnership agreements, joint assessment committees, and collaboration with Modern Treaty Partners and the Indigenous Advisory Committee, IAAC aims to strengthen Indigenous participation and ensure Indigenous rights, interests, and perspectives are integrated in impact assessments. IAAC began modifying its processes in 2025-26, increasing provincial cooperation to reduce duplication, and advancing best practices such as early and transparent consultation. On projects with Indigenous proponents, IAAC worked closely with those proponents to promote clarity and timely decisions. In addition, IAAC undertook national engagement on federal-provincial cooperation agreements, including the One Project, One Review consultation paper and draft

agreements with several provinces (receiving over 50 Indigenous submissions, which are informing the content of agreements and their implementation). IAAC also continued negotiations and implementation of impact assessment provisions in Modern Treaties and self-government agreements.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One First Nation partner acknowledged progress in aligning implementation of the [Impact Assessment Act](#) with the UN Declaration, including Indigenous participation. However, they also recommend the measure go further on cumulative effects and respect and support for Indigenous-led assessment processes. Concerns have been raised regarding what some view as reduced oversight under the One Project, One Review approach, particularly what they see as the potential to bypass [Impact Assessment Act](#) review processes through Co-operation Agreements with individual provinces. While opportunities for public comment on the approach and resulting agreements are acknowledged, partners have shared that in their view, general requests for public input do not constitute meaningful consultation or cooperation with Indigenous governments, representative institutions, or organizations.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Publication in August 2025 of the Guidance for Proponents: Early Engagement with Indigenous Peoples in Impact Assessments under the Impact Assessment Act . [IAAC]	Complete	NA
2	Decision in September 2025 under the Impact Assessment Act enabling the Ksi Lisims LNG – Natural Gas Liquefaction and Marine Terminal Project to move to the next stage of seeking permits and authorizations. [IAAC]	Complete	NA
3	Advancing Regional Assessments in the Ring of Fire and St. Lawrence River Areas. [IAAC]	Implementation ongoing	Long-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 52

Indigenous border mobility

Lead department(s)	Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA), Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC)	Related articles	36
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	Yes
Requires regulation	Yes

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, the CBSA and IRCC, supported by Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), continued significant discussions with Indigenous partners originally started in 2023-24. These discussions are being used to inform the development of potential policy options aimed at addressing the complex border crossing and migration challenges faced by Indigenous Peoples. Temporary measures to reunite families of Indigenous People separated by Canada's border were implemented by the Minister in 2024 and the cost was covered using existing departmental resources. Any legislative changes made in the future related to these measures will require a dedicated source of funds. On a parallel track, from 2024-25 through 2026-27, the CBSA, IRCC, and CIRNAC each committed limited three-year funding to cover administration and coordination costs for the Jay Treaty Border Alliance Collaborative Initiative in support of implementing this Action Plan measure.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025-26, the CBSA and IRCC, supported by CIRNAC, continued to engage in ongoing bilateral discussions with Indigenous partners, however some activities scheduled for 2025-26 were put on hold due to the federal election and the subsequent need to appoint and brief new federal ministers. The progress of this initiative was further affected by tightly focused government priorities. Consultation and cooperation activities with Indigenous partners regarding potential additional measures to make further progress against this Action Plan measure, including legislative and regulatory changes and their implementation, will continue.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One partner shared challenges faced by some First Nation people with crossing the US-Canada border. In this regard, another partner noted that some Indigenous 2SLGBTQI+ travellers have experienced

discrimination when crossing the U.S. border and suggested that organizations representing Two-Spirit peoples be consulted to help address the complex issues that may arise in these border-crossing contexts. Partners also reiterated the importance of facilitating cross-border mobility for Indigenous Peoples whose homelands span the Canada–United States border. They emphasized the need for Canada to continue to recognize and give practical effect to the mobility rights reflected in the Jay Treaty. From the perspective of some partners, key substantive issues remain unaddressed, including their assertion of underlying rights associated passage across Canada’s international borders and use of Indigenous-issued identification documents. Proposed legislative solutions appear to have stalled and some have raised concerns that this Action Plan measure may no longer a priority.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Implementing legislative and regulatory changes. [IRCC]	Planning	Long-term
2	Implemented Temporary Measures to help Indigenous people in the U.S. reunite with their families in Canada making it easier to work, study or extend their stay in Canada for up to three years. [IRCC]	Complete	NA

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: CIRNAC

Shared Priority 53

Discussions related to R. v. Desautel decision

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	26, 33, 36
		Related APMs	MT16

Status	Underway
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The department noted that Canada is determining how to implement the Court's decision in a way that respects the rights of Indigenous Peoples. However, funding was not made available to support consultation with Indigenous Peoples on this initiative.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

CIRNAC noted responsive activities, such as providing information in fulfillment of enquiries, were the only consultation or cooperation activities conducted in 2025-26. It is not anticipated that CIRNAC will place emphasis on the implementation of this Action Plan measure in 2026-27.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Some Indigenous partners expressed that they have been unable to discuss this Action Plan measure with the Government of Canada to begin “exploratory discussions” (as mentioned in the full text of the measure). Partners have also indicated that the wording of this Action Plan measure is unclear, which they consider having contributed to limited follow-up and uncertainty regarding which federal officials or organizations are responsible for determining potential next steps. Partners also noted that if discussions are held, they should include all relevant rightsholders.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 54

First Nations and Inuit Policing Program (FNIPP)

Lead department(s)	Public Safety Canada (PS)	Related articles	35
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

PS has undertaken targeted program modernization efforts, including amendments in June 2025 and February 2026 of the Terms and Conditions of the First Nations and Inuit Policing Program. A new funding stream was formalized for Community Safety Officer initiatives (see Shared Priority 55), marking the opportunity to transition from pilot to implementation, as a complement to policing activities in First Nations and Inuit communities. The Government of Canada continues to make significant and ongoing investments in the program, as well as the First Nations and Inuit Policing Facilities Program. These programs support related initiatives such as community consultative groups and police service governance committees, which are Indigenous-led and support consultation and cooperation at the community level. Challenges in fully utilizing available funding are being managed to maintain the integrity of the overall funding envelope, while respecting cost-share abilities of provincial and territorial partners and responding to emerging needs of the program recipients.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

During fiscal year 2025-26, PS engagement included participation in national and regional Indigenous policing events, such as the First Nations Police Governance Council Conference, and federal-provincial-territorial policing meetings. Work to modernize supports for First Nations and Inuit police services is expected to continue into 2026-27. Should First Nations and Inuit communities wish to discuss the implementation of their Community Tripartite Agreement, transition to a First Nations and Inuit police service, or undertake Community Safety Officer initiatives, PS is open and willing to meet and work together, alongside the province or territory of jurisdiction, to remove identified barriers and increase service delivery.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One partner noted that they invested significant resources in discussions with federal departments and agencies to support closing of gaps in frontline policing and [additional policing within First Nations and Inuit communities](#), but progress has been limited due to an inconsistent approach. They noted that no work has advanced with PS since feedback was provided on legislation to recognize Indigenous policing as an essential service in May 2024. This partner also met with other federal departments and agencies, including the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 55

Community Safety Officer Programming

Lead department(s)	Public Safety Canada (PS)	Related articles	35
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In the fiscal year 2025-26, PS revised the Terms and Conditions of the First Nations and Inuit Policing Program, which among other changes, included formalizing a new funding stream (Stream 3 – Funding Agreement for Community Safety Officers) whereby Community Safety Officers are regulated through a provincial and territorial legislative framework to carry out enforcement related activities, which serve as a bridge between communities and local law enforcement, often responding to non-violent incidents and supporting wellness initiatives. This new Community Safety Officer program aims to: enhance community safety through prevention, early intervention, and outreach; provide a culturally grounded, community-led safety presence; and complement core policing services, especially in remote or underserved First Nations and Inuit communities.

Presently, PS is funding a discreet number of pilot-funded Community Safety Officer projects that are time limited, focusing on non-enforcement community safety activities. A few pilots have or are in the process of transitioning to the new Stream 3 program. In January 2026, PS offered additional funding to extend the pilot-funded initiatives for up to a maximum of two additional years (up to March 31, 2028) in order to support the wind down of certain projects and to provide additional time to assess the findings and lessons learned of these projects. Under the First Nations and Inuit Policing Program, communities can also access time-limited funding for training, capacity-building, infrastructure repairs or renovations and other community-designed initiatives through Stream 4 to improve community safety outcomes.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

PS engaged regularly with First nations and Inuit partners through contribution agreement administration and regional events to ensure programs remain culturally informed and responsive to evolving community safety priorities and needs. Community Safety Officer-related issues and lessons learned from their activities are regularly discussed through various national and regional forums, including in

several Indigenous policing and governance events that occurred throughout 2025-26. Engagement with communities reaffirmed strong demand, particularly in remote and isolated communities, for locally recruited and culturally grounded safety personnel. PS also continues to work with provinces and territories as they consider options to advance or explore Stream 3 funding for Community Safety Officers, supporting jurisdictions in assessing the potential transition from pilot activities toward regulated safety officer models under provincial or territorial legislation.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 56

National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking

Lead department(s)	Public Safety Canada (PS)	Related articles	7, 17, 21
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

PS noted that in 2025-26, the Government of Canada continued to advance efforts under the National Strategy to Combat Human Trafficking. The department invested in trauma-informed, community-based projects to prevent trafficking and support victims, survivors and those at increased risk and continued to fund The Canadian Human Trafficking Hotline, a confidential, multilingual, 24/7 service connecting victims and survivors to local supports, services and law enforcement. Anti-human trafficking qualitative focus group testing with Indigenous youth and parents of youth also continued throughout 2025, focusing on perceptions of marketing and advertising creative concepts. These engagement efforts reflect the ongoing commitment to develop inclusive, trauma-informed public awareness materials, which address the specific information needs of Indigenous communities on the topic of human trafficking.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

As of March 2026, the Chief Advisor has held over 130 stakeholder meetings, with each meeting often containing multiple stakeholders. Of these, 57 were with Indigenous partners, including a roundtable with multiple partners on November 4, 2025. These meetings included Indigenous organizations and governments in various provinces, such as British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba, Quebec, the North and Atlantic Canada; and she also heard from Survivors, frontline workers, and community advocates, many of whom are Indigenous. In 2026-27, PS will continue to engage with Indigenous partners to support the implementation of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Calls for Justice related to human trafficking and to inform ongoing advice and recommendations to the Government of Canada.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 57

Northern and Indigenous Crime Prevention Fund

Lead department(s)	Public Safety Canada (PS)	Related articles	22, 23, 33
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	Yes (2)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Since 2021, the Northern and Indigenous Crime Prevention Fund has funded 13 projects totalling \$31,401,062, which remain active in 2025–26. Ongoing support is provided by the five-year allocation in Budget 2021 of \$22,783,865 and a permanent \$6 million annual allocation. Following a National Crime Prevention Strategy call for applications targeting at-risk youth populations, new Indigenous-focused projects are being supported through the Crime Prevention Action Fund, while existing Northern and Indigenous Crime Prevention Fund projects continue unchanged. Six Indigenous-focused projects have been approved for implementation through the Crime Prevention Action Fund, beginning in 2026–27.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

PS noted that, in monitoring contribution agreements and developing new projects, the department engaged in regular dialogue with Indigenous partners who were funded under the Northern and Indigenous Crime Prevention Fund or are seeking support under the fund. In addition, Indigenous partners provided reports, as required, for performance measurement processes. PS will continue working closely with Indigenous organizations as new Indigenous-focused projects begin implementation in 2026–27.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 58

Aboriginal Community Safety Planning Initiative

Lead department(s)	Public Safety Canada (PS)	Related articles	21, 22, 23
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	Yes (2)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	Yes (2)

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The Aboriginal Community Safety Planning Initiative supports Indigenous-led efforts and community-based solutions that identify and address the unique safety and wellbeing priorities of Indigenous communities in a holistic and culturally relevant manner through the creation of community safety plans. Since program inception, just over 100 community safety plans have been submitted, with 11 plans completed in 2025-26 and an additional 35 communities engaged in active processes awaiting completion. The process of completing a community safety plan is entirely community-driven, and the department makes a point of allowing communities to guide their own engagement and decide on the most appropriate ways to address their safety priorities. In addition, Aboriginal Community Safety Planning Initiative officials are in regular contact with communities and receive feedback on what works, allowing an adaptable and flexible model of safety planning.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

The department noted that consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples is built into the safety planning model through ongoing engagement and activities. The Aboriginal Community Safety Planning Initiative consults and cooperates with Indigenous partners by hosting in-person and virtual Communities of Practice, bringing participants together to share their experiences with each other and with PS staff. While decision making about the program itself rests with PS, feedback from participating communities is taken into consideration in program implementation decision making.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Urban and off-reserve Indigenous organizations noted they had identified barriers within some programs and that the federal government had not provided any follow-up. This lack of consultation and cooperation hinders successful implementation in the delivery of these programs and services to support the safety of urban and rural Indigenous peoples.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 59

RCMP National Office of Investigative Standards and Practices

Lead department(s)	Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP)	Related articles	6, 7, 9
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Complete
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, The National Office of Investigative Standards and Practices provided national oversight, guidance, and support to RCMP Divisions on complex and major case investigations, including those involving Indigenous women, girls, and 2SLGBTQI+ people. The RCMP also funded Corporal-level positions in F Division (Saskatchewan) and K Division (Alberta) to ensure investigative continuity in Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls related files. Lastly, the National Office also maintained its role as a resource to Divisions seeking advice or review on active investigations and sustained efforts to promote investigative consistency and accountability across the organization.

Funding for this initiative supports two investigator positions located in F Division (Saskatchewan) and K Division (Alberta). These positions are embedded within investigative teams responsible for homicides and other serious violent crime investigations. By working directly in First Nation communities, or on investigations involving First Nation, Metis, or 2SLGBTQI+ individuals who are overrepresented as victims of crime, these investigators are uniquely placed to engage with community members, gather feedback, and ensure investigative approaches reflect local needs and cultural perspectives.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025–26 consultation and cooperation activities have been carried out through the two National Office of Investigative Standards and Practices funded investigator positions in F and K Divisions (as noted above). These investigators work directly with First Nation communities during major crime investigations, allowing for ongoing engagement with leadership, Elders, families, and service providers. Through this regular contact, they gather feedback, support culturally informed practices, and strengthen cooperation with Indigenous partners as part of their operational duties.

Indigenous victims' families in Saskatchewan have publicly expressed a desire for stronger cooperation among police agencies and for improvements in how future Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women,

Girls, and 2 Spirit cases are managed. While this feedback did not create any direct barriers to the interactions, it highlights broader systemic expectations and reinforces the ongoing need to enhance multi-agency coordination, transparency, and culturally informed approaches in future work. Trauma informed practices must be central to all interactions with victims, families, and communities especially in MMIWG2S+ investigations and historical case reviews. Effective community outreach is relationship driven and requires regular engagement with Indigenous communities, tribal councils, leadership, and advocacy groups.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 60

Indigenous overrepresentation in correctional facilities

Lead department(s)	Correctional Services Canada (CSC)	Related articles	3, 4, 7, 11, 12, 13, 19, 20, 22, 23, 25, 34, 40
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	Yes (9)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	Yes (3)

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, CSC advanced multiple initiatives to support culturally responsive rehabilitation and reintegration for Indigenous offenders. The Community Reintegration Fund has provided CSC with the opportunity to work with almost 40 Indigenous communities/organizations; assisting Indigenous offenders to address need areas, reduce risk and overcome barriers to successful reintegration. CSC approved 24 operational and maintenance transfers to communities and 12 contributions, providing support for offender reintegration, home community reintegration, and urban transition. CORCAN, a special operating agency within CSC, continued to provide Indigenous offenders with access to employment programs, vocational training, on-the-job training, and transitional employment in the community in some regions. CORCAN also partnered with Indigenous organizations, including an Indigenous social enterprise focused on training and employment, and continued to support housing needs in Indigenous communities in the Prairie region, while building employability skills with federally incarcerated Indigenous people. CSC also completed the IT Apprentice Training Pilot Project with Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC), with four female Indigenous supervised offenders successfully earning their apprentice certification. CSC continued to deliver and refine Foundations of Indigenous Corrections and Inuit Cultural Awareness training to strengthen staff cultural competency. The agency also developed guidance for staff when working with Elders and Spiritual Advisors, centralized Elder contracting to reduce administrative barriers, ensure equitable contracting practices, and recognize the professional and cultural expertise Elders bring to CSC, and used operational funding to continue to recruit Elders, Spiritual Advisors and Elder Helpers to meet Indigenous offender needs while monitoring expenditures in Elder services to identify service or funding gaps. CSC also continued to support consultation with the National Elders Working Group who provided direct advice and guidance to the Deputy Commissioner.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CSC is maintaining daily operational interaction with existing Section 81 partners, including Native Counselling Services of Alberta, Prince Albert Grand Council, Indigenous Women's Healing Centre, Waseskun Healing Centre and O-Chi-Chak-Ko-Sipi Healing Lodge to coordinate offender transfers and document progress and release planning. National and regional agency staff also worked to negotiate Memoranda of Understanding to support communities exploring new Section 81 opportunities. In 2025-26, CSC continued to engage Indigenous communities through smaller projects via the Community Reintegration Fund to build partnerships and clarify service delivery requirements, and to continue addressing key areas identified under the Strategic Action Plan to Expand Section 81 Agreements. For relevant Restorative Opportunities cases, restorative opportunity mediators conducted case-by-case consultations with Indigenous participants, Elders and community members to co-design circle-based processes, for example healing circles or releasing circles, that address harms, account for language and cultural needs, and ensure safety. Regional CSC staff also met with Indigenous communities, tribal councils and organizations to assess capacity, co-develop rehabilitation and reintegration initiatives, and maintain collaboration as services are delivered and reported on. CSC also advanced the Anijaarniq Holistic Inuit Strategy through the Anijaarniq Strategy Working Group, which met four times over the fiscal year. CSC held three National Indigenous Advisory Council meetings, which engaged community members in strategic discussions with the Commissioner. CSC regional offices will continue to work with Indigenous partners to recruit Elders and Spiritual Advisors to provide spiritual and cultural services for federally incarcerated Indigenous offenders.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Urban and off-reserve Indigenous organizations noted that constructive dialogue was held between themselves and CSC, including discussions related to increased Elder involvement at the departments facilities.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 61

Indigenous Community Corrections Initiative and Reintegration

Lead department(s)	Public Safety Canada (PS)	Related articles	5, 23, 34
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	Yes (1)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	Yes (1)

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The Indigenous Community Corrections Initiative has been renewed and expanded to better support 2SLGBTQI+ people and women, with 27 projects recommended for approval from a 2023 national call and several already underway or being finalized for 2025–26 and 2026–27. The program provides \$12.7 million in ongoing annual funding and operates on an invitation-based, cooperative model where project design and delivery are led by recipients within program terms and conditions. Indigenous Community Corrections Initiative program officers continued to work with the project recipients in the development phase to soon begin implementing their alternatives to incarceration and reintegration projects, entering into nine contribution agreements in 2025-26.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

During 2025-26, the Indigenous Community Corrections Initiative worked with Indigenous communities to prepare projects for implementation, focusing on community-based alternatives to incarceration and reintegration support. Progress was delayed by the 2025 federal election, the caretaker period, and initial expenditure review restrictions, but resumed once these limitations were lifted. In 2026–27, the initiative plans to continue consulting and cooperating with Indigenous recipients as part of ongoing initiative activities.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 62

Parole and conditional release

Lead department(s)	Parole Board of Canada (PBC)	Related articles	6, 7, 9, 36
		Related APMs	SP60, SP61

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Funding not required
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

PBC has offered Culturally Responsive Hearings for Indigenous peoples and non-Indigenous people committed to an Indigenous way of life for over 30 years, supported by ongoing Indigenous cultural responsiveness and competency training for Board members and staff, including updates in response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action. Its policies require Board members to consider systemic and background factors affecting individuals' involvement in the criminal justice system and to take into account culturally appropriate community alternatives when making decisions for Indigenous peoples.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

The Chairperson's Indigenous Circle provides information, insight, and strategic advice to the PBC on improving its efficiency and effectiveness in addressing the needs of Indigenous offenders, victims, and communities. Its composition includes several Indigenous community leaders who are contracted to participate in an advisory capacity. This forum meets annually and continues to support Indigenous-related policy development and operational improvements through ongoing engagement between government and community partners.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 63

Indigenous Emergency Management Working Group

Lead department(s)	Public Safety Canada (PS)	Related articles	3, 18, 19, 23
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	Yes (2)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, the federally led Indigenous Emergency Management Working Group chaired by PS convened once and laid the foundation for a co-developed 2026 Workplan to advance shared Emergency Management priorities, as well as key action items from the November 2025 meeting of federal-provincial-territorial Ministers and National Indigenous Organization Leaders. The 2025 Working Group meeting also involved updates on federal emergency management initiatives, including Canada's Flood Risk Finder, Search and Rescue funding opportunities, and the Arctic and Northern Search and Rescue Roundtable. Additionally, members discussed priorities following a severe wildfire season affecting many Indigenous communities, especially in the Prairies. The department noted that a reduced frequency of meetings was attributed to a pause in federal engagement activities, a new government, and shifting federal priorities, and the initiative currently operates without dedicated funding and relies on existing internal resources. Short-term funding that previously supported some Indigenous partners' participation has ended, and efforts to identify alternative funding sources are still underway.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

PS noted that Indigenous partners contributed to Working Group agendas and priorities, but faced limitations such as lack of dedicated funding, and uncertainty around federal priorities. Collaboration practices emphasized co-developing agendas, using a distinctions-based approach, and maintaining both bilateral and multilateral relationships to support strong partnerships. For future consultation and cooperation opportunities, the Indigenous Emergency Management Working Group will focus on implementing federal action items from the November 2025 meeting, ensuring alignment with co-developed priorities and applying a distinctions-based approach to areas such as Emergency Management Strategy Renewal, evacuation planning, and search and rescue.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One partner acknowledged efforts to improve emergency management through senior level working groups. However, they pointed to the need for other interventions, like emergency training capacity for youth and adequate funding for Indigenous partners to implement emergency notification systems similar to other levels of government.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Working Group members will co-develop a workplan that will guide projects throughout 2025 and beyond. Completion and success of these projects will form one of the primary indicators for the initiative. [PS]	Underway	Short-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: CIRNAC, ISC

Shared Priority 64

National security information-sharing

Lead department(s)	Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS)	Related articles	6, 7, 9, 17, 33, 35, 36
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Funding not required
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Some advances occurred in 2025-26 with First Nations in the Yukon, First Nations police services in Ontario, and First Nations partner organizations in the Northwest Territories. CSIS noted that some of the delays can be attributed to limited interest from First Nations partners due to competing priorities, historic negative experiences with CSIS, the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, the Government of Canada as a whole, and ongoing media reporting on past CSIS investigations into Indigenous Peoples.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CSIS conducted multiple outreach and information-sharing activities with First Nations and Indigenous policing partners across Yukon, Northwest Territories, British Columbia, Quebec, and Ontario. These activities included threat briefings, national security presentations, youth engagement visits, and collaboration on initiatives such as a Provincial Indigenous Crime and Analysis investigator position and organizational amalgamation support. The work faced limitations due to the limited capacity of both partners and the CSIS team to conduct outreach and build relationships across First Nations.

Plans for 2026–27 include building on efforts by deepening existing relationships; attempting to establish new ones (for example in Manitoba and Saskatchewan); increasing travel to Indigenous and Northern regions; sharing national security information; providing additional threat briefings; and implementing UN Declaration Act Action Plan measures.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Some Métis partners noted they participated in engagement sessions with CSIS to discuss opportunities to enhance awareness of national security issues and support the development of institutional relationships.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	CSIS-led agenda item at the upcoming Intergovernmental Leaders Forum with Modern Treaty and Self-Governing partners: • Driving shared prosperity, security, and Arctic sovereignty, • Federal-Indigenous security information-sharing and partnerships. [CSIS]	Underway	Short-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 65

Firearms legislation and section 35 Aboriginal rights

Lead department(s)	Public Safety Canada (PS)	Related articles	26
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	Yes

Funding	Funding not required
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Within 2025-26, engagement efforts and activities have primarily focused on the implementation of firearms harm reduction measures from former Bill C-21, including to raise awareness and seek feedback on draft regulations regarding the definition of protection order and competent authority. These activities were largely a continuation of efforts in 2024-25. Engagement efforts also included other focused discussions to build awareness of the Assault-Style Firearms Compensation Program, including how to participate and resources available with a focus on the North, facilitate exchanges on the Royal Canadian Mounted Police's Canadian Firearm Program's review of regulatory services in the North, support planning for distinctions-based engagement for the upcoming firearms classification regime review, participate in modern treaty negotiations and explore interest and invite regularized engagement to discuss and collaborate on initiatives in the medium to long term. Methods of engagement ranged from bilateral meetings, technical briefings, to information sharing through email and the distribution of reference materials.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In support of the activities described above, consultation efforts focused on engaging with National Indigenous Organizations, Modern Treaty and Self Government Agreement Holders, and other groups previously engaged by PS during the 2024-25 fiscal year. This included bilateral discussions with a number of organizations (Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami; Assembly of First Nations; Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated; Inuvialuit Regional Corporation; Tla'Amin Nation; Hunting, Fishing, Trapping Coordinating Committee; Kivalliq Inuit Association; Qikiqtani Inuit Association, Métis National Council; Otipemisiwak Métis Government; Métis Nation of Ontario) on regulatory development and implementation of mandatory licence revocation and ineligibility and how to participate in the Assault-Style Firearms Compensation Program. New and upcoming initiatives include the firearms classification regime review

including dedicated distinctions-based consultations with Indigenous peoples and policy work to support the implementation of modern treaties and self-government agreements.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

In 2025-26, Métis partners emphasized the importance of meaningful engagement between Canada and Métis governments regarding federal firearms legislation, including the reformation of the Firearms Advisory Committee. Métis representatives raised the need for Canada to consult and cooperate directly with Métis governments to ensure that the perspectives, rights, and practical realities of Métis citizens are properly considered in the development and implementation of firearm-related laws and policies. Additionally, Métis partners identified that funding opportunities meant to support participation in awareness initiatives were not sufficient and thus inhibited meaningful participation in the development of such initiatives.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 66

Participation in decision-making, including articles 18 and 19

Lead department(s)	Various	Related articles	5, 13, 15, 18, 19, 23, 29, 32, 34, 38, 39
		Related APMs	SP1, SP32, SP35, SP40, SP51, SP67, SP68

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

JUS noted that both a Director General-level working group and a technical working group were established to support the implementation of this Action Plan measure. The working groups have also established connections with teams working on related Action Plan measures, such as Shared Priority 1 and Shared Priority 32.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners has not taken place during 2025-26. However, work is underway to analyze information and advice that Indigenous partners have previously shared on participation in decision-making. This information is being collected from sources such as evidence submitted to parliamentary committees, reports from Indigenous Partner Fund submissions, and key takeaways from partner meetings. Implementing this Action Plan measure in consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners is fundamental. At this early planning stage, an initial work plan is still under development.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Partners see potential in Shared Priority 66 to strengthen consultation approaches and enhance participation in decision-making and co-development practices. However, some partners would also like this Action Plan measure to connect directly to treaty implementation and establish permanent mechanisms with standing mandates, stable funding, and clear authorities. One partner recommends that Canada implement Article 18 of the UN Declaration in all governance matters, for example, by inviting Indigenous Peoples to First Ministers' and G7 meetings. Some partners indicated their participation in the Indigenous-Crown Steering Committee on the renewal of the federal consultation and accommodation guidelines. Areas for further improvement of the renewed guidelines include but are

not limited to integrating joint decision-making, capturing more federal activities that require consultation, and adequately incorporating UN Declaration principles.

Some Métis partners provided guidance on Shared Priority 66, as well as Shared Priority 32 regarding free, prior and informed consent and economic participation mechanisms. With funding from NRCan, Métis governments could engage early to define what good-faith consultation and cooperation should look like in major resource projects, especially when multiple regulators and jurisdictions are involved, and to emphasize the importance of integrating Métis knowledge into project planning. Although reduced funding has limited engagement capacity, partners remained committed to collaborating with Canada and supporting Métis-specific, equitable participation in natural resource initiatives. Additionally, some First Nation partners advocated for the creation of a body which would ensure Indigenous partners have decisional jurisdiction in resource governance, not just advisory powers.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: CIRNAC, CNSC, CRA, ECCC, ISC, JUS, NRCan, TC

Shared Priority 67

Co-development and self-determination

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), Various	Related articles	2, 5, 18, 19, 21, 23, 34
		Related APMs	SP32, SP35, SP40, SP47, SP66, SP68, SP74, ME10, IN4, IN9

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (4)
Developed with partners	Yes (1)
Can be disaggregated	Yes (3)

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Work to date has focused on CIRNAC advancing concrete measures co-developed under the permanent bilateral mechanism processes, such as the Inuit Nunangat Policy and distinctions-based co-development principles. The Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee continued to create a space for shared priority-setting, joint decision-making, and co-development of policies and initiatives affecting Inuit, through its Senior Officials and Leaders tables in 2025. Inuit and CIRNAC are co-developing an Inuit Nunangat Policy guidance document to further support other government departments and agencies in implementing the policy. CIRNAC also noted that with the changes in composition of members of the Métis National Council, work to finalize the Métis Co-development Principles was paused in 2025-26. CIRNAC meets bilaterally with Métis partners and discussions help inform the development of Canada's policies and programs. These regular bilateral meetings are the primary fora for Métis partners to share their vision for co-development until such a time as a collaborative approach to developing broader co-development principles can be identified by Métis partners.

The Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA), Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and Procurement Assistance Canada continued to participate in the Atlantic Indigenous Development Initiative. The initiative helped Indigenous partners in the Atlantic region understand the supply available from Indigenous businesses, and the demand of federal departments and agencies for procurement increased the awareness and understanding of the federal procurement process. Through delivery of the Northern Isolated Community Initiatives Fund in the Nunatsiavut region of Labrador, ACOA continues to engage with the Nunatsiavut Government to advance food-related initiatives that strengthen and diversify economic activity, in line with their self-identified priorities.

Canada Economic Development for Quebec Regions (CED) continued to implement an Action Plan to better reflect Northern and Indigenous community needs and realities by adapting its regular programs and delivery parameters. Through the Northern Isolated Community Initiatives Fund, CED advanced food security solutions in partnership with Indigenous organizations, including supporting Makivik Corporation to develop a community seafood harvesting and processing facility in Kangirsuk, covering costs relating to a study aiming at determining the feasibility of the building construction and expansion as well as specialized processing, storage, and distribution equipment. CED is also improving Indigenous access to its programs by developing tailored communication tools, expanding internal training and awareness, and mobilizing its Business Information Directorate.

The Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) used co-development approaches with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis partners to shape program frameworks, strategies, and advisory structures. The agency advanced the Aboriginal Head Start in Urban and Northern Communities Results Framework with the National Aboriginal Head Start Council. PHAC also supported the Assembly of First Nations and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami in developing a distinctions-based approach to the national Tuberculosis Elimination Strategy. Across these initiatives, PHAC's efforts focused on Indigenous-led engagement, shared decision-making, and sustained collaboration with Indigenous partners.

Transport Canada (TC) developed an internal departmental assessment template to determine potential intersections or inconsistencies between legislative and regulatory proposals and the Declaration and how to bring them into alignment with the UN Declaration Act. The department continues to enhance consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples in order to ensure regulatory and legislative initiatives are in alignment with the Declaration. This includes sharing a consistent approach through mechanisms such as the Inuit Nunangat–Transport Canada Bilateral Table, and coordination of engagement opportunities and advice to file leads through our departmental Engagement Team.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CIRNAC's work with Indigenous partners focused on advancing co-developed measures and maintaining dialogue despite several pauses in formal mechanisms. Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and the four Inuit treaty organizations continued working with the department on an Inuit Nunangat Policy guidance document, supported by weekly drafting sessions that help to build a shared understanding of implementation. The Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee was identified as the main forum to engage and consult Inuit on major projects, leading to major projects being added to the July 2025 Prime Minister meeting agenda with Inuit. Canada-Assembly of First Nations Permanent Bilateral Mechanism has been on pause since Summer 2024. The Assembly of First Nations has been prioritizing other key activities to serve First Nations partners over continuing to advance the co-development principles. CIRNAC noted that although progress on co-development principles with First Nations and Métis partners has been delayed, Canada continues direct bilateral discussions with each Métis partner to ensure their views and priorities inform Canada's policies and programs.

In the context of the Atlantic Indigenous Development Initiative, ACOA noted that, in collaboration with the leads, ISC and Procurement Assistance Canada, consultation and cooperation took place with

Indigenous and other federal partners within 2025-26, during which four priority areas were addressed, including capacity, access to capital, project size, and process complexity.

CED's work with Indigenous partners in Nunavik focused on sustained, relationship-based engagement. In April 2025, the Business Office Director and an advisor travelled to Kuujuaq for a mining workshop, meeting economic, community, and tourism leaders, building ties with the Qiniqtiq Landholding Corporation of Kangiqsualujjuaq, conducting a field tour with the Nunavik Tourism Association Executive Director, and advancing two new Northern Isolated Community Initiatives Fund projects. In September 2025, multi-day meetings in Kangiqsualujjuaq deepened understanding of social and economic realities. Implementation continued through ongoing engagement and planned participation in the Nunavik Tourism Association's annual general meeting in March 2026.

PHAC worked with Indigenous partners through bilateral and group engagement to co-develop the participation and design of the Indigenous Public Health Advisory Circle and to explore Indigenous-led contributions to national immunization guidance. Ongoing engagement supported the Aboriginal Head Start in Urban and Northern Communities program through regular meetings and surveys to refine administrative processes in line with community priorities and self-determination. PHAC also collaborated with Indigenous partners on the tuberculosis elimination strategy through bilateral discussions, task group meetings, and iterative feedback on draft documents to shape the strategy's development and approval.

TC's Engagement Opportunities Bulletin is issued quarterly to provide information to over 1575 individuals representing approximately 893 Indigenous nations, organizations, governments and communities nationally. Meaningful engagement is also coordinated through regional Indigenous Relations Units throughout the development of initiatives.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Partners see potential in this Action Plan measure to strengthen consultation and cooperation approaches, and enhance participation in decision-making and co-development practices. However, some partners would also like this Action plan measure to connect directly to treaty implementation and establish permanent mechanisms with standing mandates, stable funding, and clear authorities. One partner recommends that Canada implement Article 18 of the UN Declaration in all governance matters, for example, by inviting Indigenous Peoples to First Ministers and G7 meetings. Some Métis partners indicated concerns with the consultation and cooperation processes during the reporting period, noting shortened timelines for input and feedback that did not respect Métis governance processes and authorities, engaging only through technical briefings or roundtables, or providing no notice at all. Lastly, some partners indicated their participation in the Indigenous-Crown Steering Committee on the renewal of the federal consultation and accommodation guidelines. Areas for further improvement of the renewed guidelines include but are not limited to integrating joint decision-making, capturing more federal activities that require consultation, and adequately incorporating UN Declaration principles.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Finalize Canada-Assembly of First Nations Co-development Principles. [CIRNAC]	Implementation ongoing	Medium-term
2	Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee will continue to be used as the mechanism for Canada to engage and cooperate with Inuit on emerging issues and joint priorities such as Major Projects. [CIRNAC]	Planning	Long-term
3	Review current Canada-Metis Co-development Principles to determine an approach to review the draft Principles with the individual Métis partners and secure formal approvals. [CIRNAC]	On hold	Long-term
4	Continue to provide Funding through the Northern Isolated Communities Initiatives Fund. [CED]	Underway	Medium-term
5	Completion of the community-led engagement for the development of the Tuberculosis Elimination Strategy. [PHAC]	Underway	Short-term
6	Complete and implement the Aboriginal Head Start in Urban and Northern Communities Results Framework. [PHAC]	Underway	Short-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: ACOA, CED, PHAC, TC

Shared Priority 68

Participation in decision-making related to consultation and accommodation

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	5, 15, 18, 19, 34
		Related APMs	SP22, SP30, SP32, SP34, SP35, SP40, SP66, SP67, ME3

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (3)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

CIRNAC noted that initial work to establish the Indigenous Advisory Committee has been started, including an environmental scan of existing structures within Canada and analysis of the terms of reference of pre-established Indigenous advisory bodies, best practices, and lessons learned. The Consultation and Accommodation Unit has collaborated with 5 Indigenous communities to co-develop and co-validate Aboriginal and Treaty Rights Information System profiles that better describe their communities and consultation needs. This work has focused on validating information directly with Indigenous partners to ensure that information published reflects what communities identify as accurate, relevant, and important to share. CIRNAC, on behalf of Canada, with support from the Justice Canada, also leads the co-development of consultation protocols and resource centres with Indigenous partners through the Federal Initiative on Consultation. There are currently 13 consultation protocols and eight resource centres in place; collectively, these mechanisms provide consultation capacity support to more than 400 Indigenous governments, communities, and organizations in Canada. Five additional protocols are in active co-development, with varying timelines for completion. CIRNAC remains committed to increasing the government's respect for and reliance on Indigenous advice.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025-26, the Consultation and Accommodation Unit within CIRNAC worked with several Indigenous partners on profile co-development for the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights Information System. This included responding to community requests to update consultation-relevant information, ensuring transparency and accessibility. The Unit also hosted information booths in Toronto and Thunder Bay during engagement sessions on the federal consultation guidelines renewal and the Indigenous Services Canada Ontario Joint Gathering. This provided opportunities for direct dialogue with Indigenous

community members about the information included in the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights Information System. The Consultation and Accommodation Unit plans to continue consulting and cooperating with Indigenous partners in 2026-27 to advance the System, with engagement efforts remaining community-driven, fostering relationships and supporting Indigenous self-determination. CIRNAC also noted work on the co-development and implementation of consultation protocols and resource centres with Indigenous partners. The department and partners under this Initiative have their own internal processes, including distinct approval processes. Ensuring alignment between processes can be challenging and can add delays in the co-development of consultation protocols and the establishment of resource centres.

As the Indigenous Advisory Committee is still in the planning phase, CIRNAC will initiate outreach to potential Indigenous committee members who have experience in consultation once funding is identified.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Partners see potential in this Action Plan measure to strengthen consultation and cooperation approaches, and enhance participation in decision-making and co-development practices. However, some partners would also like this Action plan measure to connect directly to treaty implementation and establish permanent mechanisms with standing mandates, stable funding, and clear authorities. One partner recommends that Canada implement Article 18 of the UN Declaration in all governance matters, for example, by inviting Indigenous Peoples to First Ministers' and G7 meetings. Some partners indicated their participation in the Indigenous-Crown Steering Committee on the renewal of the federal consultation and accommodation guidelines. Areas for further improvement of the renewed guidelines include but are not limited to integrating joint decision-making, capturing more federal activities that require consultation, and adequately incorporating UN Declaration principles.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Co-develop five new consultation protocols with Indigenous partners. [CIRNAC]	Underway	Medium-term
2	Co-develop three new resource centres with Indigenous partners. [CIRNAC]	Complete	NA

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 69

Relationship agreements with Indigenous Women's Organizations

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	5, 18, 19, 34
		Related APMs	SP32, SP66, SP70

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, CIRNAC advanced this Action Plan measure through the implementation of relationship agreements as a delivery mechanism with the Native Women's Association of Canada, Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada, and Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak. These relationship agreements operationalized a gender-based and distinctions-aware approach to support the equality rights and inclusion of Indigenous women and 2SLGBTQI+ people, consistent with Articles 21(1) and 21(2) of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. Funding supported concrete organizational capacity, governance, leadership, and policy engagement activities, including Pauktuutit's internal priority-setting work to inform the development of a new Strategic Plan and the continued implementation of a two-year Inuit women's leadership initiative focused on strengthening Board capacity and engagement with Inuit women across Inuit Nunangat. Through its relationship agreement with the Native Women's Association of Canada, CIRNAC supported internal governance and strategic planning work and strengthened the capacity of grassroots affiliates to participate in priority-setting discussions informed by community-level engagement with Indigenous women and 2SLGBTQI+ people. In parallel, the department supported Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak's participation in parliamentary committees and federal policy processes, strengthening Métis women's contributions to federal decision-making.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

As noted above, engagement and cooperation occurred on an ongoing basis through the established relationship agreements. These agreements provided a structure mechanism for regular engagement and dialogue, supporting the identified priorities of the organizations. Consultation and cooperation activities were influenced by organizational capacity constraints, both within the department and among partner organizations, which can affect the pace and scope of engagement. The need to balance

multiple priorities across organizations and federal processes also posed challenges to expanding engagement beyond existing relationship agreement activities. CIRNAC plans to continue engagement and collaboration through ongoing relationship agreements supporting sustained engagement with Indigenous women's organizations. Planned activities include identifying priority focus areas and establishing a schedule of meetings to advance a collaborative work plan with clear objectives and measurable outcomes.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 70

Indigenous women's and 2SLGBTQI+ grassroots organizations

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	5, 18, 22, 24
		Related APMs	SP69

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, over \$8 million in funding supported 33 projects for Indigenous women's and 2SLGBTQI+ grassroots organizations across Canada through the Supporting Indigenous Women's and 2SLGBTQI+ Organizations Program. This supported initiatives that amplified and advanced grassroots priorities and perspectives, increased community-level engagement, strengthened leadership and governance capacity, and contributed to research and policy-relevant work reflecting the diverse interests of Indigenous women and 2SLGBTQI+ people. Funding is provided to ensure stability to organizations, allowing for certainty for planned activities to advance expected results.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025-26, consultation and cooperation occurred through community-based, Indigenous-led engagement activities supported under the Indigenous Women's and 2SLGBTQI+ Organizations program. Grassroots Indigenous women's and 2SLGBTQI+ organizations engaged community members to identify priorities grounded in lived experience and brought forward those perspectives through research, analysis, advocacy, and knowledge-sharing activities. These activities supported the inclusion of grassroots voices in federal policy and program discussions. The scope and pace of consultation and cooperation were influenced by capacity constraints at the grassroots level, including the need to balance community engagement with organizational sustainability. Geographic dispersion and resource limitations can also affect the extent of engagement activities within a single fiscal year. These activities reinforced that flexible, community-driven funding supports more meaningful consultation and cooperation. Enabling grassroots organizations to design engagement approaches that reflect local contexts and priorities strengthens the quality and relevance of perspectives brought forward to inform federal policy and program development.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One partner noted that organizations should be consulted directly on all initiatives related to Shared Priority 70. While other organizations may have Two-Spirit or allied staff involved, only Two-Spirit-led organizations can authentically provide the lived experiences, cultural knowledge, and community perspectives necessary to guide this work. Direct consultation ensures that strategies are truly informed by the needs, safety, and priorities of Two-Spirit peoples.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 71

Strengthening Indigenous engagement across public health and health care systems

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), Health Canada (HC), Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)	Related articles	2, 18, 21, 23, 24
		Related APMs	SP7, SP8, IN13, IN14, ME11

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

ISC's Indigenous Health Equity Fund is continuing to support First Nation, Inuit, and Métis communities to address gaps in accessing quality and culturally safe health services. For some communities, this funding is supporting discussions with their respective provincial and territorial governments to increase access to health services. For instance, Eskasoni First Nation is planning to partner with the Government of Nova Scotia to expand the Health Centre to improve access to mental wellness services, including a mental health nurse, substance use wraparound supports, harm reduction and crisis response. In addition, Samson Cree Nation is planning to engage with Alberta's Primary Health Networks to establish collaborative partnerships and explore cost-sharing opportunities aimed at improving access to comprehensive health services for Samson Cree Nation members, including access to specialized health services such as chronic disease management, mental health supports, and preventive care.

Through the Indigenous Relations Unit, HC has engaged with National Indigenous Organizations and interested Regional Indigenous Organizations on several initiatives. These include the National Eye Care Framework, the legislative review of the [Tobacco and Vaping Products Act](#), the Health Human Resources Best Brains Exchange application, the Emergency Treatment Fund Call for Proposals, the palliative care awareness campaign, United Nations and World Health Organization draft Action Plans and Strategies, and the Person with Living and Lived Experience Survey: Substance Use Among Racialized and Indigenous Youth.

PHAC, through intergovernmental mechanisms, has advanced Indigenous public health priorities by strengthening bilateral and trilateral engagement. Examples include advancing work through the Pan-Canadian Public Health Network and its sub-committees, including the Communicable and Infectious Disease Steering Committee and the Public Health Data Steering Committee. These provide a key forum

for advancing Indigenous public health priorities, strengthening federal, provincial, territorial, and Indigenous collaboration and supporting culturally appropriate and transparent federal-provincial-territorial health data commitments that reflect Indigenous perspectives.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

ISC officials continue to work with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis partners on the implementation of the Indigenous Health Equity Fund. In 2025-26, this included outreach to support the development and implementation of plans and progress reporting. Consultation and cooperation activities varied by region based on partner capacity, existing governance structures, and regional engagement mechanisms. In some regions, engagement was effectively supported through established forums such as Health Directors' meetings, while in others, consultations required more individualized, community-level engagement. ISC officials will continue to engage with First Nations, Inuit and Metis leadership on the Indigenous Health Equity Fund, including ongoing discussions on implementation as well as engagement on a strategy for reporting on progress.

HC, through the bilateral engagement efforts, shared new and ongoing work with Indigenous partners to allow for flexible arrangements for input on initiatives in a way that respects the inherent rights of Indigenous Peoples. In addition, in response to the World Health Organizations development of a Global Plan of Action on the Health of Indigenous Peoples, HC has encouraged Indigenous partners to engage directly with the organization, while some partners have chosen to wait for web consultations to begin in 2026. HC has also prepared a summary of the Government of Canada's reaction to the draft plan to share with Indigenous partners.

As noted above, PHAC has engaged with Indigenous partners on key activities through intergovernmental mechanisms and bilateral relationship-building to support Indigenous public health priorities. The agency plans to continue engagement with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis partners to maintain and strengthen Indigenous representation at federal-provincial-territorial working groups and tables and to sustain regular bilateral relationship-building. However, PHAC noted that Indigenous partners often have limited capacity given the volume of priorities and engagement requests.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 72

International issues and United Nations system

Lead department(s)	Global Affairs Canada (GAC)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	SP109, IN10

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Activities in 2025-26 were largely focused on internal coordination within the federal government and planning for future work. This included meeting with the UN Declaration Act Implementation Secretariat at Justice Canada and other federal departments to discuss best practices for Action Plan measure specific working groups, preparation for engaging Indigenous peoples, and planning for an interdepartmental working group. GAC is also engaged with the Secretariat to seek guidance on engaging Indigenous Peoples and co-developing policy guidelines for Indigenous engagement on international issues. Significant engagement and policy work are required in advance of discussions on funding requirements.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Indigenous partners were engaged at earlier stages of advancing this Action Plan measure and will continue to be involved as work progresses. This year focused largely on internal coordination within the federal government and planning for future work. GAC has been able to engage Indigenous Peoples on international issues that affect them in the context of the Canada's G7 Presidency, the Indo-Pacific Strategy and Arctic Strategy, as well as through the new Arctic Ambassador who is conducting significant domestic outreach.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One partner pointed to the need to expeditiously implement the 10 actions in the Commonwealth Sport Lək'wəŋən Declaration on Reconciliation and Partnership with Indigenous Peoples.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 73

UNDA engagement principles in policy and program documents

Lead department(s)	Canadian Heritage (PCH)	Related articles	5, 18, 19, 34
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Planning
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Funding not required
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025–26, PCH continued implementing its 2024–27 Reconciliation Action Plan, advancing sustained and strategic actions aligned with the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Indigenous-identified priorities. Under Pillar 1: Relationship Building, the department strengthened internal capacity by developing a Reconciliation Learning Road Map to support organizational cultural competency, delivering targeted learning and dialogue activities, and establishing an ongoing Reconciliation Community of Practice to foster engagement and knowledge-sharing across all levels of the organization.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

The department noted that no consultation and cooperation was not required for this Action Plan measure. The UN Declaration Act engagement principles were developed with Indigenous partners.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	The development of Guidance on UNDA engagement principles. [PCH]	Planning	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 74

Advancing economic reconciliation

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), Various	Related articles	3, 5, 13, 15, 18, 20, 21, 23
		Related APMs	SP33, SP77, SP90, SP95, SP102

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (3)
Developed with partners	Yes (1)
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

ISC worked with nine Indigenous partners to advance Indigenous-led economic reconciliation and support partner-identified economic priorities. First Nations, Inuit, and Métis policy leads led processes to articulate their economic priorities and design related policy initiatives. Work proceeded through Indigenous designed engagement plans and policy proposal processes, with ISC providing ongoing support and coordination rather than leading consultations themselves. Some partners developed economic reconciliation strategies, while others implemented key short-term economic projects that responded to urgent needs in the areas of procurement, business development, and participation in major projects in natural resources and infrastructure sectors. Contribution agreements that enabled Indigenous led policy development and engagement have concluded, with no additional funding confirmed to continue this specific initiative.

Budget 2025 tasked ISC with exploring the development of a bid bonding and surety access pilot, one of the 16 proposals submitted through the economic reconciliation co-development process. Throughout 2026, ISC has been working to engage closely with the proposal proponent, the First Nations Finance Authority, to explore a bonding and surety pilot to address barriers faced by First Nations contractors.

The Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency (CanNor) supported Indigenous food security and sovereignty in the territories through the Northern Isolated Community Initiatives Fund, prioritizing projects that address food insecurity in Indigenous communities. Investments through the Fund helped Indigenous and other northern partners develop and expand food and agriculture initiatives to strengthen local economies. CanNor also continued ongoing programs that directly benefit Indigenous peoples, including the Northern Indigenous Economic Opportunities Program, which supports Indigenous business and community economic development. Through the Northern Projects Management Office, CanNor worked with Indigenous partners on major project reviews.

The Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) supported Indigenous employees through the Information Technology Apprenticeship Program by creating a dedicated SharePoint hub, organizing networking opportunities, and providing one-on-one support to apprentices. The Agency also advanced economic reconciliation via procurement by maintaining a default Indigenous set-aside for information technology end-user devices, and awarding a national multi-year office chair contract to an Indigenous supplier.

The Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) collaborated with federal departments and Indigenous organizations to enhance the socio-economic outcomes of Indigenous communities in Atlantic Canada. The Agency supports workforce development by funding training and internship opportunities that help Indigenous employees access higher-income occupations. This includes partnerships with organizations such as the Joint Economic Development Initiative, the Mi'kmaw Economic Benefits Office, and Ulnuoweg Development Group. In Labrador, ACOA also supports the Nunatsiavut Business Centre, further fostering Indigenous business growth and economic development.

Pacific Economic Development Canada (PacifiCan) supported economic reconciliation by implementing an agency-wide policy framework that integrates Indigenous inclusion into the agency's operations and delivery of its mandate. In 2025-26, PacifiCan engaged and built relationships with Indigenous peoples across B.C. and partnered with Indigenous organizations to support Indigenous-led skills and business development in the region. In addition to directly supporting Indigenous businesses, PacifiCan also increased Indigenous inclusion capacity in the Agency through ongoing review and strengthening of internal processes and tools and support for ongoing staff training. It also developed targeted communication and information for Indigenous clients, including a dedicated webpage and email address and a clear statement of the Agency's areas of focus for Indigenous economic development.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

ISC held bi-weekly operational calls with the First Nations Land Management Resource Centre to discuss challenges and priorities, as well propose collaborative approaches to addressing any issues that may arise within the Framework Agreement on First Nation Land Management. The department also held a two-day in-person strategic planning session with the Resource Centre. There will be continued consultation and cooperation on measures to strengthen support for First Nations, including exploring processes to streamline the land code developmental phase and the development of a new round of amendments to the Framework Agreement that will continue the process of returning greater jurisdiction and control over reserve lands to First Nations. The department funded these partners to develop a training certificate program in land management designed specifically for land code communities as recommended by the First nations Financial Management Board's Roadmap Project. ISC also transferred the administration of funding for environmental site assessments for First Nations developing land codes to the Resource Centre. In addition, 4 First Nations ratified land codes, meaning there are now a total of 123 First Nations managing their reserve lands outside of the [Indian Act](#) and at the speed of business according to their communities' priorities.

ISC continued to strengthen relationships with distinctions-based Indigenous partners built via the economic reconciliation policy process. During this reporting period, ISC expanded engagement with economic development and trade groups within these organizations, and worked collaboratively to

adjust implementation and funding approaches in response to emerging and evolving partner-identified economic priorities. ISC also continued working closely with the First Nations Financial Authority, to explore a bonding and surety pilot to address barriers faced by First Nations contractors.

CanNor's work with Indigenous partners focused on supporting meaningful participation across the Agency's programs and initiatives. CanNor's Northern Project Management Office facilitated consultation processes for impact assessments of major projects across the territories. Indigenous governments and organizations were engaged with the Office during impact assessments of major projects including initial notifications, and direct meetings and correspondence throughout all stages of impact assessment, particularly the decision-making phases. With federal decision-makers, the Northern Project Management Office collaboratively developed Indigenous issues trackers, "What We Heard" reports summarising concerns voiced at community meetings, and decision-related documents to incorporate Indigenous issues and interests, potential impacts to rights, mitigations and accommodations, into the decision rationale for a project.

CRA had general engagements with National Indigenous Organizations this year and is planning to continue and increase their frequency in 2026-27. These engagements cover a broad range of topics and are leading to the creation of joint working groups on initiatives of mutual interest, such as procurement and research, that will facilitate consultation and foster collaboration with Indigenous partners

By capitalizing on its extensive regional footprint, and its well-established network of Indigenous contacts, ACOA maintained consistent and proactive engagement. This approach ensured the ongoing promotion of its programs and initiatives tailored to the unique needs and goals of Indigenous communities, further solidifying its role as a trusted partner in advancing Indigenous economic development within the region.

PacifiCan undertook proactive bilateral engagement with a variety of Indigenous partners, guided by an Indigenous engagement plan. The engagement focused on building relationships with Indigenous peoples across British Columbia and informing the Agency's approach to Indigenous inclusion in key regional economic opportunities, such as major projects, defence procurement and supply chains.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Funding was provided under ISC's Economic Reconciliation Framework continued into 2025-26 to support proposals based on Métis economic reconciliation priorities, however no formal mechanism existed for submitting proposals under this framework. To maintain progress, partners worked with the Métis Nation Technical Committee on Economic Development to identify shared priorities and develop the most effective approach to advancing proposals in line with Métis self-determination, national economic objectives, and the broader goals of economic reconciliation.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: ACOA, CanNor, CRA, PacifiCan

Shared Priority 75

Poverty Reduction Strategy

Lead department(s)	Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)	Related articles	21, 23, 39, 43
		Related APMs	ME12

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Upon the release of Opportunity for All – Canada's First Poverty Reduction Strategy, the Government of Canada committed to co-developing distinctions-based indicators of poverty and well-being. In addition to the collaborative work with Métis on Métis indicators of poverty outlined in reporting under Métis Priority 12, ESDC continued to collaborate with First Nations leadership through the governance structures supported by the Assembly of First Nations, as well as Inuit leadership through the governance structures supported by Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami.

In December 2025 Chiefs in Council called upon Indigenous Services Canada to flow investments to the First Nations Information Governance Centre to work with its regional partners to expand First Nations leadership mandated and governed data collection, management and analysis to inform decisions. Indicators to be collected included those from the First Nations Indicators of Poverty and Well-being Report.

The Inuit Nunangat Poverty Reduction Strategy was developed with Inuit through Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami collaboration mechanisms and through the Inuit Crown Partnership Committee. The strategy and related indicators are currently pending approval by Inuit leadership.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Collaboration on the distinctions based indicators of poverty and well-being is occurring concurrently across multiple Crown-Indigenous relations fora. As indicators are largely identified, collaboration efforts are now focused on data collection, management and analysis that respect data sovereignty, while ensuring data can inform priorities and investments for Indigenous government and the Government of Canada. In 2025, The First Nations' Poverty and Wellness Indicator Framework was presented to senior departmental officials from across the Government of Canada, as part of a Working Group on Quality-of-Life Measurement and Implementation.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 76

Increased access to federal benefits and programs

Lead department(s)	Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)	Related articles	24
		Related APMs	SP67, SP75, SP85, SP93, FN12

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

ESDC noted that relationships established through Service Canada's Community Outreach and Liaison Services network continue to contribute to informing service delivery improvements, including service and benefits delivery modernization initiatives. Additional supports are available to communities included in the Outreach Support Centre and the Service Referral Initiative, which enable warm transfers and customized assistance for clients facing access barriers. The Reaching All Canadians Strategy also continued to collaborate with Indigenous partners to design and implement innovative approaches to address barriers experienced by Indigenous peoples in accessing federal services and benefits.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

During 2025–26, the Community Outreach and Liaison Service continued engagement with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis communities across regions. This included identifying community needs, conducting in-person visits and virtual outreach, and supporting individuals in rural, remote, and urban settings through community organizations. Community Outreach and Liaison Service also collaborated with local Indigenous service providers and, where appropriate, with federal, provincial, and territorial partners to support bundled service delivery. Relationships established through the Community Outreach and Liaison Service network will continue to inform service delivery improvements, including service and benefits delivery modernization initiatives.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 77

Increasing Indigenous women's entrepreneurship

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), Various	Related articles	3, 20, 21, 22, 23
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (3)
Developed with partners	Yes (2)
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

ISC noted that since the implementation of the Indigenous Women's Entrepreneurs Initiative in March 2022, Indigenous Financial Institutions and Métis Capital Corporations issued 330 micro-loans to enable Indigenous women to start up or expand their micro-businesses in a low-risk environment. The Indigenous delivery partners also provided 195 workshops with 2,900 participants. Budget 2024 included funding for 5 years for the Indigenous Women's Entrepreneurs Initiative under the broader Aboriginal Entrepreneurship Program funding, with ISC expected to request additional funding when the current allocation sunsets.

The Government of Canada is committed to increasing Indigenous women's entrepreneurship. For example, to help to advance this priority, ACOA, playing a supporting role, continued to implement the Indigenous Business Development components of the Regional Economic Growth through Innovation program, enabling Indigenous-owned and led businesses to access resources needed for growth and success. ACOA's funding for various projects is supported by engagement and cooperation with Indigenous partners and by using existing resources.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

ISC's Indigenous Women's Entrepreneurship initiative is part of a devolved program, managed through a collaborative co-governance model with Indigenous partners, the National Aboriginal Capital Corporations Association and Métis Capital Corporations. Consultation and cooperation are built into the program and are an ongoing process. An ISC liaison team works closely with Indigenous partners to provide ongoing support.

ACOA supports the maintained, consistent, and proactive relationships with Indigenous partners and clients across Atlantic Canada, capitalizing on its extensive regional footprint, and its well-established network of Indigenous contacts. This approach ensured ongoing promotion of programs and initiatives

tailored to the unique needs and goals of Indigenous communities, further solidifying its supportive role as a trusted partner in advancing Indigenous economic development within the region. ACOA will continue to engage Indigenous partners on a regular basis throughout the year.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: ACOA

Shared Priority 78

Participation in gaming industry

Lead department(s)	Justice Canada (JUS)	Related articles	3, 4, 5, 21
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

On November 20, 2025, Senator Scott Tannas (Canadian Senators Group) introduced Bill S-241, [An Act to amend the Criminal Code](#) and the [Indian Act](#), which would amend the Criminal Code and the [Indian Act](#) to grant First Nations exclusive authority to conduct and manage gaming on reserve lands. By March 2026, Bill S-241 completed Second Reading in the Senate and is waiting review by the Standing Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs. Justice officials engaged with leaders and organizations on the issue of Indigenous gaming that have expressed interest (e.g., with the Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs).

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No **Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation:** Yes

Consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners on legislative reform would need to occur going forward. Timing and sequencing may depend in part on Indigenous perspectives on Bill S-241.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One partner expressed concern with the lack of a timeline to establish a mandate to advance this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 79

Minimum federal contracts to Indigenous businesses

Lead department(s)	Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC)	Related articles	20, 21, 22, 23
		Related APMs	SP13

Status	Underway
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	Yes (3)
Developed with partners	Yes (2)
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

PSPC expanded Indigenous economic participation in federal procurement by reducing barriers, implementing Indigenous-focused procurement measures, and providing extensive outreach and support to Indigenous suppliers. The department used targeted clauses, reduce barriers related to bid and performance bonding, supported collaborative procurement, leveraged Indigenous Participation Plans on major projects, and tracked financial commitments and benefits to Indigenous businesses. Although overall procurement volume rose due to large amendments that did not involve Indigenous suppliers, PSPC continued to embed Indigenous benefits via subcontracting, training, and employment, strengthening Indigenous procurement outcomes and supporting reconciliation objectives. PSPC receives funding through annual federal appropriations to provide multiyear planned spending to support its central purchasing role and utilizes this funding to sustain consultation and cooperation with Indigenous peoples in procurement. The department also continued implementation of the mandatory minimum 5% Indigenous procurement target across all federal departments and worked in collaboration with Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and the Treasury Board Secretariat of Canada (TBS) to support governance, guidance, and reporting structures for Indigenous participation in federal procurement.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

PSPC noted that Indigenous organizations and communities often have limited capacity to engage with federal departments, and limited expertise related to procurement. These capacity constraints can reduce the depth of engagement and limit meaningful participation in procurement initiatives. Despite these challenges, PSPC will continue consulting and cooperating with Indigenous governments, organizations, communities and businesses to advance Indigenous procurement, improve approaches, strengthen reporting, update methods of supply, and refine Indigenous procurement policy.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Continue the mandatory implementation of the Government of Canada's mandatory minimum 5% Indigenous procurement target . [PSPC and ISC]	Underway	Short-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 80

New, holistic long-term and continuing care framework

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	3, 21, 23, 24
		Related APMs	NA

Status	On hold
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, policy options for the First Nations and Inuit portion of a Long-Term and Continuing Care Framework were finalized. ISC noted that it was unable to seek approval prior to the dissolution of Parliament and the federal election in 2025. The department continues to explore incremental improvements to the program.

Expanded Métis-led engagement activities have nearly concluded, with most summary reports submitted by Indigenous partners. ISC continues to review these engagement summary reports to gain insights into Métis priorities. The department noted additional policy and/or funding authorities would be required to implement insights highlighted in the Métis engagement reports. Similarly, many of the policy options associated with implementing the First Nations and Inuit Framework would also require additional funding.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

Though engagement and co-development activities had largely concluded by the end of 2024-25, ISC noted that keeping in close contact with Indigenous partners when co-developing policy recommendations is essential. The department will seek to share as much information as possible along the way, while continuing to work with partners especially in mitigating anticipated challenges.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 81

Addressing mental health, suicide and addictions

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	ME11

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	Yes (3)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	Yes (1)

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

ISC's Mental Wellness Program provided trauma-informed mental health, emotional, and cultural support for Survivors and Intergenerational Survivors of Indian Residential Schools and Federal Indian Day Schools, for Indigenous people impacted by the issue of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and 2SLGBTQI+ People, class members and potential class members of the First Nations, Child and Family Services, and Jordan's Principle Settlement Agreement, and and other colonial sources of trauma through a national network of an estimated 1,000 community-based Cultural and Emotional Support Workers and over 250 funding agreements. The program also supports substance use prevention and treatment including a national network of residential substance use treatment centres, wraparound services associated with Opioid Agonist Therapy sites, 24/7 crisis line services through the Hope for Wellness Helpline, National Indian Residential School Crisis Line, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Crisis Line, and life promotion and suicide prevention activities.

In 2025-26, Health Canada's (HC) Substance Use and Addictions Program supported the ongoing implementation of 22 time-limited Indigenous led and/or focused projects across Canada valued at over \$11 million. These projects support cross-cutting Indigenous health priorities related to substance use, including Indigenous wellness and healing programming and community-based substance use prevention, treatment and harm reduction initiatives. The Emergency Treatment Fund is a HC program that aims to provide urgent, targeted funding to municipalities and Indigenous communities to support rapid responses to the overdose crisis. The Fund allocated more than \$29 million to support the implementation of 47 Indigenous projects to expand access to culturally relevant, trauma-informed, and evidence-based services. These projects focused on expanding mobile outreach and treatment access, delivering harm reduction services such as overdose prevention and naloxone distribution, strengthening crisis response and stabilization supports, and supporting community-based care models, including culturally responsive addiction supports, peer- and Elder-led programming, and land-based healing

approaches. These figures reflect only those Substance Use and Addictions Program and Emergency Treatment Fund projects that were active during any portion of the 2025-26 fiscal year.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

ISC noted that the Mental Wellness Program engaged with the Assembly of First Nations, First Peoples Wellness Circle, Thunderbird Partnership Foundation, and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami on an ongoing basis throughout 2025-26.

Emergency Treatment Fund officials at HC conducted outreach to ISC and to National Indigenous Organizations to provide information on the 2025-26 call for proposals, increase awareness of the solicitation and invite their engagement, including the option to submit a proposal. To support meaningful engagement and the flexibility for Indigenous entities to participate in the 2025 call for proposals, the Fund supported these entities to determine their own substance use response priorities, as defined by the communities. The primary priority was urgency, defined as the need for swift action in relation to the overdose crisis, as applied to an individual community's context. To facilitate participation, proposals within the Emergency Treatment Fund relied on applicants to define themselves the nature of the urgency in their communities and determine their own substance use response priorities. This was done to ensure that program criteria were both adaptable to the specific community context of individual applicants, and supportive of self-determination. Emergency Treatment Fund and ISC officials, as well as Provincial and Territorial representatives worked in collaboration to review proposals and recommend projects for funding. Emergency Treatment Fund officials also partnered with ISC to validate the urban–rural status of Indigenous Calls for Proposal 2025 projects, ensuring postal code classifications better reflect community realities and support consistent tracking for proposals.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: HC

Shared Priority 82

Palliative and end of life care framework

Lead department(s)	Health Canada (HC)	Related articles	3, 7, 12, 24
		Related APMs	SP83

Status	Complete
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

HC has engaged with a wide variety of Indigenous governments and representative organizations on the topic of palliative care and medical assistance in dying. Engagement focused on leveraging existing and funding new First Nations, Inuit and Métis-led engagement, online public engagement, a national knowledge exchange forum, and convening virtual and hybrid national dialogues across Canada on Indigenous perspectives on end-of-life care. Outcomes were highlighted through a What We Heard Report that was published in December 2025, which shares major themes and issues from the departments engagement with Indigenous Peoples on end-of-life care, including medical assistance in dying. It was prepared by Indigenous and non-Indigenous HC staff with experience in Indigenous health policy, nursing, public health and program administration. Funding is project-based and time-limited, beginning in fiscal year 2022-23 and ends in 2025-26. Further funding opportunities are to be determined. Work continues to develop a palliative care summary report based on First Nations, Inuit and Métis-led engagement. The report is expected to be published in 2026-27.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

HC also collaborated with Indigenous organizations, as well as with Indigenous Services Canada, to create distinction-based palliative and end-of-life care reports. The purpose of the reports are to amplify Indigenous work on self-determined palliative care. Engagement was focused nationally and regionally but not at the community level. Budget and time constraints did not allow for in person dialogue with all regions in Canada, including some provinces or territories or remote and northern communities. Mitigation for this included Indigenous partners to participate virtually and provide online input. Others did not engage given the sensitive subject matter, so HC needed to be flexible with timing (extending engagement timelines when necessary), with youth engagements not well attended. A key lesson learned from activities undertaken in prior years and reflected in the 2025-26 What we heard report, is to engage early and consistently, with the aim of fostering transparency and information sharing, and to

seek advice and views of Elders and Knowledge Carriers, who had valuable insights on how HC could engage, as well as on the substantive issues.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	HC has published a What we heard report from engagement on end-of-life care, including medical assistance in dying in 2025-26 [HC]	Complete	NA
2	HC will publish a summary report from engagement on palliative care in 2026-27. [HC]	Underway	Short-term
3	Continue to consult with Indigenous partners leading up to the 7th Annual Report on medical assistance in dying with respect to data collection on Indigenous identity. [HC]	Planning	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 83

Indigenous knowledge and MAID

Lead department(s)	Health Canada (HC)	Related articles	3, 7, 12, 24
		Related APMs	SP82

Status	Complete
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

HC has engaged with a wide variety of Indigenous governments and representative organizations on the topic of palliative care and medical assistance in dying. Engagement focused on leveraging existing and funding new First Nations, Inuit and Métis-led engagement, online public engagement, a national knowledge exchange forum, and convening virtual and hybrid national dialogues across Canada on Indigenous perspectives on end-of-life care. Outcomes were highlighted through a What We Heard Report that was published in December 2025, which shares major themes and issues from the departments engagement with Indigenous Peoples on end-of-life care, including medical assistance in dying. It was prepared by Indigenous and non-Indigenous HC staff with experience in Indigenous health policy, nursing, public health and program administration. Funding is project-based and time-limited, beginning in fiscal year 2022-23 and ends in 2025-26. Further funding opportunities are to be determined.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

HC also collaborated with Indigenous organizations, as well as with Indigenous Services Canada, to create distinction-based palliative and end-of-life care reports. The purpose of the reports are to amplify Indigenous work on self-determined palliative care. Engagement was focused nationally and regionally but not at the community level. Budget and time constraints did not allow for in person dialogue with all regions in Canada, including some provinces or territories or remote and northern communities. Mitigation for this included Indigenous partners to participate virtually and provide online input. Others did not engage given the sensitive subject matter, so HC needed to be flexible with timing (extending engagement timelines when necessary), with youth engagements not well attended. A key lesson learned from activities undertaken in prior years and reflected in the 2025-26 What we heard report is to engage early and consistently, with the aim of fostering transparency and information sharing, and to seek advice and views of Elders and Knowledge Carriers, who had valuable insights on how HC could engage, as well as on the substantive issues.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	HC has published a What we heard report from engagement on end-of-life care, including medical assistance in dying in 2025-26. [HC]	Complete	NA
2	Continue to consult with Indigenous partners leading up to the 7th Annual Report on medical assistance in dying with respect to data collection on Indigenous identity. [HC]	Planning	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 84

Support for Friendship Centres and urban/off-reserve communities

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	3, 22, 27
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

ISC continued to advance reconciliation and UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples aligned programming for Indigenous peoples living in or transitioning to urban centres. The Urban Programming for Indigenous Peoples program provides funding to Indigenous organizations across five streams including organizational capacity, programs and services, coalitions, research and innovation, and infrastructure to address community identified needs, improving social, economic, and community well-being. The program provides these funds for direct service delivery at ground level to close service gaps and address critical needs. The program has worked towards refining these tools to strengthen accountability and reporting. ISC will continue to explore strategic funding opportunities for the program in collaboration with Indigenous service delivery organizations, as the amounts available to support Indigenous Peoples in urban centres are a fraction of what partners continue to request.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025-26, Urban Programming for Indigenous Peoples program did not undertake new consultation with Indigenous partners, as efforts were focused on internal refinement of the performance framework and logic model previously co-developed with Indigenous organizations. This work was undertaken to ensure alignment with internal reporting and accountability requirements. ISC noted that the biggest limitation was funding. Although the Program was able to provide some capacity building funding, Indigenous partners experience chronic underfunding. Additionally, the ongoing system approach to results-based outcomes can be limiting for partners. Following the completion of internal refinements to the performance framework and logic model, ISC plans to consult with Indigenous partners for validations. This step will help confirm that the refined product aligns with Indigenous priorities and measures of success.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One Indigenous partner noted concern with the lack of funding for many Indigenous women's organizations as well as urban Indigenous coalitions working to advance this Action Plan measure and the rights of Indigenous women in their communities. This has resulted in critical gaps in services and supports, particularly for Indigenous women and their safety.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Urban Programming for Indigenous Peoples program redeveloped logic model and performance framework through co-development. It is expected to be implemented in April 2027. [ISC]	Underway	Long-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 85

Equality rights of Indigenous persons with disabilities

Lead department(s)	Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)	Related articles	21, 22
		Related APMs	IN15, FN18

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Yes
Requires regulation	Yes

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Ongoing collaboration with Indigenous governments and rights holders through national Indigenous partners' governance and collaboration systems has resulted in a body of recommendations and considerations. While data gaps persist, collaboration has informed clearer parameters for data structures that can address these gaps will respecting data sovereignty. Collaborative efforts on these data structures is advancing across multiple Crown-Indigenous relations structures. Collaborative engagement on the four pillars of the Disability Inclusion Action Plan and National Autism Strategy include more focused engagement on the Canada Disability Benefit, under the financial security pillar and the [Accessible Canada Act](#), under the accessibility pillar. In addition to a growing understanding of Indigenous science and knowledge systems as they relate to Indigenous peoples living with disabilities, this collaboration is shedding a light on where existing systemic barriers are exacerbated for Indigenous peoples living with disabilities.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025-26, ESDC built on past engagement through the governance and collaboration structures of national Indigenous partners. With a particular focus on accessibility, engagement efforts were coordinated with Indigenous Services Canada and the Public Health Agency of Canada to reflect broader health, infrastructure and service delivery contexts.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 86

Access to traditional foods and local food systems

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	20, 21, 22, 23
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Complete
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The Nutrition North Canada program continues to evolve through close collaboration with Indigenous and northern partners, increasingly adopting a food-systems and co-delivery approach to advance food security and food sovereignty. The program works regularly with its Advisory Board, Indigenous Working Group, and the Inuit-Crown Food Security Working Group to strengthen effectiveness and to ensure that Indigenous leadership informs its direction. The program hosted a Food Sovereignty Summit with Food Banks Canada in March 2026, bringing together communities, Indigenous leaders, government, industry, and non-profit partners to share best practices and strengthen the northern food economy.

The Food Security Research Grant funds Indigenous-led projects through March 2028 to improve food security in northern and isolated communities. Federal investments support access to traditional foods and strengthen local food systems in northern and Indigenous communities. This includes support for the Nutrition North Canada subsidy program, the Harvesters Support Grant, the Community Food Program Fund, and the Food Security Research Grant.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CIRNAC noted that there have been ongoing program engagement with the Nutrition North Canada Advisory Board, the Indigenous Working Group, and the Inuit-Crown Food Security Working Group. CIRNAC is also engaging partners to reform Nutrition North Canada, with a focus on food economies, food ecosystems, food sovereignty, and food prosperity in ways that reflects distinctions-based priorities, cultural knowledge, and community-led solutions. In addition to the Food Sovereignty Summit noted above, regional engagement sessions with partners were held in February and March 2026 to learn about the priorities, challenges, and barriers that impact food security in northern regions; and a departmental (CIRNAC) 5-year evaluation was published in March 2026. Currently external interviewers

have been retained to help gather perspectives, validate findings, identify trends, and flag potential risks or readiness considerations across Nutrition North Canada communities.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 87

Indigenous food security, sovereignty and sustainability

Lead department(s)	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC)	Related articles	20, 21, 24
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Not started
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

AAFC has provided funding for Indigenous food security initiatives and infrastructure. However, these programs were not co-developed with Indigenous partners, are not exclusively Indigenous-focused, and do not directly advance the implementation of this Action Plan measure. Although AAFC has policy authority for new programming to support implementation, it has not been able to prioritize funding, and no resources have been allocated for consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners on this initiative.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

AAFC noted that no consultation and cooperation has occurred related to the implementation of this Action Plan measure. Without dedicated resources, the department does not expect to be able to meaningfully consult and cooperate with Indigenous partners to meaningfully advance this Action Plan measure.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 88

Urban, Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (HICC)	Related articles	3, 18, 21, 23
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	Yes (3)
Developed with partners	Yes (1)
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

ISC and Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC) implemented distinctions-based funding to support the Urban, Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy. Multi-year funding agreements have been finalized with First Nations, Inuit, Métis and Modern Treaty and Self-Governing partners to enable the delivery of the strategy. Their self-determined delivery is underway, with plans for new and renewed housing, additional shelter and transitional spaces, increasing housing related capacity, and affordability supports. During 2025-26, the Government of Canada continued to consider next steps for remaining implementation of the Strategy. Budget 2025 re-confirmed overall funding, including to support implementation that was yet underway.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Indigenous partners received distinctions-based Urban, Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy funding, with the autonomy to determine how the resources are best utilized. With support from ISC and CIRNAC, the Indigenous partners have led planning, and implementation, underscoring their self-determined authority to define housing priorities, programs, and supports that reflect their specific needs. The Government of Canada will continue to work collaboratively with distinctions-based partners to support delivery of funding, including identifying funding recipients and revise work plans, project activities, budgets, cash flow requirements, and associated results frameworks, as applicable.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Urban and off-reserve Indigenous organizations noted their concern at the lack of an announcement related to the 2024 request for proposals process. Partners also advocated for a Nation-to-Nation, distinctions-based PLUS approach for Urban, Rural and Northern Indigenous Housing Strategy.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: CIRNAC, CMHC

Shared Priority 89

Mental health promotion and prevention initiatives

Lead department(s)	Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC)	Related articles	2, 18, 21, 23
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, PHAC coordinated with federal partners and engaged First Nations, Inuit, and Métis partners via discussions and working groups to align mental health and wellness priorities. PHAC also supported Indigenous-led and culturally grounded projects through various funding streams. Examples include funding an Indigenous-led youth organization to create trauma-informed and culturally appropriate substance-use prevention resources for Indigenous 2SLGBTQI+ youth, four community projects under the Mental Health Promotion Innovation Fund that support traditional Indigenous cultural activities, three community projects under the Youth Substance Use Prevention Program. PHAC continues to fund the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health to coordinate the 9-8-8: Suicide Crisis Helpline across Canada. A partnership between 9-8-8 and Hope for Wellness (funded by Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)) ensures that in most of the country callers who identify as Indigenous can request Indigenous-specific support in English, Cree, Ojibway, and Inuktitut. The agency also noted that efforts are supported through a combination of existing salary resources for positions contributing to Action Plan measure implementation and targeted program and initiative funding.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

PHAC engaged with Indigenous partners including the Assembly of First Nations, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, Métis National Council, and others through bilateral meetings and invitations to provide updates to various Indigenous-led programs, working groups, and projects. The agency noted that limited access to technology in land-based or remote settings can make communication difficult, while scheduling regular engagement requires flexibility to align with partners' availability and community activities. Additionally, resource and capacity constraints in some regions can impede timely communication and affect program implementation. Through engagement, PHAC is adapting data collection, research, and evaluation to reflect Indigenous-led and community-defined methods. The agency will continue

distinctions-based, partner-led engagement initiated by Indigenous partners or responding to partner identified priorities.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Evaluations of interventions and progress in enhancing knowledge and skills for mental health, as well as strengthening protective factors like connection to land and nature. [PHAC]	Implementation ongoing	Medium-term
2	Finalize a workplan for the 9-8-8 Indigenous Reference Group to help ensure that the 9-8-8: Suicide Crisis Helpline meets the needs of First Nations, Inuit and Métis people across Canada. [PHAC]	Implementation ongoing	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 90

Addressing gaps and intergovernmental relations consistent with CAP/Daniels decision

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	5, 18, 21, 23
		Related APMs	SP84, FN9, ME3

Status	Not started
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

CIRNAC officials considered opportunities to leverage existing relationships and mechanisms to make progress on this Action Plan measure. As a result, the department funded the Congress of Aboriginal Peoples' proposal CAP-Daniels Summit - Creating a Critical Pathway. The summit was intended to deepen understanding of the systemic barriers and gaps within policies, programs, and services that impact the Congress's constituents (Métis, off-reserve Status and Non-status Indians, and Southern Inuit Indigenous Peoples) and, by extension, a portion of the target population. The Congress will deliver a What We Heard Report and a critical path that includes recommendations for the implementation of Daniels decision.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CIRNAC noted that there is currently no funding to support consultation and cooperation at this time. As a result, formal engagement has not been undertaken on this measure with Métis and Non-Status organizations since the publishing of the UN Declaration Act Action Plan. The department continues to explore opportunities to leverage existing relationships and mechanisms to make progress on this work.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Urban and off-reserve Indigenous organizations have expressed frustration at the lack of progress related to this measure. One partner hosted a Summit in September 2025, bringing together leadership, subject matter experts, and community representatives to develop recommendations and identify a critical path for implementing the Supreme Court of Canada's decision in Daniels v. Canada. They noted that a whole-of-government implementation framework is required that clearly identifies roles and responsibilities, as well as establishing a reporting mechanism with key milestones and outcomes.

The Daniels v Canada continues to be identified by Métis partners as an important priority that has yet to be fulfilled. They have called for more progress in areas such as health (including work toward a Canada–Métis Nation Health and Wellness Sub-Accord), health legislation that reflects the distinct needs of Métis people, and education related to emergency management. They also noted that jurisdictional challenges remain and that the decision is not yet fully implemented and reflected in government policies, programs, and processes.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 91

Strengthening the *Indigenous Languages Act*

Lead department(s)	Canadian Heritage (PCH)	Related articles	13
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The [Indigenous Languages Act](#) has two review mechanisms, of which PCH is of the view that the Independent Review process is the better mechanism to consider amendments to the Act as it requires the reviewer to consult with a variety of Indigenous organizations and governments. In September 2025, the Minister of Canadian Identity and Culture launched the review by engaging Indigenous leadership and formally requesting names of potential candidates to form the independent review body. Following consultation with the Office of the Commissioner of Indigenous languages, the Minister will identify the review body to undertake this work.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

PCH worked with a Joint Implementation Steering Committee, which includes the Assembly of First Nations, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, and Métis National Council to develop the review body for the independent review of the Act. Indigenous partners were then invited to submit potential candidates that could fill advisory roles on the review body. Many of the partner organizations have submitted candidates for consideration. The department noted that it involves partners in every step of the process including the design and development of an initiative. The department highlighted that transparency is key and outlines challenges so solutions can be found collaboratively. In accordance with the [Indigenous Languages Act](#), the independent reviewer is required to engage and consult with a variety of Indigenous governments, other Indigenous governing bodies, and Indigenous organizations, concerning the conclusions and recommendations that should be included in the report.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Partners noted the [Indigenous Languages Act](#) should be strengthened with clear commitments, concrete actions, and protections equal to Canada's [Official Languages Act](#) and have expressed concern about Canada's delay in undertaking the review of the [Indigenous Languages Act](#). Urban and off-reserve

Indigenous organizations noted a constructive working relationship with PCH, including discussions throughout 2025 on the criteria for hiring an Independent Reviewer and their advisors.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Launch of the independent review to consider amendments to the Indigenous Languages Act . [PCH]	Complete	NA
2	Independent review is submitted to the Minister of Canadian Identity and Culture. [PCH]	Planning	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 92

Indigenous languages revitalization through the *Indigenous Languages Act*

Lead department(s)	Canadian Heritage (PCH)	Related articles	13
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (3)
Developed with partners	Yes (3)
Can be disaggregated	Yes (3)

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

From 2019-20 to 2028-29, the Government of Canada will have provided important budget investments of over \$1.4 billion, and \$162.3 million ongoing. These significant investments reflect the Government of Canada's commitment towards Indigenous languages revitalization and contributes to predictability for Indigenous partners. Engagement funding through the Indigenous Languages Program has been allocated to the Assembly of First Nations, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, and the Métis National Council to support their capacity in informing the implementation of the [Indigenous Languages Act](#).

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

PCH noted that technical working tables, bilateral working groups, and sessions continued to support the implementation of the distinctions-based funding approaches, co-developed with First Nations, Inuit and Métis partners and tailored to their priorities. Consultation and cooperation also took place with Indigenous organizations with large networks serving Indigenous urban populations. The department also reiterated that continuous engagement is key to ensuring that Indigenous perspectives are reflected in and guide policy development work. Flexibility in timelines and tailored approaches in accordance with the distinction's capacity and priorities are essential to allow meaningful participation and ownership. Co-development and engagement will continue in support of continued implementation of the funding models, including further refinements based on partner feedback. Annual work plans may also be developed with Indigenous partners to identify key work objectives, deliverables and general timelines.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Some partners in Quebec highlighted their participation in the Assemblée des Premières Nations Québec-Labrador Ancestral Languages Committee, the designated organization responsible for administering a funding program for Indigenous language revitalization supported by PCH. The program

has enabled initiatives such as linguistic research and the development of teaching materials to support new speakers. First Nations partners noted that making funding more predictable, stable, recurring, and directed to First Nations would further strengthen these efforts. They also emphasized that tailoring support to the specific realities of each language and First Nation is critical to advance revitalization, recognizing that Indigenous languages are at different stages of recovery, reclamation and growth. Therefore, accountability and reporting mechanisms should be sufficiently flexible to avoid creating unnecessary administrative burdens. We also heard that reconnecting with culture, languages, and traditions, including through language revitalization, is recognized as essential for the mental health, identity, and resilience of Indigenous Peoples. Additionally, urban Indigenous organizations indicated productive engagement with federal partners on addressing funding disparities related to non-distinctions-based organizations.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	The Indigenous Languages Program will continue to implement distinctions-based funding approaches providing First Nations, Inuit and Métis partners with greater autonomy, long-term funding and better responsiveness to their distinct needs. [PCH]	Underway	Long-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 93

Access to federal services in Indigenous languages

Lead department(s)	Canadian Heritage (PCH)	Related articles	13
		Related APMs	IN11

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

PCH continued to work on advancing access to federal services in Indigenous languages in alignment with the [Indigenous Languages Act](#). Through information sharing initiatives with other federal government departments and agencies, PCH is developing materials to support Indigenous language translation efforts. The department also continued to advance work related to the translation of key departmental documents into Indigenous languages. For example, PCH translated the [Indigenous Languages Act](#) into 3 additional Indigenous languages, making it available in a total of 7 Indigenous languages. The Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms is also available in 11 Indigenous languages.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Work to advance access to federal services in Indigenous languages is guided by consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners and their influence in decision-making. In 2025-26, PCH engaged with Indigenous partners through the Joint Implementation Steering Committee on improving access to services in Indigenous languages. This committee includes representatives from the Assembly of First Nations, the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and Métis National Council. PCH will continue to work with Indigenous partners to improve access to federal services in Indigenous languages.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 94

Indigenous engagement in arts, culture, commemorations and heritage

Lead department(s)	Canadian Heritage (PCH)	Related articles	8, 11, 12, 13, 25, 31
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Planning
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Funding not required
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

PCH noted that this Action Plan measure is in preliminary planning stages. No additional funding has been required to advance this measure and the department will continue implementation using existing internal resources. However, PCH highlighted that additional funding may be required in the future.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

The department noted that, as implementation of this Action Plan measure is in the planning stage, no consultation and cooperation took place within 2025-26.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 95

Indigenous-led management of heritage places

Lead department(s)	Parks Canada (PC)	Related articles	18, 19, 26, 32
		Related APMs	SP32, SP35, SP66, SP96, SP97, SP110

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Yes
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (2)
Developed with partners	Yes (2)
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Within 2025-26, draft approaches for how PC might expand its current spectrum of shared governance arrangements to better recognize and support the application of Indigenous laws were developed, and analysis is ongoing to assess conditions under which their implementation may be feasible. An initial discussion was held with the PC Indigenous Stewardship Circle (an advisory body of Indigenous thought leaders) in September 2025, and engagement with other First Nation, Métis, and Inuit partners is being initiated. Engagement with Indigenous partners on proposed models for supporting Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas continued within 2025-26. A more in-depth workshop on both the Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas models and shared governance approaches was held with the PC Indigenous Stewardship Circle, in addition to other external Indigenous experts, in March 2026. Funding will be required to advance work and support Indigenous partners' capacity for co-development. The department has re-allocated internal resources to support advancement of this work.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In addition to what is noted above, PC also worked with the Haida Nation to implement the Chiixuujin • Chaaw K̓aawgaa "Big Tide (Low Water)" Haida Title Lands Agreement, guided by a Memorandum of Understanding and a co-development approach. PC is consulting and cooperating with Indigenous partners throughco-developed place-based Indigenous stewardship plans that may identify shared governance priorities.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Co-develop options for enhanced shared decision-making, including options for Indigenous Protected and Conserved Areas. [PC]	Underway	Medium-term
2	Propose legislative changes to enable broadened approaches to cooperative management, governance, and decision-making in protected heritage places. [PC]	Planning	Long-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 96

Indigenous cultural connections in heritage places

Lead department(s)	Parks Canada (PC)	Related articles	11, 12, 13, 25
		Related APMs	SP35, SP95, SP97, SP110

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (2)
Developed with partners	Yes (2)
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

PC has provided funding to support 52 Guardian Programs and 19 additional capacity-building initiatives. In fall 2025, the PC Indigenous Stewardship Circle (an advisory body of Indigenous thought leaders), in collaboration with two Indigenous-led organizations, led a workshop to identify focus areas to strengthen Indigenous economic opportunities and reduce barriers in heritage places it administers. Multiple national parks across the country delivered programming to support cultural continuity and learning with local Indigenous partners. Requests for support of Guardians initiatives exceed available funds and program funding ended in 2025-26, with no new funding yet confirmed. Internal funds are being reallocated temporarily to support implementation, and additional resourcing will be required, particularly to support Guardians initiatives.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

PC holds regular meetings with Indigenous partners to receive guidance and feedback on shared priorities. An internal evaluation of the Guardian Program incorporated a collaborative study of Guardians initiatives with participating Indigenous partners. The Indigenous Stewardship Circle also advised on cultural competency training for employees and provided guidance on economic opportunities. As noted above, sourcing funding to advance shared priorities with Indigenous partners continues to be a challenge. PC experience demonstrates that early, ongoing, and respectful engagement with Indigenous partners, based on co-development and shared decision-making is important. PC will continue collaborating with the PC Indigenous Stewardship Circle, the Assembly of First Nations, and the Métis National Council as well as place-based Indigenous partners to co-develop strategies and initiatives to advance this Action Plan measure.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 97

Indigenous knowledge and data sovereignty in heritage places

Lead department(s)	Parks Canada (PC)	Related articles	11, 18, 19, 31
		Related APMs	SP35, SP95, SP96, SP110

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (2)
Developed with partners	Yes (2)
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

PC developed the Indigenous Knowledge and Knowledge Systems Toolkit in 2025, informed by research, collaboration with other departments, engagement, and experience working with Indigenous partners. It was presented to the PC Indigenous Stewardship Circle (an advisory body of Indigenous thought leaders) and is intended to support Agency staff in working respectfully with Indigenous knowledge holders. PC's continued progress on this Action Plan Measure is dependent in part on securing resources specifically for collaboration with Indigenous partners. Funding will be provided, as needed, to enable consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners, including rights holders and representative organizations, as the initiative progresses.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

PC is engaging in place-based consultation and cooperation on initiatives related to Indigenous knowledge, data sovereignty, and respectful payments. PC holds quarterly meetings with the Indigenous Stewardship Circle to address all aspects of the Indigenous Stewardship Framework and Policy, with tools and guidance continuing to be developed. However, funding to advance shared priorities with Indigenous partners continues to be a challenge. Effective consultation and cooperation approaches noted by PC include those that are place-based, context-specific, and acknowledge that Indigenous knowledge, data sovereignty, and respectful payments must be defined by the values, histories, rights, and priorities of the First Nation, Métis, and Inuit partners involved. PC will continue consulting and cooperating with Indigenous partners in fiscal year 2026–27 using the approaches noted above. In keeping with the Indigenous Stewardship Policy, each PC site will co-develop place-based Indigenous Stewardship Plans with local Indigenous partners.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 98

Returning Indigenous cultural belongings and ancestral remains

Lead department(s)	Canadian Heritage (PCH)	Related articles	11, 12, 31
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Planning
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The department has engaged in preliminary discussions with National Indigenous Organizations to discuss priorities, next steps and financial needs to advance work on this Action Plan measure. While planning is underway, PCH continues its efforts to support repatriation activities, such as by providing funding through the Museums Assistance Program. Planning slowed in 2025-26 due to a lack of dedicated resources.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025-26 there were no new bilateral meetings on as PCH is still seeking resources to advance planning. The department noted it will be challenging to continue to support Indigenous participation, and ensuring participation from a diverse group of Indigenous Peoples, without additional resources while understanding that Indigenous partners may have competing priorities.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Métis partners welcomed the opportunity to engage with PCH regarding the repatriation of Métis artifacts associated with the auction of Hudson's Bay Company items. Participation in these discussions was viewed as an encouraging example of constructive collaboration between Canada and a meaningful step toward ensuring that culturally significant materials connected to Métis history and identity are returned to Métis stewardship. Some First Nations partners called for the development of a legislation to protect Indigenous ancestors, funerary objects, and cultural artifacts, as it exists in other Canadian jurisdictions and in some other countries. They shared some challenges in repatriation including inconsistent provincial practices causing delays, no uniform legal responsibility for researchers or institutions to report and return remains and artifacts, financial burdens unfairly placed on First Nations, and a lack of recognition of First Nations expertise and authority over sacred and cultural sites. Urban and off-reserve

Indigenous organizations noted that implementation should also include co-development processes supporting urban, off-reserve, and non-status community repatriation efforts.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 99

MMIWG and support for Indigenous-led cultural initiatives

Lead department(s)	Canadian Heritage (PCH)	Related articles	8, 11, 12, 31
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Planning
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

PCH noted that this initiative currently lacks the funding and resources required to make significant progress. Building on 2024–25 efforts and working within existing capacities, the department has started to analyze both internal and external data to continue mapping the types of traditional cultural activities being funded. This work aims to better document gaps in federal programming related to these activities and to determine whether existing flexibilities are available and, if so, how they might be leveraged. The next steps include conducting clarifying interviews to gain deeper insights into the findings and preparing a report. These efforts will help position PCH strategically to advance work related to this Action Plan measure when funding becomes available.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

The department noted that no consultation and cooperation took place during the last fiscal year. PCH does not have the policy authority required to work directly with Indigenous partners to advance this Action Plan measure. Its current authority extends only to working with other federal departments on matters related to supports for Indigenous-led cultural initiatives.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 100

Supporting Indigenous artists and organizations

Lead department(s)	Canadian Heritage (PCH)	Related articles	8, 11, 13, 14, 15, 31
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

PCH noted that the Canada Music Fund ensures that a diversity of Canadian music artists connect with audiences everywhere. The entire contribution budget is further distributed by FACTOR for the anglophone music market and Musicaction for the francophone music market. While the Canada Music Fund does not have a component that specifically targets funding for the Indigenous music community, FACTOR and Musicaction support Indigenous-led music companies, organizations, and artists. Budget 2025 announced funding of \$48 million for the Canada Music Fund over three years, starting in 2026-27, to keep supporting initiatives that enhance the careers of Canadian artists, while strengthening the competitiveness and stability of the Canadian music sector. This is a renewal of funds announced in Budget 2024 that were scheduled to sunset at the end of 2025-26. With these renewed funds, the Canada Music Fund's contribution budget in 2026-27 will be \$40.9 million. However, even with this renewed funding, the program's resources are limited and it is highly oversubscribed.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

PCH noted that, within the 2025-26 fiscal year, Canada Music Fund staff have strengthened relationships with Indigenous music organizations, attended the International Indigenous Music Summit, participated in training and events, and engaged with various Indigenous artists and entrepreneurs to enhance their understanding of Indigenous peoples and reconciliation. These activities will continue into 2026-27.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 101

Indigenous cultural heritage and intellectual property

Lead department(s)	Canadian Heritage (PCH), Innovation, Science and Economic Development Canada (ISED)	Related articles	5, 11, 31
		Related APMs	SP30, SP97

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (5)
Developed with partners	Yes (3)
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

ISED continued to engage with Indigenous Peoples in relation to the World Intellectual Property Organization's ongoing negotiations on treaties on the protection of traditional knowledge and traditional cultural expressions, as well as in relation to domestic policy. ISED also continued to deliver the Indigenous Intellectual Property Program grant which provides up to \$150,000 in funding annually for Indigenous organizations to implement initiatives and projects related to intellectual property, and Indigenous knowledge, and Indigenous cultural expressions. ISED continues to implement broader initiatives to help Indigenous Peoples protect their intellectual property. The ElevateIP program has surpassed its target for increasing participation by underrepresented groups, with 38% of start-ups supported owned by underrepresented groups (target of 20%), including 150 projects by Indigenous Peoples. The Canadian Intellectual Property Office provided Indigenous-focused intellectual property tools and released new publications on patents, traditional knowledge, and genetic resources. ISED is developing learning and advisory services to support federal employees in gaining knowledge and expertise in helping Indigenous Peoples protect their intellectual property.

PCH concluded Phase I of its Shared Priority 101 workplan, which involved engaging with Indigenous artists and creative experts to determine paths forward on prominent issues identified in previous feedback. Results of this engagement were outlined in a What We Heard report, and included unauthorized copying, inauthentic Indigenous-style arts and crafts, and their offensive use. Phase II began in late 2025 by convening an Indigenous Advisory Circle to collaboratively develop policy options that could inform efforts to ensure measures are in place to enable Indigenous Peoples to maintain, control, protect and develop their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and traditional cultural expressions, and to validate priorities for action.

Canada's three federal research funding agencies, the Canadian Institutes of Health Research (CIHR), the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC) and the Social Sciences and

Humanities Research Council of Canada (SSHRC), have launched funding opportunities for Indigenous partners. These include the Indigenous Capacity and Leadership in Research Connection Grants (for First Nations and Métis), the Indigenous Innovation and Leadership in Research Network Grants (for First Nations and Métis), and the Inuit Research Network Grant – Phase 3.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Both ISED and PCH noted that limited funding poses barriers to long-term planning. Predictable multi-year funding would support more sensitive engagement and consultations that are better able to accommodate the realities faced by Indigenous rights holders.

ISED is expecting to launch a national engagement on Canada's national geographical indications regime in the federal [Trademarks Act](#) in 2026. Engagement will include a focus on Indigenous cultural heritage and intellectual property.

PCH's work on Phase II of its workplan is expected to extend into 2026-27, featuring engagement with Indigenous organizations and interested Indigenous governance bodies.

In 2025-26, CIHR, NSERC, and SSHRC collaborated with Indigenous advisory groups and research partners to design three new opportunities featuring Indigenous-led peer review processes. Further, engagement with other Indigenous partners, including Indigenous post-secondary and not-for-profit institutions, focused on informing Indigenous partners about the new funding opportunities. In addition, open, online and bilingual sessions were organized to inform the interested organizations and researchers. The review processes for these funding opportunities were Indigenous-led, with peer review committees nearly entirely composed of Indigenous members with a wide breadth of research expertise across disciplines

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Launch national engagement on geographical indications in the Canada's federal Trademarks Act , including Indigenous cultural heritage and intellectual property. [ISED]	Planning	Short-term
2	Conclude Phase II of PHC's Shared Priority 101 workplan through consideration of policy options developed by the Indigenous Advisory Circle. [PCH]	Underway	Medium-term
3	Report on results of the three funding opportunities by May 2026. [SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR]	Underway	Short-term
4	Launch Stage 2 of the Indigenous Innovation and Leadership in Research Network Grants. [SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR]	Underway	Medium-term

5	Report on results of Stage 2 of the Indigenous Innovation and Leadership in Research Network Grants by Spring 2027 [SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR]	Planning	Medium-term
6	Identify preliminary lessons learned from working with additional Indigenous partners. [SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR]	Planning	Long-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: SSHRC, NSERC, CIHR

Shared Priority 102

Indigenous self determination in post-secondary education, skills training, and employment

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)	Related articles	3, 5, 14, 15, 21, 31
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (4)
Developed with partners	Yes (4)
Can be disaggregated	Yes (3)

**Link to TRC-
CTAs:** Yes

**Link to MMIWG-
CFJs:** Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

ISC advanced several initiatives with Indigenous partners to support education, skills development and employment. Through the IT Apprenticeship Program for Indigenous Peoples, Indigenous apprentices completed a blended approach of on-the-job learning, mentorship and self-paced training in the area of Information Technology, leading to the September 2025 graduation of four apprentices and ongoing regional support for five others, including placements in the Nursing Services Response Centre. Through the First Nations and Inuit Youth Employment Strategy, which is a component of the horizontal Youth Employment and Skills Strategy led by ESDC, ISC continued to support initiatives that provide First Nations and Inuit youth aged 15 to 30 with work experience, information about career options, and skills development opportunities to support career development and transition into the workforce. In alignment with the principle of First Nations, Inuit, and Métis Nation control of their post-secondary education, ISC also continued to implement three distinctions-based Post-Secondary Education Strategies. These Strategies support First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nation students and post-secondary institutions, as well as governance capacity, research and knowledge exchange. Through the Income Assistance Program, ISC transferred \$49.7 million to 154 First Nations communities for Case Management and Pre-employment Supports, which helps to bridge the gap for individuals who seek to pursue training opportunities and secure employment. Modernization of the Income Assistance program is ongoing in collaboration with ISC regional representatives and First Nations, with a focus on improving responsiveness, accountability, and alignment with community priorities.

ESDC's Indigenous Skills and Employment Training Program, as well as ISC's First Nations and Inuit Youth Employment Strategy and the three distinctions-based Post-Secondary Education Strategies noted above, are two primary federal programs contributing to Indigenous peoples' and communities' right to self-determination on post-secondary education, skills training and employment. These co-developed programs contribute to Indigenous-led strategies by flowing long-term, flexible, distinctions-based investments to Indigenous governments and mandated service delivery partners. The programs

both have broad terms that respect and affirm Indigenous governments' rights to design and implement holistic strategies in alignment with the values, priorities and needs of their communities. While supported by federal investments, successes achieved through these programs do not belong to the Government of Canada, but rather to the Indigenous governments leading this work.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

ESDC maintained ongoing dialogue through national distinctions-based technical working groups, regional Indigenous Skills and Employment Training technical gatherings and bilateral engagement. Skills and Partnership Fund investments also contributed to Indigenous-led collaboration mechanisms like [Prosper](#) and the [Joint Economic Development Initiative](#), that bring federal, provincial, and Indigenous governments together as equal partners, along with sector, education and intersectional partners, to coordinate labour market investments and strategies.

ISC's Post-Secondary Education Program and Policy teams continued to work closely with partners on the distinctions-based Post-Secondary Education Strategies, for example on updates to the Terms and Conditions and in order to better understand program successes and challenges. First Nations, Inuit and Métis Nation partners also continued their own consultation and cooperation activities through their respective Strategies.

ISC's Income Assistance program developed and updated communication products to support First Nations funding recipients implementing Case Management and Pre-Employment Supports. Such documents include national guidelines, funding approval letter templates, and an annual survey template. In addition, ISC works closely with First Nations partners to gain insight into First Nation perspectives and understand realities in communities.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One partner stressed the importance of training and employment for First Nations, by First Nations.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Secure funding to sustain ISC's continued participation in the Information Technology Apprenticeship Program for Indigenous Peoples. [ISC]	Underway	Medium-term
2	Through the Technology Apprenticeship Program for Indigenous Peoples, onboard a new cohort of three apprentices within the Information Management Branch. [ISC]	Underway	Medium-term
3	Support regions in scaling their capacity to host more Indigenous apprentices as overall Technology Apprenticeship Program for Indigenous Peoples program funding grows. [ISC]	Planning	Long-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 103

Indigenous Early Learning and Childcare Framework

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC), Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)	Related articles	14, 21
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025–26, ESDC noted meaningful progress was advanced by Indigenous partners and the Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care Secretariat towards ensuring all Indigenous children have access to high-quality, culturally strong early learning and childcare programs. ESDC continued to employ a partnership model which emphasizes enabling Indigenous-led decision-making and supports consultation and cooperation. To lead the design and delivery of distinctions-based funding envelopes, the Secretariat at ESDC actively manages over 65 different relationships / fora to implement this initiative, ranging in scope from province-wide partnership tables to bilateral, community-based interactions. These fora play a key role in planning and priority setting to guide transformation in the Indigenous early learning and child care sector and enable technical expertise to support Indigenous-led approaches.

Both ISC and the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) continue to work with ESDC to support the implementation of the co-developed Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care Framework by flowing investments for the Aboriginal Head Start on Reserve program for First Nations, and the Aboriginal Head Start for Urban and Northern Communities respectively. The framework has provided a number of opportunities such as enabling greater influence and control by Indigenous people over Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care programs and services, supports early learning and child care priorities set by Indigenous communities, strengthens foundational supports for Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care, and supports Indigenous-led Quality Improvement Projects to develop and promote models to strengthen capacity and improve service quality.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

ESDC reported that the Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care Secretariat worked closely with First Nations, Inuit and Métis partners through approximately 60 national, regional and bilateral partnership tables to help achieve the vision set out in the Early Learning and Child Care Framework. Under this partnership model, national Indigenous leadership determines the allocation of their distinctions-based funding envelopes across regions, while regional governing bodies identify specific priorities, activities, and funding decisions within their respective regions. The Secretariat maintains ongoing engagement with Indigenous partners to guide program and funding decisions and to support the initiative's long-term objective of transferring the program to Indigenous governing bodies at a pace and scope of their choosing.

ISC also reported that, at the national and regional level, the department engaged with regional partnership tables and Provincial-Territorial Organizations with ESDC to support Indigenous decision-making for the implementation of Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care. ISC has also engaged at the community level to advance the implementation of Indigenous Early Learning and Child Care in communities.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 104

Options for TRC Call to Action 66

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	18, 20, 21, 22
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Planning
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

CIRNAC noted that evidence gathered to date demonstrates that a Call to Action 66 pilot project to support Indigenous youth-led organization, launched in 2019, has been successful. Data collected from Indigenous youth show a range of promising outcomes, including increased access to culturally relevant programming, and increased skills and capacity. Almost 2,000 youth participated in policy and research programming and 30 have been offered employment opportunities with the federal government and other agencies. In addition to program delivery, federal funding has facilitated the establishment of strong pathways for Indigenous youth engagement via their Indigenous Youth Network, Annual Gatherings of youth, and their Policy and Innovation Hub. These programs and events enable Indigenous youth from across the country to come together, support each other, and engage with federal departments on key policy initiatives that impact them and their communities.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CIRNAC noted that while consultation and cooperation occurred in 2025-26, engagement with National and other Indigenous organizations was put on-hold. A plan for engagement with Indigenous partners to aid in co-developing options for long-term implementation of Call to Action 66 has been developed.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Engagement with National Indigenous Organizations. [CIRNAC]	On hold	Short-term
2	Publish a What We Heard summary report. [CIRNAC]	On hold	Medium-term

3	Develop a policy proposal for long-term implementation. [CIRNAC]	On hold	Medium-term
---	--	---------	-------------

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 105

Indigenous Screen Office Program

Lead department(s)	Canadian Heritage (PCH)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Complete
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	NA
Requires regulation	NA

Funding	NA
Indicators	NA
Developed with partners	NA
Can be disaggregated	NA

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

This Action Plan measure was identified as completed.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: NA

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: NA

This Action Plan measure was identified as completed.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

This Action Plan measure was identified as completed.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 106

Northern Aboriginal Broadcasting

Lead department(s)	Canadian Heritage (PCH)	Related articles	16
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, PCH developed a strategy to engage with the Indigenous media sector to inform the modernization of various direct support programs, including Northern Aboriginal Broadcasting. The Department signed a Memorandum of Arrangement with the Indigenous Media Association of Canada to lead the engagements, which are planned for Spring or Summer of 2026. With overall funding at \$7.9 million annually for the last 29 years, increased ongoing funds are critical for the national expansion of the program, which is currently restricted to Indigenous broadcasters who broadcast their programming in the North.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

While no formal engagement or co-development sessions were held in 2025-26 to examine how the program could be modernized, PCH met with Northern Aboriginal Broadcasting clients and conducted site visits to get a better sense of clients' situations and existing challenges. In 2026-27, the department will engage with the Indigenous media sector to help guide the modernization of the program.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Engage with Indigenous media sector to help guide the modernization of various direct support programs, including Northern Aboriginal Broadcasting. [PCH]	Planning	Short-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 107

Special Interlocutor for Missing Children and Unmarked Graves

Lead department(s)	Justice Canada (JUS)	Related articles	7, 8, 11, 12
		Related APMs	SP108, SP110, SP111

Status	On hold
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

JUS highlighted that the first portion of this Action Plan measure, to support the ongoing work of the Independent Special Interlocutor for Missing Children and Unmarked Graves and Burial Sites associated with Indian Residential Schools, has been completed. The Special Interlocutor issued her final report in October 2024. JUS continues to work with other implicated departments to develop potential options for responding to the final report.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Any future actions taken to respond to the Special Interlocutor's final report will require extensive consultation and cooperation.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One partner called on the introduction and enactment of a national law similar to the [Native American Graves protection and Repatriation Act](#). They developed a draft statute in collaboration with the Special Interlocutor with the goal of fostering a collaborative legislative co-development process. Other Indigenous partners have emphasized the importance of addressing ongoing barriers to access to certain personal records and have stressed the importance of ongoing funding to support communities in their work to investigate unmarked burial sites and determine next steps. In the course of debates regarding Bill C-9, *Combating Hate Act*, several Indigenous partners also emphasized the need to take legislative and other measures to combat Indian Residential School denialism and anti-Indigenous hate.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 108

Sharing Indian Residential School documents

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	11, 16, 39, 40
		Related APMs	SP107

Status	Underway
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

An Indigenous-led Indian Residential School Documents Advisory Committee was established by CIRNAC in 2023 to make recommendations on minimizing barriers to sharing documents related to Indian Residential Schools. In August 2024, the Chair and other non-Government Committee members suspended the Committee indefinitely due to what they perceived as a lack of sufficient financial investment by the Government of Canada. As such, while related federal records identification, review, processing, and other activities continued in 2025-26 – relying on the definition of an Indian Residential School Document established by the Committee prior to its suspension – the remaining work of the Advisory Committee is officially on hold.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

The department noted that no consultation or cooperation took place within 2025-26, nor is it expected in 2026-27, due to a lack of funding for non-government members of the Committee.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Identify Indian Residential School-related documents held by key federal departments and estimate the number of potentially relevant documents. [CIRNAC]	Complete	NA
2	Review, sort and process Indian Residential School-related documents for sharing with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation. [CIRNAC]	Underway	Long-term

3	Share Indian Residential School-related documents with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation. [CIRNAC]	Planning	Long-term
---	---	----------	-----------

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 109

Participation in processes for implementing international human rights treaties

Lead department(s)	Canadian Heritage (PCH)	Related articles	1, 34, 40, 46
		Related APMs	SP18, SP19, SP72, IN14

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Through targeted outreach, national information-sharing sessions on recently concluded and upcoming United Nations international human rights reviews, and ongoing collaboration with Indigenous representative institutions, the Human Rights Program within PCH has worked to ensure that Indigenous perspectives increasingly shape Canada's priorities and participation in United Nations reviews under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

In 2025-26, PCH noted progress toward more inclusive, distinctions-based engagement where new distinctions-based engagement models were explored. PCH worked to continue to build from Employment and Social Development Canada's community engagement under the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, including distinctions-based engagement with National Indigenous Organizations.

Lessons learned from Canada's appearance under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, including through feedback from Indigenous participants who travelled to Geneva, were shared across federal, provincial, and territorial governments, resulting in clearer processes, improved practices, and a validated best-practices guide. Overall, these developments contributed to a more transparent and collaborative approach to implementing Canada's international human rights commitments. While important progress has been made, further work remains.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

PCH noted that the Human Rights Program does not conduct consultation as defined under the Crown's duty to consult, which applies when proposed federal actions may adversely affect Indigenous or treaty rights. Instead, the Program engages with Indigenous representatives to support their participation and

perspectives in Canada's work with United Nations human rights mechanisms and in domestic reporting, implementation and follow up of international human rights obligations.

Including the above, key activities included engagement to help shape the engagement on the margins of the May 2026 Forum of Ministers on Human Rights and in working with the Department of Justice in preparation for Canada’s March 2026 United Nations review under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and PCH convening a national information-sharing session in October 2025 on United Nations international human rights reviews, providing an opportunity for Indigenous representative institutions to share input and pose questions to federal, provincial, and territorial governments on implementation status and updates.

Lastly, PCH met with Indigenous participants who travelled to Geneva for Canada’s review under the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women to hear their concerns and reflections on their experiences. Lessons learned and best practices were then shared across federal, provincial, and territorial governments to strengthen in-person engagement with partners during United Nations human rights reviews. PCH also coordinated the submission of federal-provincial-territorial entry points for engagement with partners and stakeholders, including Indigenous representative institutions.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Invite National Indigenous Organizations to distinctions-based meetings in advance of the Forum of Ministers on Human Rights to discuss key human rights priorities. [PCH]	Underway	Short-term
2	Hold a Day of Dialogue by May 2026 between partners and stakeholders, including Indigenous representatives and federal, provincial, and territorial ministers. [PCH]	Underway	Short-term
3	Post-review engagement with Indigenous representatives on perspectives following Canada’s review and the committee’s recommendations under the convention on the rights of persons with disabilities to strengthen implementation. [PCH]	Planning	Short-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 110

Commitment to redress in Parks Canada heritage places

Lead department(s)	Parks Canada (PC)	Related articles	8, 11, 20, 28
		Related APMs	SP35, SP95, SP96, SP97

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (2)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025, PC developed a policy suite including tools and guidance to support staff in the implementation of initiatives related to acknowledgements, apologies, and redress with Indigenous partners. The suite consisted of four complementary documents that provided accessible guidance tailored for staff engaged in different streams of work related to acknowledgements, apologies, and redress. Together, they offered a high-level policy foundation, detailed place-based guidance, risk-management information, practical messaging and relationship-based approaches aligned with PC's commitments to truth-telling, the UN Declaration and related Act and Action Plan, and the Indigenous Stewardship Policy. These internally-oriented documents support respectful, Indigenous-led co-development and implementation of this Action Plan measure and were presented to the PC Indigenous Stewardship Circle (an advisory body of Indigenous thought leaders) for discussion and review. However, the ability to advance this work is partially dependent on additional resources. Funding will be made available for consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners, rights holders, and representative organizations as initiatives advance.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Consultation and cooperation took place with local Indigenous partners in relation to potential truth-telling, acknowledgments, apology and redress initiatives. Work is ongoing in various locations such as Jasper National Park and Wood Buffalo National Park. PC noted that funding to advance consultation and cooperation activities to advance this Action Plan measure has been a challenge.

PC highlighted the importance of early, ongoing, and respectful engagement with Indigenous partners, grounded in co-development and shared decision-making rather than predetermined outcomes. Successful approaches are place-based and context-specific, recognizing that acknowledgements,

apologies, and redress must be shaped by the histories, rights, and priorities of First Nation, Métis and Inuit partners. The department will continue to consult and cooperate closely to advance this Action Plan measure.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Approval of PC's Guidance on Place-based Acknowledgements, Apologies and Redress. [PC]	Underway	Short-term
2	Delivery of a co-developed apology. [PC]	Underway	Medium-term
3	Co-develop and release Indigenous Stewardship Policy to support implementation of the UN Declaration through co-developed place-based Stewardship plans and initiatives. [PC]	Complete	NA

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Shared Priority 111

British Columbia Action Plan implementation

Lead department(s)	Various	Related articles	38, 41, 42
		Related APMs	SP66, SP67

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Transport Canada (TC) looks forward to continued consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners and the Province of British Columbia in support of British Columbia's Declaration Act Action Plan. The department developed a mandatory internal assessment template to determine if there are potential intersections or inconsistencies between all new or amended legislative and regulatory initiatives and the Declaration and how to bring them in alignment with the UN Declaration Act. In 2025-26, TC completed 18 UN Declaration Act assessments on new or amended regulatory or legislative initiatives. This lens is similarly applied to any periodic reviews and any resulting amendments. TC also noted that the Indigenous Participant Funding Program funds projects and initiatives designed to support the capacity of Indigenous communities and organizations to take part in processes related to the [Canadian Navigable Waters Act](#), the [Wrecked, Abandoned or Hazardous Vessels Act](#), and the Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan. In addition, the Community Participation Funding Program helps eligible local and Indigenous communities and organizations take part in developing and improving Canada's marine and rail transportation system.

Justice Canada (JUS) has continued to work with the First Nations Leadership Council in British Columbia under the framework of the Letter of Understanding that was signed in 2023. JUS and First Nations Leadership Council staff have met approximately monthly to advance work under this framework. Over the course of this last year, they have worked to revise and update the workplan initially developed and approved in 2024. In February 2026, the First Nations Leadership Council met with Minister Fraser and approved this revised workplan with a view to advancing work in key areas, including the alignment of laws and prioritization of Action Plan measures. JUS has also worked to liaise with officials in the British Columbia Government, particularly within the British Columbia Declaration Act Secretariat, with several meetings occurring in the past year.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

TC continually prioritizes relationship building, engagement, partnership development, collaboration and co-development with Indigenous peoples, nations, and organizations. The department has a team in place to help coordinate engagement opportunities and provide advice to file leads through their departmental Engagement Team. The Engagement Team used the Engagement Bulletin to provide information to over 1575 individuals representing approximately 893 Indigenous nations, organizations, governments and communities nationally.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: TC

First Nations Priority 1

New fiscal relationship to support self-determination

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	3, 4, 23
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (3)
Developed with partners	Yes (3)
Can be disaggregated	Yes (1)

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Through the New Fiscal Relationship Grant, ISC provides eligible recipients with flexible and predictable funding for 28 core program areas. In 2025-26, eligibility for the grant was expanded to include First Nations-led service delivery entities. This year, 13 First Nations, 15 Tribal Councils, 2 health authorities and 1 education authority joined the grant, bringing the total number of recipients to 191 as of 2025-26. Through the New Fiscal Relationship Policy working group, ISC has also been undertaking exploratory scoping discussions with co-development partners including the Assembly of First Nations, First Nations Financial Management Board, and Aboriginal Financial Officers Association Canada on mutual accountability, a First Nations Auditor General, and a Fiscal Policy Institution.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

ISC regularly meets with partners: the Assembly of First Nations, First Nations Financial Management Board, and Aboriginal Financial Officers Association Canada through the New Fiscal Relationship Policy and New Fiscal Relationship Grant technical working groups. Through these groups, partners co-develop fiscal policy elements related to a new fiscal relationship and potential enhancements to the New Fiscal Relationship Grant. Working transparently and proactively with partners fosters trust and strengthens cooperation. This approach supports the co-development of decisions, respects and integrates diverse Indigenous knowledge systems, and upholds principles of transparency, reciprocity and mutual respect throughout the process. However, ISC has no dedicated funds to support co-development activities on the New Fiscal Relationship with partners.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Seek to add 18 First Nations, 4 Tribal Councils and 4 First Nations-led service delivery entities to the New Fiscal Relationship Grant. [ISC]	Implementation ongoing	Short-term
2	Co-develop policy options supporting mutual accountability, a First Nations Fiscal Policy Institution and a First Nations Auditor General. [ISC]	Implementation ongoing	Medium-term
3	Co-develop a suite of key measures with co-development partners to more effectively achieve the shared vision of mutual accountability. [ISC]	Implementation ongoing	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

First Nations Priority 2

Honouring pre-1975 treaties and treaty relationships

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	3, 4, 37
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

CIRNAC worked with interested pre-1975 Treaty partners to explore options for renewing Treaty relationships, including creating bilateral forums for Treaty implementation discussions. This work is supported through existing funding programs, such as those for rights-based negotiations and claim settlements, as there is no dedicated funding for this initiative. Additional funds would be required to engage on new proposals with pre-1975 Treaty partners.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Ongoing rights-based discussions and negotiations with pre-1975 Treaty partners have included the honourable implementation of these Treaties, and some partners have shown interest in working with Canada on broad policy options for historic treaty implementation. However, funding has limited progress on these discussions. CIRNAC will continue to explore ways to support consultation and cooperation with pre-1975 Treaty partners to co-develop options for the honourable implementation of pre-1975 Treaties.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Many First Nation partners have called on the federal government to advance meaningful discussions regarding the implementation of historic treaties. They emphasize the importance of treaty relationships and the need to understand treaty implementation and UN Declaration implementation as mutually reinforcing. They urge the government to create a predictable forum outside of the Recognition of Indigenous Rights and Self-Determination Discussion Tables process, such as Annual Treaty Councils, for treaty nations and the Crown to review treaty implementation, set priorities, and track progress against shared commitments. They call on clear mandates as well as adequate and stable funding for historic treaty initiatives that reflect the needs of treaty partners, including tables, directorates, gatherings, cabinet directives, and institutions such as Offices of Treaty Commissioners. Adequate

funding for First Nations to fully participate in advancing this Action Plan priority is also required. Diligent implementation of historic treaties would address areas such as cumulative effects, self-government, annuities and Natural Resources Transfer Agreement reform. Partners also noted that the next Action Plan should include specific deliverables to guide the implementation of treaty promises. Regarding the historic Peace and Friendship Treaties, partners emphasized the need for federal policies and programs to better account for their distinct nature and for the development of a dedicated negotiation framework to support their honourable implementation and renewal.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

First Nations Priority 3

Specific Claims program and resolution process reforms

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	18, 19, 28, 40
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	Yes
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

CIRNAC funded several engagement events with Indigenous organizations to support specific claims reform. Funding was also allocated to regional Indigenous partners to collect responses and make recommendations to CIRNAC.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Further to engagement sessions facilitated in Fiscal 2024-25 regarding the specific claims reform, CIRNAC continues to welcome feedback from First Nations and First Nation organizations on the specific claims process.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One First Nation partner expressed deep concern with funding cuts to First Nations Claims Research Units across Canada. Adequate funding is required to undertake research and develop historic claims as well as to resolve them. Engagement with rights holders and regional organizations is highly recommended. Regional organizations are mandated by rights holders to undertake much of this work. First Nations with limited capacity may not otherwise be meaningfully engaged and consulted.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

First Nations Priority 4

Collaboration on mechanisms and initiatives related to financial management

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	4, 5, 20, 39
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Yes
Requires regulation	Yes

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

CIRNAC and [First Nations Fiscal Management Act](#) institutions have completed co-development of adaptation regulations enabling self-governing and modern treaty partners to access pooled borrowing and eligible groups may request to be added to the Schedule of the Act to access certain provisions. Additionally, CIRNAC is co-developing legislative amendments to the Act to permit the First Nations Finance Authority to lend to Indigenous-owned corporations to improve access for groups pursuing equity participation in economic and resource projects. CIRNAC worked with the First Nations Infrastructure Institute Technical Working Group to support a pilot initiative to operationalize the new Institute. While this pilot was successful, a source of funds is required to support the ongoing operations of the Institute CIRNAC. CIRNAC has continued to support developmental work on pooled insurance, investment services, and broader access to capital, including for Indigenous non-profit organizations. Additional funding may be required in future years for those initiatives.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

As noted above, CIRNAC maintains a close working relationship with the [First Nations Fiscal Management Act](#) institutions, holding periodic bilateral meetings at both working and executive levels to advance priorities and report on progress. The department noted that, because Indigenous partners are restricted from attending drafting sessions with JUS concerning the adaptation regulations, CIRNAC must serve as an intermediary between JUS and Indigenous partners, which leads to additional rounds of comments and extends the time required to draft the regulations. CIRNAC will continue to hold periodic bilateral meetings with institutions upholding the [First Nations Fiscal Management Act](#) to advance joint priorities and report on progress. New Indigenous partners may be engaged as work advances on pooled insurance, investment services, and access to capital initiatives.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Governor in Council selection and appointment processes - First Nations Infrastructure Institute. [CIRNAC]	Underway	Medium-term
2	Ongoing funding for First Nations Infrastructure Institute core operations. [CIRNAC]	Underway	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

First Nations Priority 5

Additions to Reserve Policy redesign

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	10, 28, 30, 32
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (2)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, CIRNAC completed its analysis of 1,300 recommendations provided by First Nations and partner organizations and published two reports. The first report, Additions to Reserve Policy Redesign: Insights from Engagement Reports, summarizes key themes captured in reports submitted by First Nations and partner organizations through a call for proposals. The second report, Pathways to Additions to Reserve Policy Reform: First Nation Voices in Action, provides a summary of CIRNAC's qualitative analysis of the recommendations on how best to redesign the Additions to Reserves policy.

In 2026-27, CIRNAC will finalize a first draft directly informed by the recommendations received through engagement and share it with First Nations for feedback. Once finalized, Indigenous Services Canada, with support from CIRNAC, will then lead the development of implementation Guidelines to support the full implementation of the redesigned Additions to Reserves Policy within 6 to 8 months of its approval.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

The department noted that it established a Technical Advisory Committee to provide input on the redesign of the Additions to Reserve Policy. The committee includes representatives from the Assembly of First Nations, the First Nations Land Management Resource Centre, National Aboriginal Land Managers Association, self-governing First Nations, and representatives from CIRNAC and Indigenous Services Canada. CIRNAC will continue to work with the Technical Advisory Committee to support the development of a new policy that reflects recommendations received from First Nations.

Once a first draft of the redesigned Additions to Reserve Policy is finalized, it will be made publicly available on the Department's website and shared with all First Nations for feedback. To support this engagement, departmental officials will be available to meet, in person or virtually, with First Nations and partners to discuss the draft policy.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One First Nation partner expressed concern with departments using technical bodies to consult with and inform advice on legislation, policy and/or frameworks, particularly on matters that impact inherent and treaty rights. Legitimate and meaningful engagement with First Nations must be taken with and approved by First Nations leadership, not a Board. Engagement with rights holders and regional organizations is highly recommended. Regional organizations are mandated by rights holders to undertake much of this work. First Nations with limited capacity may not otherwise be meaningfully engaged and consulted.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Implement nine recommended and approved interim changes to the existing Additions to Reserve policy have been recommended and approved. These changes were completed in early 2026. [ISC]	Complete	NA

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

First Nations Priority 6

Environmental integrity of reserve lands

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	29
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (2)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	Yes (2)

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

ISC has supported the closure of 2,757 contaminated sites on reserve overall, as of March 31, 2025, reflecting an increase of 148 sites over the previous reporting period. In addition, the department advanced First Nations Waste Management Initiatives to reduce environmental risks and prevent future contamination. Within 2025-26, a Joint Table held regular engagement activities, including three in-person meetings across Canada, virtual meetings, and one community site visit aimed at supporting knowledge sharing and developing options to improve waste management practices and address unauthorized dumping on reserve lands. The draft report is targeted for publication in May or June 2026. By the start of 2025-26, 93 First Nations communities had implemented diversion programs, exceeding the program's 2027-28 target of 60 communities. Funding of First Nations Waste Management initiatives also supported the participation of First Nations organizations in the Joint Table.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

As noted above, ISC advanced consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners through the Joint Table on First Nations Waste Management in 2025-26.

In addition, ISC works closely with the First Nations Waste Management Initiative's National Advisory Committee, including at least one in-person meeting and several virtual meetings each year. The National Advisory Committee is a First Nation partner-led committee that provides strategic advice and direction on the implementation of the Waste Initiative. In 2024-25 and 2025-26, the department and the National Advisory Committee jointly supported the delivery of the National First Nations Solid Waste Conference, providing opportunities for collaboration with and between First Nations. The First Nations Waste Management Initiative will continue to work with First Nations communities in undertaking new waste diversion approaches that meet individual community needs and ensure the proper disposal of hazardous waste and plastics. National Advisory Committee engagement has been more frequent in

2025-26, as the committee is working on a policy paper to describe needs and priorities leading into program funding renewal in 2027-28.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Some partners noted that while this Action Plan measure makes reference to contamination prevention, they believe it could be strengthened to cite remediation plans, waste management infrastructure and ongoing operations and maintenance funding. Many First Nations continue to face challenges related to legacy contamination, inadequate waste disposal systems, and insufficient resources to manage and maintain essential water infrastructure. A comprehensive approach is needed that supports First Nations-led planning, environmental stewardship, capacity development, and sustainable waste management solutions on reserve lands, with funding that reflects community needs and supports long-term environmental and public health outcomes.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

First Nations Priority 7

Indian Act registration and membership amendments through Bill C-38

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	FN8, FN9

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Yes
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	Yes (2)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	Yes (2)

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Following extensive consultation, legislative amendments originally introduced as former Bill C-38 were reintroduced as Bill S-2 after C-38 died on the Order Paper in January 2025. Bill S-2 progressed through the Senate with additional amendments from the Standing Senate Committee on Indigenous Peoples and reached first reading in the House of Commons in December 2025, with the BC Supreme Court granting an extension to implement it by April 30, 2026. Throughout this period, the Registration Reform Team has continued information sessions with rights holders and impacted individuals, while applications affected by the proposed amendments have been placed on hold.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

While ISC noted that no consultation and cooperation took place in 2025-26, extensive engagement took place on registration reform, including the 2018–19 Collaborative Process, work with First Nation partners on Bill S-2 (former Bill C-38). Partners had expressed concern that the Bill did not fully address issues such as the second-generation cut-off, but the Senate amended Bill S-2 in November 2025 to include this change. As the Bill moves through Parliament toward the April 30, 2026 implementation deadline, the ongoing Collaborative Process on the second-generation cut-off and section 10 voting thresholds may help support implementation of these solutions.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Some First Nation partners have shared that Bill S-2 offers a clear opportunity to correct discriminatory provisions in the [Indian Act](#), ensuring impacted individuals can exercise their rights without going to court. In particular, this concerns Indigenous women who made the difficult choice not to marry a non-status man prior to the 1985 amendments to the [Indian Act](#) and who are still unable to transmit status to their grandchildren on the same basis as women who married a non-status man. It allows Canada to

uphold its responsibilities, align federal laws with the Declaration, and take meaningful steps toward ending discrimination.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Bill S-2 progresses through the Parliamentary process and receives Royal Assent. [ISC]	Underway	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

First Nations Priority 8

Broader registration and band membership reforms

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	FN7, FN9

Status	Underway
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	Yes
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	Yes (1)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, the Registration Reform and Engagement Team within ISC continued work on Phase 2 of the Collaborative Process on the Second-Generation Cut-Off and Section 10 Voting Thresholds, which included finalizing the Call for Proposals: Indigenous-led Options for Solutions, in which First Nations and Indigenous organizations proposed possible solutions, along with their economic, gendered, social, and other impacts in a final report. Final reports were submitted until the deadline of February 2026. These solutions and associated impacts were reviewed by the Registration Reform and Legal Solutions Committee and the analysis has been integrated in a Guide to support phase 2 of the Collaborative Process on the Second Generation Cut-off and Section 10 voting thresholds. Additional resources were finalized and published in 2025-26, including the report What We Heard: Indigenous Advisory Process Final Recommendations and Feedback detailing results from the Indigenous Advisory Process, and the Consultation Plan detailing Phase 2 of the Collaborative Process co-developed with the Indigenous Advisory Process.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

There are 56 partners that have received funding for the Call for Proposals: Indigenous-led Options for Solutions and provided their final reports in February 2026. An individual feedback form was also created and distributed to provide additional options for Rights-Holders and impacted individuals to participate in the Collaborative Process Phase 2, for which ISC have received over 400 responses. Engagement activities will occur over Summer 2026, and will advise on the path forward for addressing the second-generation cut-off, section 10 voting thresholds, and membership and citizenship beyond the [Indian Act](#).

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Some partners receiving funding to support the Collaborative Process on the Second-Generation Cut-off and Section 10 Voting Thresholds have reported the federal process was rushed and tightly controlled,

with pressure exerted to modify the report and final recommendations. In their view, these conditions limited meaningful participation and undermined Indigenous self-determination and is not aligned with the principles of the Declaration, which affirms that Indigenous Peoples have the right to determine their own identity and membership. Additionally, some partners express interest in advancing work to move beyond the [Indian Act](#) but are unable to without an existing mandate or funding from Canada. Partners have also pointed to the need for Canada to recognize First Nation authority to assign status to their respective citizens, and would like to see Treaty cards reinstated, instead of status cards. They also pointed to inadequate funding provided to First Nations to participate in the reform process. Some partners expressed concern about the composition of the [Indian Act](#) Registration Reform and Legal Solutions Committee. In their view, the Committee should reflect a First Nation rightsholder process with representation from First Nation governments and organizations, not pan-Indigenous organizations that do not have jurisdiction over First Nation citizenship. Reforms to registration and membership must move beyond administrative amendments and support the recognition of First Nations' inherent jurisdiction over citizenship and nationhood. Meaningful consultation and co-development with First Nations regarding the implementation of Bill S-2 and any future reforms to registration, membership, and citizenship are required. Meaningful consultation includes sustained resources, transparent timelines, the full participation of First Nations rights holders, and processes that are timely, effective, and aligned with the principle of free, prior and informed consent. Legislative changes must respect First Nations' self-determination and support for the transition toward First Nations-controlled citizenship systems that reflect the unique laws, customs, traditions, and identities of each Nation. All registration and membership reforms must contribute to the broader goal of restoring First Nations' jurisdiction, strengthening Nations, and fulfilling Canada's Treaty and constitutional obligations.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Indigenous-Led Options for Solutions (Call for Proposals): Successful funding applicants will submit a report of their findings that include proposed solutions to the issues for consultation. [ISC]	Complete	NA
2	Legal Viability and Impact Assessment: Once options for solutions are received, the Department alongside a Registration Reform and Legal Solutions Committee will assess their legal viability and predict their long-term impacts [ISC]	Complete	NA
3	Engagement activities: advising on the path forward for addressing the second-generation cut-off, section 10 voting thresholds, and moving beyond the Indian Act . [ISC]	Planning	Short-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

First Nations Priority 9

Opt-in alternatives to *Indian Act* registration and membership

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	3, 9, 33
		Related APMs	FN7, FN8

Status	Planning
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	Yes
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

CIRNAC noted that work has focused on low-key, targeted engagement to support the collection of information to support the advancement of planning on the action plan measure. The department is utilizing a small amount of internal funding to support pre-engagement. Some funds have been provided to the Anishinaabe Nation in Treaty 2 Territory to fund and develop a "Debendaagoziwin Inakonegewin" (The Treaty 2 Citizenship Law) and advance a proof-of-concept approach to First Nation Citizenship, in support of a broader initiative.

ISC sees First Nation Priority 7 and First Nation Priority 8 as significant stepping stones to address reforms within the [Indian Act](#), prior to addressing this Action Plan measure and the transition away from the [Indian Act](#) and towards First Nation self-determination.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CIRNAC provided the Anishinaabe Nation in Treaty 2 Territory a small amount of internal funding to support their work around control and ownership of citizenship outside of [Indian Act](#) Registration by developing their own Enrollment Scroll under the Debendaagoziwin Inakonegewin. The proposed project will include engagement with 12 member nations to explore legislative and statutory options, identify any challenges and administrative processes required for the creation of an enrollment scroll using a treaty-based approach. There will also be an options paper on the co-development of "Anishinaabe Citizenship" including research in Indigenous laws, identity, and best practices in citizenship laws domestically and internationally as it related to nationhood. However, without access to funding, there are limited plans to engage First Nations beyond initial targeted engagement. Discussions are underway for CIRNAC to partner with ISC in response to the ISC-led work on Bill S-2 and their work on the Collaborative Process on the Second-Generation Cut-Off and Section 10 Voting Thresholds to further

collect information to support moving away from [Indian Act](#) registration and membership to support First Nations Priority 9 during 2026-27.

ISC noted that work on Bill S-2 (former Bill C-38) and the Collaborative Process on the Second-Generation Cut-Off and Section 10 Voting Thresholds (see First Nations Priority 7 and First Nations Priority 8) is ongoing.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

See input for First Nation Priority 7 and First Nation Priority 8 on Bill S-2 and broader reform initiatives.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

First Nations Priority 10

First Nations policing legislation

Lead department(s)	Public Safety Canada (PS)	Related articles	35
		Related APMs	NA

Status	On hold
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	Yes
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The work that had been undertaken in previous years with First Nations, representative organizations, police services, as well as provincial and territorial partners, to recognize First Nations police services as essential services in a future federal legislation, has informed and guided the department's program modernization efforts to better respond to the realities and needs of First Nations and Inuit communities and police services. For instance, PS has undertaken targeted program modernization efforts, including amendments in June 2025 and February 2026 of the Terms and Conditions of the First Nations and Inuit Policing Program.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

The department noted that no consultation and cooperation took place in the last fiscal year.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

First Nations Priority 11

First Nations jurisdiction of on-reserve housing programs

Lead department(s)	Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC)	Related articles	3, 4, 21, 23
		Related APMs	NA

Status	On hold
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, CMHC continued the transfer of care and control of CMHC-administered on-reserve housing programs and associated funding to First Nations. The term transfer, in this context, is a co-developed, community-driven process that supports First Nations assuming authority over the design, delivery, and management of programs, while maintaining Canada as an active partner in the interim. It is a collaborative shift supported by flexible, long-term arrangements, sufficient funding, and alignment with First Nations governance structures and cultural priorities. CMHC has prioritized preliminary research led by the Assembly of First Nations to explore potential transfer models and approaches. Indigenous partners have emphasized that adequate, predictable funding is essential to ensure the long-term sustainability and effectiveness of transferred programs. Therefore, stable program and engagement funding will need to be in place prior to engaging in formal transfer discussions. CMHC remains committed to advancing the work towards the transfer of care and control of housing programs on reserve and will continue to pursue the required funding in future cycles.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CMHC noted that Indigenous Services Canada has a clear mandate in their enabling legislation to implement the gradual transfer of departmental responsibilities for housing to Indigenous organizations. While CMHC does not fall under this mandate, the Crown corporation is proactively taking steps based on a corporate commitment, pending a clear government mandate. To advance reconciliation, CMHC will collaborate with Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (HICC), Indigenous Services Canada and Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada to participate in transfer discussions with First Nations regarding the funding of housing programs delivered on reserve.

Early discussions with partners have underscored that successful transfer will depend on programs being reformed and sustainably funded to better respond to the diverse needs of First Nations

communities. CMHC has been collaborating with the Assembly of First Nations to increase awareness of On-Reserve Non-Profit Housing Program, as a foundation for discussions on interim, more equitable funding allocation methodologies. This is a crucial first step before discussions on transfer of care and control can proceed.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

First Nations Priority 12

First Nations increased control over health services delivery

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	FN13

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (3)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	Yes (3)

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, through Health Transformation, ISC collaborated closely with First Nations partners on six Health Transformation initiatives to build organizational capacity, support the design of governance models, undertake health systems planning, and draft Health Transformation-related agreements, and facilitate community engagement. Funding was directed toward the collaborative development of health service delivery models that reflect the specific needs, cultural frameworks, and priorities of participating First Nations. There are currently six Health Transformation initiatives continuing to progress covering 362 communities across Canada: Battleford Agency Tribal Council in Saskatchewan, Keewatinohk Inniniw Minoayawin Inc. and the Southern Chiefs' Organization in Manitoba, Tajikeyimik in Nova Scotia, Nishnawbe Aski Nation in Ontario, and the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Health and Social Services Commission. Each group is working with Indigenous Services Canada and the provincial government on the development and implementation of governance agreements that will lead to Framework Agreements and transfer. The first Tripartite Framework Agreements are expected to be approved as early as 2027-28.

ISC also continued to serve as a governance partner within the British Columbia Tripartite First Nations health governance structure, along with the First Nations Health Authority and British Columbia Ministry of Health. In 2026-27, ISC is seeking to implement a renewed Canada Consolidated Contribution Agreement with the First Nations Health Authority, to update and streamline funding, reflecting the evolution of the partnership since transfer. Partners will also work to advance the 10-Year Strategy on the Social Determinants of Health; a tripartite strategy designed to improve the health of British Columbia First Nations through a more holistic approach.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

ISC noted that key activities in 2025-26 for this Action Plan measure include the creation of work and implementation plans with partners to track progress, sharing of templates and financial information to inform First Nation decision making, co-drafted Memorandums of Understanding and Agreements in Principle, and sharing of information on ISC programs and health supports, federal legislation and financial mechanisms, and extensive outreach to potential partners, especially provincial partners, whose representation is key to the success of the Health Transformation process. The department also noted that many First Nations are forced to be reactive in the health space as there are so many urgent and emergent health needs facing communities, as well as ongoing emergencies that impact health service delivery, such as the wildfires in Manitoba in the summer of 2025. As a result, delays arise in focusing on forward agenda and Health Transformation, even though communities continue to value this work.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One partner noted that, in 2025-26, attempts to secure meetings with lead departments were left unanswered for several months making it difficult to advance meaningful partnerships. Lack of funding to support health transformation work and advance partners' health-related mandates are also of concern. Another partner noted that non-environmental critical incidents, such as violent incidents in First Nations communities, need to be addressed as they have a significant impact on health and well-being.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Tajikeimik (Nova Scotia) to finalize an Agreement in Principle in 2026-27. [ISC]	Underway	Medium-term
2	Nishnawbe Aski Nation to finalize an Agreement in principle in 2026-27. [ISC]	Underway	Medium-term
3	First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Health and Social Services Commission to develop a proposed governance entity in discussions with Health and Social Services. [ISC]	Complete	NA

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

First Nations Priority 13

First Nations health programs and services transfer

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	FN12

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (3)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	Yes (3)

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, through Health Transformation, ISC collaborated closely with First Nations partners on six Health Transformation initiatives to build organizational capacity, support the design of governance models, undertake health systems planning, and draft Health Transformation-related agreements, and facilitate community engagement. Funding was directed toward the collaborative development of health service delivery models that reflect the specific needs, cultural frameworks, and priorities of participating First Nations. There are currently six Health Transformation initiatives continuing to progress covering 362 communities across Canada: Battleford Agency Tribal Council in Saskatchewan, Keewatinohk Inniniw Minoayawin Inc. and the Southern Chiefs' Organization in Manitoba, Tajikeyimik in Nova Scotia, Nishnawbe Aski Nation in Ontario, and the First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Health and Social Services Commission. Each group is working with Indigenous Services Canada and the provincial government on the development and implementation of governance agreements that will lead to Framework Agreements and transfer. The first Tripartite Framework Agreements are expected to be approved as early as 2027-28.

ISC also continued to serve as a governance partner within the British Columbia Tripartite First Nations health governance structure, along with the First Nations Health Authority and British Columbia Ministry of Health. In 2026-27, ISC is seeking to implement a renewed Canada Consolidated Contribution Agreement with the First Nations Health Authority, to update and streamline funding, reflecting the evolution of the partnership since transfer. Partners will also work to advance the 10-Year Strategy on the Social Determinants of Health; a tripartite strategy designed to improve the health of British Columbia First Nations through a more holistic approach.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

ISC noted that key activities in 2025-26 for this Action Plan measure include the creation of work and implementation plans with partners to track progress, sharing of templates and financial information to inform First Nation decision making, co-drafted Memorandums of Understanding and Agreements in Principle, and sharing of information on ISC programs and health supports, federal legislation and financial mechanisms, and extensive outreach to potential partners, especially provincial partners, whose representation is key to the success of the Health Transformation process. The department also noted that many First Nations are forced to be reactive in the health space as there are so many urgent and emergent health needs facing communities, as well as ongoing emergencies that impact health service delivery, such as the wildfires in Manitoba in the summer of 2025. As a result, delays arise in focusing on forward agenda and Health Transformation, even though communities continue to value this work.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One partner noted that, in 2025-26, attempts to secure meetings with lead departments were left unanswered for several months making it difficult to advance meaningful partnerships. Lack of funding to support health transformation work and advance partners' health-related mandates are also of concern. Another partner recommended that data sharing agreements should be established that go beyond what may be provided for in Agreements-in-Principle.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Tajikeimik (Nova Scotia) to finalize an Agreement in Principle in 2026-27. [ISC]	Underway	Medium-term
2	Nishnawbe Aski Nation to finalize an Agreement in principle in 2026-27. [ISC]	Underway	Medium-term
3	First Nations of Quebec and Labrador Health and Social Services Commission to develop a proposed governance entity in discussions with Health and Social Services. [ISC]	Complete	NA

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

First Nations Priority 14

Income Assistance program improvements on reserve

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	21
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	Yes (2)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	Yes (2)

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, the Income Assistance program began implementing new disability income supports for eligible clients in jurisdictions where these supports were not previously available (Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Atlantic). This will help low-income persons with disabilities on reserve cover essential living expenses, which are often higher for persons with disabilities. The program also implemented a national service delivery funding model, to be recalculated every 2 years, to provide consistent and equitable allocations across all regions and First Nations funding recipients. This new funding model helps to address the need to build capacity and improve the tools and services required in First Nations communities to better support individuals and families receiving Income Assistance. Lastly, the Income Assistance program also developed and implemented an interim national special needs funding formula for fiscal years 2024-25 and 2025-26, to support increased demand and ensure a more consistent approach to the allocation of special needs funding across regions. This new funding approach will begin to address the need to improve the adequacy of supports, as special needs funding allows program administrators to provide discretionary supports to help individuals and families receiving Income Assistance with their unique challenges or needs.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

ISC has continued to pursue incremental improvements to the on-reserve Income Assistance program in collaboration with First Nations partners, by participating in a long-standing co-development working group with the Assembly of First Nations. The Department has also collaborated with First Nation regional organizations and First Nations funding recipients to ensure the implementation of new programming is responsive to community needs. Collaboration is largely via ISC regional officials, including engagement with Maritime First Nations to support First Nation-led research, planning, and policy development. The department will continue to work closely with these partners to identify and implement improvements to the Income Assistance program.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Fully implement disability income supports in all First Nation communities to eligible Income Assistance recipients with disabilities in 2026-27. [ISC]	Underway	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

First Nations Priority 15

Housing and infrastructure improvements on reserve

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	21, 23
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

As of December 2025, ISC has invested \$4.3 billion in targeted funds towards housing projects on-reserve, enabling First Nations to build and renovate 15,661 homes, with another 11,211 underway. The department has also supported 2,426 completed lot servicing and acquisitions, with another 2,871 underway. Further, this funding supported 1,615 completed projects toward capacity development and innovation, with another 1,260 underway. In 2025, ISC received the initial results from its support for capacity building, technical services, and training and certification. The department found that approximately 55 percent of First Nations now have housing plans, nearly 24 percent have housing managers, and over 21 percent are accessing training and certification. Effective planning and management supports communities to meet their needs and makes it more likely that existing housing stock will fulfill its life cycle.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

ISC noted that the Joint Working Group on Housing, Homelessness, and Related Infrastructure meets quarterly and is a forum used to discuss next steps on advancing a strategic approach to address housing and related infrastructure priorities. On a regional basis, the department works directly with First Nation partners to identify and advance community-based priorities using available funds. Quarterly meetings with the Joint Working Group are expected to continue in 2026-2027, and regional offices will continue to work with First Nations to advance community priorities. In Spring 2026, ISC will lead engagement with on-reserve First Nations on a proposed cross-government Indigenous Housing Strategy.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

First Nations Priority 16

Lifting drinking water advisories

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	21, 23
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, 4 long-term drinking water advisories have been lifted. For example, on 24 December 2025, Miawpukek First Nation in Newfoundland lifted the drinking water advisory on their public water system, after completing upgrades and building a new booster pumping station. In addition, 29 short-term drinking water advisories were lifted. Since the commitment to end all long-term drinking water advisories was made (November 2015), First Nations have lifted 151 long-term drinking water advisories from public systems on reserve, as well as over 330 short-term drinking water advisories. The Government of Canada continues to partner with First Nations to lift all drinking water advisories on public systems on reserves as quickly as possible. At the time of reporting, 97 percent of public water systems on reserve meet the Guidelines for Canadian Drinking Water Quality. Budget 2025 committed to provide \$2.3 billion over three years, starting in 2026-27, to renew the First Nations Water and Wastewater Enhanced Program. This funding will maintain progress on approximately 800 active projects, including those focused on ending remaining water advisories and preventing new ones by upgrading at-risk systems. Also, Budget 2021 provided \$31.3 million in ongoing funding to sustain public health activities related to drinking water and wastewater at existing service levels. With this continued investment, ISC works in partnership with communities to monitor all water and wastewater systems, helping to identify and prevent potential public health risks.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Every year, ISC partners with First Nations to build local expertise and capacity in drinking water and wastewater services management. ISC provided funding support to enhance the capacity and certification of First Nation water operators with the aim of lifting long-term drinking water advisories. The department's key capacity building program is the Circuit Rider Training Program that provides training and mentoring services to operators of First Nations' drinking water and wastewater systems.

To help protect the health of residents, ISC also worked in partnership with First Nations to assist communities in verifying the monitoring of drinking water quality in all water systems at the tap, which included providing advice and guidance about drinking water safety and wastewater disposal.

ISC has noted that some First Nations have insufficient capacity to fully participate in initiatives underway in their communities and must prioritize their participation according to their own requirements. Long-standing historical mistrust between First Nations and the Government of Canada may also continue to impact relationships.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

First Nations Priority 17

First Nations drinking water and wastewater legislation

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	21, 23
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Planning
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Yes
Requires regulation	Yes

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In relation to the transfer of Water and Wastewater services, ISC has made progress on a number of initiatives, including the signing of a framework agreement with Weso'tmk Samqwan Incorporated initiative in New Brunswick, continued work on a service delivery model with the Southern Chiefs of Manitoba, and feasibility studies for water utilities in the Nishnawbe Aski Nations and Treaty 8 of Alberta. However, funding remains a challenge to support these initiatives and ended at the end of 2025-26. With respect to the water legislation, the Government of Canada has reiterated its commitment to introduce clean water legislation, as progress on the former Bill C-61 ended as a result of Parliament's prorogation in January 2025.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

As noted above, ISC worked with a number of partners to advance service delivery transfer to First Nation organizations. First Nations leaders have called on the Government of Canada to bring forward lasting legislation for First Nation management over water and waste water. However, the department also noted that wildfires and other natural disasters delayed consultation and cooperation on initiatives, as leadership and communities were unavailable for engagements and the technicians leading these initiatives were overwhelmed with emergency management responsibilities. In addition, limitations on travel impeded developing new relationships as in-person meetings help to facilitate the development of trust between ISC and transfer partners.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Introduction of new water legislation in Parliament. [ISC]	Not started	Short-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

First Nations Priority 18

Accessible Canada Act implementation on First Nations reserves

Lead department(s)	Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)	Related articles	21, 22
		Related APMs	SP85, IN15

Status	Underway
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, ESDC collaborated with the Assembly of First Nations to build on past engagement with First Nations through their governance structures. Prior collaboration contributed to Assembly of First Nations led First Nations Accessibility Framework, providing a foundation for continued dialogue for First Nations priorities in accessibility. Respecting the September 2025 Chiefs in Council Resolution calling for the co-development of distinct First Nations accessibility legislation, ESDC extended the exemption of First Nations Band Councils from the [Accessible Canada Act](#) to 2033.

Given the Government of Canada's fiduciary accountabilities, ESDC also coordinated internally with other federal departments, including Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), to align accessibility discussions with community-level realities related to infrastructure, service delivery, and approaches to accessibility that align with First Nations priorities, knowledges systems and values. These activities help improve federal readiness to contribute to First Nations specific accessibility measures.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

The intersectional analysis, through ESDC's collaboration with the Assembly of First Nations, was complemented by advocacy perspectives sought from other partners. Regular meetings supported collaborative discussions on key priorities, and some development of evergreen work plans outlining ongoing engagement activities.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One partner pointed to the need for more capital and infrastructure investments to ensure that First Nations can make accessible their public infrastructure. They also called for funding that is direct,

sufficient and sustainable so that Indigenous peoples with disabilities can continue living within their Nations and ensure their full and meaningful involvement in implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

First Nations Priority 19

First Nations control of First Nations education

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	3, 4, 5, 14
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (3)
Developed with partners	Yes (3)
Can be disaggregated	Yes (3)

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

ISC continues to advance First Nations control of First Nations education, recognizing that education services designed and delivered directly by First Nations are crucial to supporting student success and closing education attainment gaps. First Nations partners are best placed to make decisions about their education priorities, including how best to allocate resources to address the unique needs of the students in their communities. As such, First Nations have the flexibility to determine how resources are allocated for all of their elementary and secondary education programming needs.

In 2025-26, ISC's Elementary and Secondary Education Program provided funding to 541 First Nations-administered education programs across Canada, and supported approximately 120,500 First Nations students ordinarily resident on reserve to attend schools both on reserve and off reserve. Between 2016-17 and 2025-26, enrolment in First Nations-administered full-day kindergarten has increased by 115%. In 2025-26, 94% of students attending First Nations administered schools were taught at least one subject in a First Nations language, and approximately 95% of students were provided with culturally-based curriculum or land-based learning services. To date, 12 regional education agreements have been signed and ten remain active, supporting over 30,000 students across six provinces.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025-26, ISC continued to hold collaborative discussions with First Nations partners through regional technical tables to guide the implementation of the co-developed approach to education funding, and identify and address First Nations' education needs. Additionally, the Education Partnerships Program supports partnerships between First Nations education organizations and provincial or territorial systems, focusing on governance and service delivery. Capacity building is facilitated through funding and resources for training and technical assistance. Continuous dialogue is maintained to build trust

and address issues, reflecting ISC's commitment to meaningful consultation and cooperation with First Nations partners.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Some partners indicated that engagement with the federal government related to this Action Plan Measure over the past year has been limited, citing stalled discussions, delayed responses to ministerial correspondence, and limited contact following Joint Education Technical Table meetings. They expressed the view that this Action Plan measure may not fully reflect the intent of the Declaration, particularly Article 14 concerning the right of First Nations to develop and control their own education systems. Some partners also suggested that the current emphasis on Regional Education Agreements may not sufficiently support nation-to-nation co-development or First Nations-designed education approaches. They emphasized that it would be helpful for the Government to invest in more effective communication and collaboration going forward, as this could assist in decision-making for any new funds that become available. Partners further noted that internal mandates and departmental processes pose challenges to advancing collaboration, and that the Action Plan measure's focus on funding mechanisms may not fully capture broader considerations related to the rights and needs of First Nations children and communities, including adequate school infrastructure in communities.

The first three years of implementation of the \$1.1 billion Regional Education Agreement signed in 2022 with the First Nations Education Council of Quebec have produced encouraging results, including increased qualified staff, improved school attendance, stronger community engagement, and enhanced system capacity. Its potential renewal offers an opportunity to demonstrate continued commitment to the UN Declaration Act Action Plan and to support the next implementation period.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Inuit Priority 1

Co-developing approaches to implement Inuit self-determination

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	3, 4, 18, 34
		Related APMs	IN9

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Canada is actively supporting the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee and is using the established Inuit Nunangat Policy Implementation Task Group to co-develop a guidance document, supporting a whole-of-government approach towards implementing the Cabinet Directive on the Implementation of the Inuit Nunangat Policy approved in December 2024, by emphasizing training, tools, and guidance for federal departments and agencies.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CIRNAC and Inuit partners held weekly Inuit Nunangat Policy Implementation Task Group meetings throughout fiscal year 2025-26 to develop training tools and a guidance document to support federal departments and agencies in implementing the policy.

In 2026-27, the Task Group will continue to collaborate to assess the effectiveness of the implementation tools, identify any need for additional materials, and monitor and evaluate the Policy and its implementation, including through the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Co-develop guidance document to support the implementation of the Inuit Nunangat Policy. [CIRNAC]	Underway	Medium-term
2	Co-develop a Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning framework with Inuit partners. [CIRNAC]	Planning	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Inuit Priority 2

Inuit Nunangat approach to modern treaty implementation

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	27, 37
		Related APMs	MT1

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Implementation of the Inuit Nunangat Policy, endorsed in April 2022, supports existing modern treaties and self-government agreements, including their implementation and review processes, objectives, and established relationships, as well as related federal principles, policies, and directives. Inuit partners remain directly engaged in implementing and assessing the policy through groups established by the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee. This work and funding is also tied to Action Plan measures Inuit Priority 9 and Modern Treaty Partner Priority 1 supporting policy and engagement mechanisms to enable education, awareness, and collaboration with Indigenous partners, including Inuit partners. CIRNAC noted that future changes to funding and capacity may be required to support both internal federal work and external work with other key Indigenous partners and stakeholders.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CIRNAC noted that Inuit Modern Treaty partners remain engaged in the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee and the working groups formed under the Modern Treaty Implementation Policy to support implementation, monitoring, and assessment of the Inuit Nunangat approach across other policies. Section 5 mandates that the Inuit Nunangat approach must ensure the policy does not disadvantage Inuit, enhance coordination across the federal system to promote equitable access to federal programs, services, and initiatives for Inuit, and involve Inuit in the early stages of program renewal or design.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Complete Federal Guidelines. [CIRNAC]	Underway	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Inuit Priority 3

Amending Inuit modern treaties

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	3, 23, 32, 37
		Related APMs	IN2, MT1, MT3, SP25

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

For the Inuvialuit Final Agreement, CIRNAC held implementation committee meetings as well as multiple Recognition of Indigenous Rights and Self-Determination meetings in relation to treaty modernization. There have also been discussions on funding for implementation and to support various socio-economic issues, as well as working with Inuvialuit and other partners on an Economic Measures Review and their annual report. For implementation of the Nunavut Agreement, 10-year funding from 2024 to 2034 of \$1.5 billion and \$77.6 million per year ongoing will support Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, the Government of Nunavut, the five Institutions of Public Government, and Pilimmaksaivik (Federal Centre of Excellence for Inuit Employment in Nunavut). CIRNAC also continued implementation work through the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement, with multiple priorities being advanced including completion of the Fiscal Financing Review Report leading into a Fiscal Financing Agreement Renewal and discussions on treaty modernization.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CIRNAC continued discussion related to renewing the Inuvialuit Final Agreement, listening to Inuvialuit perspectives on what changes they want to see made to their Agreement, and liaising with other government departments. In addition, the department continued discussions on amendments to the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement in 2025-26, noting they are tripartite and consensus based. Meetings through the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement and Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement take place 5 times per year to discuss outstanding implementations issues and solutions. Regular consultation under the Nunavut Agreement continued, particularly in relation to the Nunavut Implementation Panel and activities as detailed in the Nunavut Agreement Implementation Contract. However, CIRNAC noted that there is limited capacity at the federal, provincial and territorial levels, as well as with Indigenous partners to advance this Action Plan measure. Implementation of Inuit modern

treaties is an ongoing responsibility and consultation and cooperation with Indigenous Peoples form part of daily operations to address implementation issues and advance treaty amendments.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	New Implementation discussions with Makivvik. [CIRNAC]	Planning	Long-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Inuit Priority 4

ICPC as the primary mechanism to advance priorities

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	18, 20, 23, 29, 37
		Related APMs	IN8

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

CIRNAC actively engaged with the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee to advance shared Inuit-Crown priorities. Inuit-Crown Working Groups worked toward the completion of work plan deliverables under the following 13 priority areas in 2025-26: Inuit Land Claims Implementation; Inuktitut Revitalization, Maintenance, Protection and Promotion; Inuit Nunangat Policy Space; Reconciliation Measures and MMIWG and 2SLGBTQIA ; Education, Early Learning and Skills Development; Health and Wellness; Housing; Infrastructure; Homelessness; Economic Development and Procurement; Legislative Priorities; International Inuit Issues and; Sovereignty, Defence and Security. During the reporting period, Environment and Climate Change (ECCC) continued to be paused as a priority area.

The Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee was also used as a mechanism to engage on other emerging priorities, namely, major projects of national interest. The department noted that funding is allocated to Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami to support their participation, and the participation of the four Inuit Treaty Organization's, in the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee.

In early 2025–26, the Treasury Board Secretariat of Canada (TBS) and the Nunavut Tunngavik Inc., the Designated Inuit Organization, worked collaboratively to co-chair the 5th annual Review Committee meeting. Together, TBS and Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. developed the meeting agenda focused on priority issues and substantive topics for discussion. In preparation, TBS also worked with other federal lead implementing departments, such as Indigenous Services Canada (ISC) and Public Services and Procurement Canada (PSPC), to address the action items from the 4th annual RC and to jointly develop the associated workplans. These joint workplans supported a shared understanding of opportunities to strengthen guidance for federal practitioners, such as the use of standing offers and supply arrangements under the Nunavut Settlement Agreement. A key outcome of TBS's work with Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. was to finalize technical bid requirements and ensure alignment with Inuit and Nunavut benefits criteria. A Request For Proposals was developed and posted in August 2025 and closed in December 2025.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025-26, CIRNAC held two meetings of federal and Inuit leaders. The first was co-chaired by the Prime Minister and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami President Obed and held in July 2025 in Inuvik. A second Leaders meeting was held in Ottawa in November 2025, co-chaired by Minister Alty and President Obed to discuss progress on shared priority areas, the federal Budget, and other emerging issues. Working groups continued meeting throughout the year to make progress on work plan deliverables across several priority areas. Meeting materials, including agendas, joint briefing materials, work plans and the joint annual progress report under Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee are co-developed based on consultation and cooperation.

TBS worked closely with Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. and other lead implementing departments (ISC and PSPC) to advance implementation of the Nunavut Directive through sustained, collaborative engagement. Together, these partners continued to address workplan activities that were raised in the fourth Review Committee by reviewing procurement and real property leasing data for the Nunavut Settlement Area and agreeing on an approach to qualitative data analysis. They also jointly defined the contractor requirements and technical bid criteria for the first independent five-year assessment of the Directive, and developed guidance on the use of standing offers and supply arrangements in the region, including a plan to address leasing challenges. TBS and Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. also co-developed the agenda for, and co-chaired, the fifth Review Committee in early 2025–26, which featured substantive discussion of federally funded programs supporting Nunavut Directive outcomes and reaffirmed a shared commitment to continuous improvement and co-development. Throughout 2026–27, TBS will work closely with Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. to advance the action items arising from the fifth Review Committee.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Continue to advance Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee co-developed priorities and meet the milestones identified in the workplans. [CIRNAC]	Implementation ongoing	Medium-term
2	Finalize requirements and posting the Request For Proposals for the first independent 5-year review of the Nunavut Directive in cooperation with the Review Committee, which is co-chaired by TBS and a representative of Nunavut Tunngavik Inc. [TBS]	Underway	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: TBS

Inuit Priority 5

ICPC as a mechanism to implement UNDA

Lead department(s)	Justice Canada (JUS)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The Legislative Priorities Working Group of the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee, co-chaired by Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and JUS, co-developed the guidance document titled "Implementing Consultation and Cooperation with Inuit". The document was finalized in Fall 2025 and was conditionally endorsed at the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee Leaders Meeting on November 24, 2025. It responds to Inuit partners' and Canada's interest in developing a shared understanding of, and consistent guidance on, the meaning of "consultation and cooperation" as used in the UN Declaration Act and also helps to make progress on Shared Priority 1 of the Action Plan. While JUS has provided funding to support Inuit partners' involvement in UN Declaration Act implementation, specific Action Plan measures, such as Inuit Priority 5, may require additional funding. CIRNAC also receives core, ongoing funding for the work of the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee. Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami has received funding through the Indigenous Partnership Fund to support continued participation in the implementation of the UN Declaration Act and Action Plan. This funding will also support Inuit Treaty Organizations.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

JUS and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami met as needed to advance initiatives related to the implementation on this Action Plan measure, including the "Implementing Consultation and Cooperation with Inuit" guidance document. Discussions focused on clarifying the guidance's scope, purpose, and audience, with materials exchanged between JUS and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami to reach a consensus on language and content. The Legislative Priorities Working Group of the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee will develop a workplan for 2026-27 to continue to advance its work, including in relation to this Action Plan measure.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Inuit Priority 6

Periodic reporting to ICPC

Lead department(s)	Justice Canada (JUS)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

JUS and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami co-chair the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee Legislative Priorities Working Group, and JUS participates in Senior Officials and Leaders meetings. JUS and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami have also recently created a sub-working group to advance measures identified in the federal Indigenous Justice Strategy. JUS also shares the UN Declaration Act Annual Report with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and Inuit Treaty Organizations outside of Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee processes. CIRNAC also receives core, ongoing funding for the work of the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee. Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami has received funding through the Indigenous Partnership Fund to support continued participation in the implementation of the UN Declaration Act and Action Plan. This funding will also support Inuit Treaty Organizations.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

The Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee Legislative Priorities Working Group, which also includes representatives from the four Inuit Treaty Organizations as well as CIRNAC and ISC, met regularly during 2025-26. These meetings served as a forum to advance work on initiatives related to this Action Plan measure, including jointly drafting and approving the Legislative Priorities Working Group input into the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee Annual Report on Progress. JUS plans to continue meeting and working with Inuit partners through the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee, both in and outside the Legislative Priorities Working Group, until updated direction is provided. JUS and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami have also recently struck a sub-working group of the Legislative Priorities Working Group to advance measures within the federal Indigenous Justice Strategy.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Inuit Priority 7

ICPC as the exclusive body to review and amend the Action Plan's Inuit chapter

Lead department(s)	Justice Canada (JUS)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Not started
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

While the process to review and update the [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act](#) Action Plan is still in the preliminary stages, the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee will be the body used to review and amend the Inuit chapter as required.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

The department noted that consultation and cooperation has not yet occurred as the implementation of this Action Plan measure is in planning stages. It is anticipated that as work progresses to review and update of the [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act](#) Action Plan, JUS will work through the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee Legislative Priorities Working Group processes.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Inuit Priority 8

ICPC permanency

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	18, 20, 23, 29
		Related APMs	IN4

Status	Planning
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

At the May 2024 meeting of the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee, federal and Inuit Leaders discussed the issue of legislation in relation to ICPC. Federal leaders noted the challenges of advancing legislation and instead recommended that attention be focused on strengthening the existing processes that were in place to help further advance a cultural shift in the public service. While there have since been periodic discussions between CIRNAC and Inuit partners on the matter, strengthening existing processes continue to be the priority.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CIRNAC noted that there have been periodic discussions with Inuit partners at the working level on advancing legislation for the permanency of the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee. Work has proceeded on strengthening existing processes to regularize the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee and associated processes within the federal public service. This work will continue into the 2026-27 fiscal year.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Inuit Priority 9

Inuit-Crown Co-development Principles and Inuit Nunangat Policy

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	18, 20, 23, 29
		Related APMs	IN1

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

CIRNAC noted that it is working with its Inuit partners on the implementation of the Inuit Nunangat Policy, and awareness of the approved 2024 Cabinet Directive, with a focus on training, tools, and a guidance document to support federal departments and agencies. Working with the Canada School of Public Service is also progressing on a course on Inuit issues, which will include the Inuit Nunangat Policy. The department also noted that no dedicated funding was attached to the Cabinet Directive itself or associated guidance documents and tools.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CIRNAC and Inuit partners held weekly Inuit Nunangat Policy Implementation Task Group meetings throughout fiscal year 2025-26 to advance developing training, tools, and a guidance document to support federal departments and agencies in implementing the policy. These meetings are between federal officials at the director level and below, and Inuit partners at the technical level.

The Inuit Nunangat Policy Implementation Task Group plans to continue to meet in 2026-27 to co-develop a guidance document for federal departments and agencies to implement the policy Cabinet Directive, with the goal to release the document in 2026. CIRNAC and Inuit partners will continue joint work to monitor and evaluate the policy and its implementation, including through the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Co-developed guidance document to support the implementation of the Inuit Nunangat Policy. [CIRNAC]	Implementation ongoing	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Inuit Priority 10

Guidelines to engage Inuit Treaty Organizations on international issues

Lead department(s)	Global Affairs Canada (GAC)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	SP72

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

GAC previously hired an external consultant to conduct a mapping exercise to describe how federal departments and agencies are currently engaging with Indigenous Peoples on international issues that affect them and to identify any gaps. The questionnaire that was used to interview federal departments was co-developed with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami. In 2025-26 work has included meeting with the UN Declaration Implementation Secretariat at Justice Canada and other federal departments to discuss best practices for Action Plan measure specific working groups, preparation for engaging Indigenous Peoples, and planning for an interdepartmental working group. GAC is engaged with the Consultation & Cooperation team within the Secretariat to seek guidance on engaging Indigenous Peoples and co-develop policy guidelines for Indigenous engagement on international issues.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Indigenous partners were engaged on earlier stages of advancing this Action Plan measure and will continue to be involved as work progresses. This year focused largely on internal coordination within the federal government and planning for future work. GAC has been able to engage Indigenous Peoples on international issues that affect them in the context of the Indo-Pacific Strategy and Arctic Foreign Policy, as well as through the new Arctic Ambassador who is conducting significant domestic outreach. GAC worked with the Inuit Circumpolar Council, Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, and the four Inuit Treaty Organizations through the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee sub-group on the Arctic Foreign Policy, to discuss implementation and co-development of the Arctic Ambassador's mandate. The department is planning to develop an engagement strategy rooted in the advice of the UN Declaration Implementation Secretariat Cooperation & Consultation team and other relationships through engaging Indigenous partners on international issues.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Inuit Priority 11

Co-developing regulations for Inuktitut federal services

Lead department(s)	Canadian Heritage (PCH)	Related articles	13
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

PCH continued work to guide the advancement of access to federal services in Indigenous languages in support of the [Indigenous Languages Act](#), which sets out a process to formalize this access by way of agreements, arrangements, and/or regulations. Through engagement with over 20 federal departments and agencies and in collaboration with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, PCH held a process to determine the capacity of the federal government to provide services in Inuktitut in Nunavut and identify opportunities to further enhance services. A 'What We Heard' engagement report was completed and has been shared with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, with the intent to release publicly in early 2026-27. Building on the report findings, PCH will work to identify opportunities to further enhance access to federal services in Indigenous languages and inform the co-development of formal agreements, arrangements, and/or regulations. The department is leveraging existing funding allocated through the Indigenous Languages Program for engagement to Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami to support their capacity for participation in implementation this Action Plan measure.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

As noted above, PCH shared a "What We Heard" engagement report with Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated for comment and a related presentation was made to members of the Joint Implementation Steering Committee. PCH noted that the engagement report is expected to be released publicly in early 2026-27. The department will continue to consult and cooperate with Indigenous partners, including members of Joint Implementation Steering Committee and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated as work advances.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Work with over 20 departments to determine the federal government's capacity to support increased access to services in Inuktitut in Nunavut including those related to translation and/or interpretation. [PCH]	Implementation ongoing	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Inuit Priority 12

Inuit country or traditional foods framework

Lead department(s)	Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA)	Related articles	20
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (3)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	Yes (3)

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, under the auspices of the Inuit-Crown Food Security Working Group the government partners worked with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami to update the activities within the co-developed workplan with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and Inuit Treaty Organizations. These activities included Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami completing the development of an Inuit Treaty Organization Regional Interview Report, drafting a scoping paper identifying challenges in Inuit Nunangat, the CFIA, AAFC, and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) providing federal presentations that included the existing regulatory landscape, and holding in-person knowledge exchange sessions in Inuvik from December 2nd to 4th, 2025. As co-leads for the Action Plan measure, the CFIA and AAFC participated in work planning and scoping for this Action Plan measure, as Budget 2024 provided funding to support expenditures that could be incurred and provided capacity funding to support Inuit partners in the co-development process.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

The government partners worked closely with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and Inuit Treaty Organizations to co-develop a workplan which includes the development of a Regional Interview Report and an Inuit-led scoping paper identifying challenges in Inuit Nunangat (as noted above). The government partners continue to work with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and Inuit Treaty Organizations to co-develop solutions to issues that are raised.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Regional assessments from Inuit Treaty Organizations will be carried out to identify specific regulatory and policy gaps. [AAFC, CFIA, DFO]	Not started	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: DFO

Inuit Priority 13

Inuit health equity and self-determination over health services

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	SP7, SP8, SP71, IN14, ME11

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	Yes (6)
Developed with partners	Yes (2)
Can be disaggregated	Yes (5)

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, work under the Indigenous Health Equity Fund and related initiatives focused on strengthening Inuit-specific, culturally safe health services and systems. Inuit communities continued implementing regional plans, including ongoing needs assessments for supportive living facilities within Nunatsiavut and enhanced patient navigation and cultural safety practices at health centres in Nunavik. Program administration efforts emphasized collaboration with partners on updating plans, refining reporting on outcomes, and improving how progress is tracked and communicated.

For Aqquasariaq, the Nunavut-based recovery and healing centre grounded in Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, work in 2025-26 included construction, developing program and treatment models, determining governance through a new not-for-profit organization, and finalizing a phased operational work plan.

ISC also noted that, through the Inuit Child First Initiative, work is continuing on a co-developed long-term Inuit-specific approach. A new Inuit Child First Initiative Operations Table was also created in 2025-26 with Inuit Treaty Organizations and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami to address operational issues and support ongoing service delivery.

Lastly, under the Addressing Anti-Indigenous Racism in Canada's Health Systems initiative, work continued to support the Health System Navigator and Patient Advocate roles in the Inuvialuit Settlement Region and Nunavik, and advance Inuit-led midwifery projects through gatherings with Elders and experts, alongside support for community-based midwifery services and education.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025-26, ISC officials continued working with Inuit partners on the implementation of the Indigenous Health Equity Fund through regular outreach to monitor implementation and progress, and by maintaining ongoing discussions with Inuit leadership, including on reporting strategies.

Also in 2025-26, partners decided that a not-for-profit organization will govern Aqqusariaq, the Nunavut-based recovery and healing centre, and will collaborate on a multi-year operational work plan and phased opening. The Government of Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated also undertook extensive community engagement and consultation on Aqqusariaq's design, development and governance.

Through the new Inuit Child First Initiative Operations Table, ISC, Inuit Treaty Organizations and Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami met regularly to identify service delivery issues related to the Operational Bulletin, seek practical solutions, and address barriers such as limited access to licensed professionals in Inuit Nunangat. ISC also participated in the National Inuit Committee on Health – First Nations and Inuit Health Branch Senior Management Committee in May 2025, committing with Inuit partners to advance a National Framework.

Lastly, ISC engaged consistently with Indigenous partners via the Addressing Anti-Indigenous Racism Advisory Circle and other meetings focused on information sharing about program decisions and partner projects.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Completed construction of Aqqusariaq (the substantial completion date for the centre is slated for Summer 2026). [ISC]	Underway	Short-term
2	Endorsement by Inuit leadership and Canada of the National Framework and interim regional approaches to the Inuit-specific long-term approach to the Inuit Child First Initiative. [ISC]	Planning	Short-term
3	Develop implementation plan based on the National Framework for the Inuit-specific long-term approach to the Inuit Child First Initiative. [ISC]	Planning	Medium-term
4	Implementation of the long-term Inuit-specific approach to the Inuit Child First initiative. [ISC]	Not started	Long-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Inuit Priority 14

FPTI collaboration on Inuit social conditions and health services

Lead department(s)	Various	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	SP7, SP8, SP71, IN13, ME11

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	Yes (3)
Developed with partners	Yes (2)
Can be disaggregated	Yes (2)

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, work under the Indigenous Health Equity Fund and related initiatives focused on strengthening Inuit-specific, culturally safe health services and systems. Inuit communities continued implementing regional plans, including ongoing needs assessments for supportive living facilities within Nunatsiavut and enhanced patient navigation and cultural safety practices at health centres in Nunavik. Program administration efforts emphasized collaboration with partners on updating plans, refining reporting on outcomes, and improving how progress is tracked and communicated.

For Aqqusariaq, the Nunavut-based recovery and healing centre grounded in Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit, work in 2025-26 included construction, developing program and treatment models, determining governance through a new not-for-profit organization, and finalizing a phased operational work plan.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025-26, ISC officials continued working with Inuit partners on the implementation of the Indigenous Health Equity Fund through regular outreach to monitor implementation and progress, and by maintaining ongoing discussions with Inuit leadership, including on reporting strategies.

Also in 2025-26, partners decided that a not-for-profit organization will govern Aqqusariaq, the Nunavut-based recovery and healing centre, and will collaborate on a multi-year operational work plan and phased opening. The Government of Nunavut and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated also undertook extensive community engagement and consultation on Aqqusariaq's design, development and governance.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Complete construction of Aqqusariaq (the substantial completion date for the centre is slated for Summer 2026). [ISC]	Underway	Short-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: ISC

Inuit Priority 15

Supporting Inuit with disabilities

Lead department(s)	Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)	Related articles	21, 22
		Related APMs	SP85, FN18

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Yes
Requires regulation	Yes

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The Engagement Protocol Agreements with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and Pauktuutit Inuit Women of Canada continued to support collaborative engagement through Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and Inuit Crown Partnership Committee governance structures on the four pillars of the Disability Inclusion Action Plan (financial security, employment, accessible and inclusive communities, and a modern approach to disability). This collaboration is primarily undertaken through the National Inuit Committee on Health.

Collaboration across Crown-Inuit collaboration mechanisms continues to explore opportunities to further promote Inuit-led disability-related policies, standards, and supports, grounded in Inuit knowledge systems and community realities, with solutions shaped by lived experience across Inuit Nunangat, including remote and fly-in communities.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

See above.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Inuit Priority 16

National defence infrastructure for Inuit

Lead department(s)	Department of National Defence (DND)	Related articles	30
		Related APMs	IN17, IN18, IN19

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

As plans for further development of Northern Operational Support Hub sites and the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) Northern Basing Infrastructure continue, DND is engaging with Inuit partners to share information and identify opportunities for collaboration. In 2025-26, program and project teams have met with communities and rights-holders to gather feedback and determine interest in projects. The Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee Sovereignty, Defence and Security priority area Joint Task Group on Multipurpose Infrastructure was struck in January 2026, and is implementing priorities outlined in an established workplan to determine what infrastructure might be able to meet Inuit needs while adhering to operational requirements. Specific co-developed deliverables on which Inuit and DND are working constitute indicators of progress for this Action Plan measure.

Through DND's Indigenous Reconciliation Program, proposal-based funding through grants and contributions is available to support Indigenous partners in engaging with DND teams. The department has contributed funding to Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami through Indigenous Services Canada's Strategic Partnerships Initiative to support the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Inuit partners have contributed expertise to inform DND's decisions about NORAD Northern Basing Infrastructure and Northern Operational Support Hubs programs. Decision-making at the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee Sovereignty, Defence, Security tables is consensus-based. Due to limited staff capacity, full attendance at meetings and participation in working groups is limited. This presents a challenge when subject matter experts or essential regional representatives are unable to attend to share their knowledge and perspectives.

The Northern Operational Support Hubs and the NORAD Northern Basing Infrastructure programs and projects will continue to expand. The department will continue to share information, consider input in

decision-making, and further identify opportunities for collaboration with Inuit partners. The Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee Sovereignty, Defence and Security priority area Joint Task Group on Multipurpose Infrastructure will continue to work on the deliverables in the priority area workplan, advancing co-developed guidelines/principles that outline a multi-purpose approach for DND and the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) to consider, where feasible, when planning infrastructure development or upgrades in Inuit Nunangat.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Through the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee, DND, CAF and Inuit representatives will establish a joint task group to co-develop a framing document and guidelines/principles on an approach to shared military/civilian infrastructure. [DND]	Underway	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Inuit Priority 17

Inuit inclusion in national defence policies and programs

Lead department(s)	Department of National Defence (DND)	Related articles	30
		Related APMs	IN16, IN18, IN19

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

DND co-leads the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee Sovereignty, Defence and Security priority area, which brings together federal and Inuit partners to discuss and share information on policies, programs and initiatives focused on Inuit Nunangat, so that considerations could be integrated in planning and delivery. These bilateral engagements continue year-round at senior leadership and working levels.

The Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) collaborates on an ongoing basis with Inuit Treaty Organizations and their designates to identify considerations for domestic and international military initiatives and exercises in Inuit Nunangat. DND project proponents also engage with Inuit Treaty Organizations or their designates to identify Inuit and Inuit Nunangat-specific priorities and considerations for inclusion, where feasible, in the respective initiatives.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Inuit partners have contributed expertise to inform DND decisions about military operations and exercises, as well as related to ongoing projects in Inuit Nunangat, with all decision-making at Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee tables being consensus-based. Scheduling conflicts and capacity issues, particularly outside of major centres, decreased the opportunities for in-person meetings with Inuit partners.

Annual military exercises and operations will continue to incorporate considerations from Inuit rights-holders in their planning and execution. Participants at the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee Sovereignty, Defence and Security priority area will continue to discuss and share information on policies, programs and initiatives focused on Inuit Nunangat.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Inuit Priority 18

Inuit access to national defence procurement

Lead department(s)	Department of National Defence (DND)	Related articles	30
		Related APMs	IN16, IN17, IN19

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee Sovereignty, Defence and Security priority area Joint Task Group on Procurement was struck in January 2026 and is implementing priorities to improve DND and the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) procurement policies, guidelines, practices, and initiatives to increase Inuit access to defence procurement while adhering to operational requirements. Through DND's Indigenous Reconciliation Program, proposal-based funding through grants and contributions is available to support Indigenous partners. The department has contributed funding to Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami through Indigenous Services Canada's Strategic Partnerships Initiative to support the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Though decision-making at the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee tables is consensus-based, capacity issues to ensure full attendance at meetings and participation in working groups was limited. This presented challenges when subject matter experts or essential regional representatives are unable to attend to share their knowledge and perspectives. The Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee Sovereignty, Defence and Security priority area Joint Task Group on Procurement will continue to work on specific deliverables outlined in an established workplan, which constitute performance indicators towards a co-developed proposal for updated DND and the CAF procurement policies, guidelines, practices, and initiatives to increase Inuit access to defence procurement.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Through the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee, DND, CAF and Inuit representatives will establish a joint task group to co-develop a framing document and guidelines/principles on an approach to shared military/civilian infrastructure. [DND]	Underway	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Inuit Priority 19

Inuit Nunangat approach to national defence programs and conduct

Lead department(s)	Department of National Defence (DND)	Related articles	30
		Related APMs	IN16, IN17, IN18

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

The Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee Sovereignty, Defence and Security priority area brings together federal and Inuit partners to discuss the application of an Inuit Nunangat approach to DND programs and conduct. These bilateral engagements continue year-round at senior leadership and working levels. The Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) collaborates on an ongoing basis with Inuit Treaty Organizations and their designates to identify considerations for domestic and international military initiatives and exercises in Inuit Nunangat. In this way, DND conduct respects Inuit jurisdiction and self-determination. The department also noted that, through the Indigenous Reconciliation Program, proposal-based funding from grants and contributions is available to support Indigenous partners in engaging with DND teams. Funding has also been provided to Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami through Indigenous Services Canada's Strategic Partnerships Initiative to support the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025-26, DND noted that Inuit partners have contributed expertise to inform decisions about timing and location of exercises and operations in Inuit Nunangat. The department coordinated internally across various areas of responsibility to take an Inuit Nunangat approach to sharing information and planning initiatives across Inuit Nunangat. However, due to limited staff capacity, full attendance at meetings and participation in working groups is limited. This presented challenges when subject matter experts or essential regional representatives are unable to attend to share knowledge and perspectives. DND will continue to solicit intelligence, advice, and recommendations from Inuit experts to inform departmental decisions about timing and location of exercises and operations in Inuit Nunangat. Similarly, Inuit input into the planning of different projects and initiatives in Inuit Nunangat will continue to be considered in the decision-making process in alignment with operational priorities.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Inuit Priority 20

Sharing national security information with Inuit Treaty Organizations

Lead department(s)	Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Funding not required
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

CSIS noted that this Action Plan measure is being implemented in partnership with Inuit through regular meetings focused on sharing threat information and discussing concerns about the threat environment. CSIS is working to identify additional information that can be shared with Inuit partners to strengthen their resiliency. The agency noted that no funding is required for this Action Plan measure.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CSIS engages in regular meetings with Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami and Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated to outline shared priorities, exchange threat information, build resiliency against emerging threats, and provide briefings. Most recently this included a planned threat briefing to the Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami Board of Directors. Work is also ongoing with all four Inuit Treaty Organizations, and Inuit Circumpolar Council-Canada to grant SECRET security clearances, deliver threat and travel security briefings, host Inuit organizations and project proponents at CSIS headquarters, and conduct outreach through visits to multiple northern communities and participation in regional forums and summits.

Future consultation and cooperation plans include additional threat briefings for Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami, Inuit Circumpolar Council Canada, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, and Nunavut nation-building project proponents, continued security clearance processes for Inuit officials, identification of further shared priorities through the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee Sovereignty, Defense, and Security Working Group, as well as advancing relationships with Makivik Corporation and the Inuvialuit Regional Corporation.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Threat briefing to Inuit Circumpolar Council -Canada all-staff. [CSIS]	Underway	Short-term
2	Threat briefing to Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami Board of Directors. [CSIS]	Planning	Short-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Inuit Priority 21

Supporting Inuit primary and secondary education

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	14
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Planning
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Work to advance this Action Plan measure continued in 2025-26 within the Education, Early Learning and Skills Development Working Group. In 2025-26, the Working Group focused on developing a shared understanding of the goals and objectives of the co-developed federal policy on Inuit elementary and secondary education, and on identifying key considerations to help guide the policy's direction to better respond to the needs of Inuit learners across Inuit Nunangat. Co-development of a federal policy continues to be a priority for Inuit partners under the Inuit Crown Partnership Committee Permanent Bilateral Mechanism.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

ISC collaborated with Inuit partners through multiple engagement channels, including the Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee Permanent Bilateral Mechanism table, the Education, Early Learning and Skills Development Working Group, and bilateral meetings held throughout the year. These engagement activities supported ongoing dialogue, helped clarify priorities, and ensured that Inuit perspectives informed the co-development process. This contributed to advancing this Action Plan measure and the objectives of the Education, Early Learning and Skills Development Working Group.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Inuit Priority 22

Co-developing Nunavut Fishery Regulations

Lead department(s)	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Yes
Requires regulation	Yes

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In the 2025-26 fiscal year, DFO completed consultations with rights-holders and stakeholders on the Policy Intentions Paper on the Nunavut Fishery Regulations. The department also advanced the co-development of a detailed regulatory design document for the proposed Nunavut Fishery Regulations. As required, funding has been distributed via service contracts to Indigenous Wildlife Management Organizations to assist with costs associated with consultation and cooperation undertaken in 2025-26. Service contracts were also signed with the relevant treaty/land claim organizations to enable participation in working group meetings. DFO noted that funding will be required for future consultation and the continued co-development and implementation of the Nunavut Fishery Regulations.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

DFO noted that Indigenous partners were involved at every step in the development of the consultation strategy. Indigenous partners provided guidance on who should be consulted, when the consultations should take place, where the consultations should be held and how the consultations should happen. Despite working with Indigenous partners to develop the consultation strategy, when consultations were undertaken, the common theme heard was that further in community consultations should be undertaken. While DFO completed the majority of consultations in 2025-26, the department is open to continue to consult with Indigenous peoples as required to co-develop the proposed fishery regulations in addition to working with the relevant treaty/land claim organizations through working group meetings.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Consultations with rights-holders and stakeholders (general public, industry, and Territories and Provinces). [DFO]	Underway	Medium-term
2	Begin process of developing detailed regulatory draft document and Regulatory Impact Analysis Statement Preparation. [DFO]	Underway	Short-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Métis Priority 1

Métis self-determination and self-government

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	3, 4, 33, 37
		Related APMs	ME2, ME3

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Yes
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, Canada and the Otipemisiwak Métis Government renegotiated elements of the 2023 Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Agreement and a Crown consultation and engagement process with Métis groups asserting section 35 rights in Alberta and First Nations in Alberta on the renegotiated Agreement was initiated.

Bill C-21, the *Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty Act* was introduced into Parliament on February 12, 2026 and, if passed, will give legal force and effect to the Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CIRNAC continued negotiations at the Recognition of Indigenous Rights and Self-Determination Tables between various Métis partners and Canada in 2025-26. There has been focused on the co-development of respective and distinct paths to federal recognition in law with each of the Métis Governments attached to Bill C-53 (*An Act respecting the recognition of certain Métis governments in Alberta, Ontario and Saskatchewan*) in light of challenges to the bill's passage.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One Métis partner noted that advancing federal recognition legislation was identified as a key priority in the co-development of the Action Plan and related Métis-specific commitments. Canada did introduce Bill C-53 in June 2023 but was not passed by Parliament. It was also noted that until the legislation is reintroduced and adopted, or another mutually agreed path forward is identified, the related Action Plan commitment remains incomplete. Continued negotiations toward a future treaty with Canada were also highlighted as an important next step.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Métis Priority 2

Redress for Métis claims and historical wrongs

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	3, 4, 37
		Related APMs	ME1

Status	Underway
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

CIRNAC has collaborated with Métis Nation-Saskatchewan to co-develop a Métis Claims Process and has held initial discussions with Otipemisiwak Métis Government and Métis Nation of Ontario. Canada and partners are currently advancing work related to self-government initiatives. CIRNAC also noted that, as current Recognition of Indigenous Rights and Self-Determination funding has been fully allocated to support self-government treaty discussions with the Métis partners at their respective tables, it is unlikely to be sufficient to fully cover any discussions on this Action Plan measure.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

CIRNAC noted that initial discussions took place with the Métis Nation of Ontario at their Recognition of Indigenous Rights and Self-Determination Tables. Future discussions will require consultation and cooperation with Métis government partners to advance their interests, however there is a lack of dedicated resources and funding to advance this Action Plan measure.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One Métis partner has highlighted that there is currently no federal process or policy to address Métis land dispossession, redress historical wrongs, or advance reconciliation of outstanding Métis land claims. Existing mechanisms, such as Canada's Comprehensive Land Claims Policy or the Specific Claims Policy, are not accessible to Métis communities, leaving courts as the primary avenue for pursuing claims. Limited discussions in 2023 on the development of a "Métis Claims Pathway" have seen little progress, and submissions to federal officials and parliamentary committees in 2025 and early 2026 emphasized the need for a dedicated mechanism to resolve historic grievances. Without such a pathway, related UN Declaration provisions on lands, resources, and reparations remain largely unimplemented for Métis communities. Continued collaboration is seen as necessary to co-develop options to advance settlement of outstanding claims.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Métis Priority 3

Co-developed approach to Métis rights recognition and consultation and accommodation

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	3, 4, 37
		Related APMs	ME1

Status	Not started
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

CIRNAC has not yet started a formalized process to advance work on Métis rights and recognition, however the department continues to collaborate with other government departments to support a consistent approach to Métis rights and recognition. CIRNAC noted that resources were not directed toward advancing the initiative because Métis partners prioritized progressing self-government treaty discussions. As a result, this Action Plan measure did not receive focused attention or resources in 2025.26.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

Métis partners have prioritized advancing self-government treaty discussions, and as a result, resources have not been focused on advancing this initiative. At this time resources are being used to advance different priorities identified by partners.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One Métis partner mentioned that their Consultation Agreement provides important clarity on the Crown's consultation and accommodation obligations, offering a streamlined, one-window approach. Recognized as a positive example by Canada's Ministerial Special Representative on Consultation, the agreement has supported a significantly evolved relationship between Canada and Métis communities. In 2024, discussions began to update the agreement to reflect legal developments and the renewed relationship, with ongoing work in 2025 aimed at co-developing and finalizing these updates. An updated draft is anticipated to be completed in 2026.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Métis Priority 4

Reconciliation with Métis Nation British Columbia

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	3, 4, 37
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

CIRNAC noted that, at this time Métis Nation British Columbia is undertaking research to support their request for s.35 recognition. While Canada awaits this report for assessment, Métis Nation British Columbia has developed a detailed work plan including priority items. CIRNAC has started to connect Métis Nation British Columbia with program leads to advance this work plan.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

As noted above, CIRNAC has met with Métis Nation British Columbia to advance this Action Plan measure. The focus has been to support Métis Nation British Columbia's request for section 35 recognition.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Métis Priority 5

Upholding Métis self-determination through implementation of child welfare legislation

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	3, 4, 23, 37
		Related APMs	SP29

Status	Planning
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (2)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

ISC noted that progress continued in implementing [An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families](#). Capacity-building and coordination-agreement discussion-table funding has been made available and distributed to Métis governing bodies. Three Métis governing bodies have signalled their interest in pursuing jurisdiction under Section 20 of the Act. ISC remains committed to identify approaches that best support the implementation of this action measure, including by working with provincial partners, collaborating with Métis governing bodies and through ongoing bilateral discussions with the Métis National Council. The department noted that funding to support consultation and cooperation is allocated through a targeted and demand driven resourcing approach that ensures communities and partners are engaged and able to participate meaningfully.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Engagement between ISC and Métis partners is guided by a distinctions-based approach that recognizes their inherent rights, governance structures, and cultural priorities. Métis governing bodies lead the development and implementation of child and family services, supported by early and sustained collaboration at each stage of progress. This work is advanced through mechanisms that promote transparency, and informed decision-making, including formal dialogue tables, bilateral or trilateral processes with relevant partners, and technical working groups. Together, these efforts strengthen Métis self-determination in alignment with broader Métis frameworks. Ongoing implementation requires sustained consultation and cooperation with Indigenous partners to ensure decisions remain informed, distinctions-based, and aligned with community-driven priorities. This work is further supported by the Act's five-year legislative review, which provides a structured opportunity for partners to assess progress, identify gaps, and guide future implementation. Work in relation to the five-year review has begun with national and regional Métis organizations, with a preliminary focus on definitions and provisions of the Act.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Undertake a review of the provisions and operation of the Act every five years, in collaboration with Indigenous peoples, including representatives of First Nations, the Inuit and the Métis. [ISC]	Underway	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Métis Priority 6

Métis implementation of Self-Government Fiscal Policy

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	3, 4, 37
		Related APMs	MT1

Status	Underway
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Funding not required
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Canada and the four federally recognized Métis governments have established the Métis Fiscal Policy Co-development Process. Participants are still collaborating to co-develop a policy annex and a governance funding methodology that will adapt Canada's Collaborative Self-Government Fiscal Policy specifically for the Métis context. Métis partners finance their participation in the co-development process by reallocating internal resources. This reallocation can come from funds originally designated for Negotiations Support related to self-government agreements or treaties, or from funds under Interim Fiscal Financing Agreements with Canada intended for self-government transition.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Canada's officials met frequently with each federally recognized Métis government during 2025–26 to advance the Métis Fiscal Policy Co-development Process. Meetings were held regularly with each of the four Métis governments to co-develop the Métis adaptation of Canada's Collaborative Self-Government Fiscal Policy. Federal officials will continue co-development work with the four federally recognized Métis governments focused on co-adapting Canada's Collaborative Self-Government Fiscal Policy. The process is expected to be completed in 2026–27.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

One Métis partner noted that significant progress has been made on this measure over the past two fiscal years, although the 2025 federal election caused delays to policy negotiations. Despite limited funding and capacity, work has continued, reflecting the priority of these negotiations within broader self-government discussions. Interim funding under the existing fiscal agreement was set to expire in March 2026, and ongoing discussions aimed to extend it to support continued progress.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Métis Priority 7

Canada-Métis Nation Accord and renewed fiscal relationship

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	3, 4, 19, 37
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, CIRNAC continued to work with Métis partners on a bilateral basis to identify a path forward for continuing engagement with the Métis, including with respect to the fiscal relationship between Canada and the Métis. The department continued to provide direct funding supports to Métis partners, and retains the responsibility for management of the funding agreement and reporting obligations. CIRNAC also noted that while funding supports for working groups can be secured from existing Permanent Bilateral Mechanism funding, ongoing program funding and the necessary authorities have yet to be secured for many priority areas.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes **Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation:** Yes

Going forward, CIRNAC will continue to hold regular bilateral meetings with Métis partners to support the advancement of Métis policy priorities. In addition, some working groups on specific priority areas continued to meet with the Métis National Council and its Governing Members.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Métis partners have emphasized the need to resume discussions to co-develop measures that advance the renewed fiscal relationship under the permanent bilateral mechanism, related Canada-Métis Nation Accord, and Sub-Accords. At the 2025 Métis National Council's Annual General Assembly, which was attended by the Otipemisiwak Métis Government and the Métis Nation Ontario only, a resolution was adopted calling for the renewal of these Sub-Accords and supporting the establishment of a Métis Policy Forum. Funding under certain Canada-Métis National Council Sub-Accords, including economic development, has expired, while others (homelessness, skills and employment training, and housing) are set to sunset in 2028. Sustained engagement will be important to maintain capacity and support for Governing Members in these priority areas. Métis partner called on Canada to allocate \$1 billion of previous funding to Métis governments to address distinct housing needs of Métis citizens. Métis

partners emphasize that any allocation should be co-developed, transparent, and aligned with Métis governance and decision-making processes to ensure that housing investments effectively support Métis communities.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Establish a renewed engagement approach with the Metis partners that can be used to advance activities to identify common priorities, policy requirements, and sources of funds. [CIRNAC]	Underway	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Métis Priority 8

National security threats to Métis

Lead department(s)	Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS)	Related articles	6, 7, 9, 17, 33, 35, 36
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Funding not required
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

CSIS noted that work to advance this Action Plan measure focused on relationship building and information sharing with key Métis partners, primarily with the Métis Nation British Columbia and the Métis National Council.

Limited interest from Métis partners has resulted in implementing the Action Plan measure primarily with the Métis Nation British Columbia and the Métis National Council, however, the department expresses a desire to work with additional Métis partners in the future.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CSIS and the Métis Nation British Columbia held quarterly meetings where questions and concerns could be addressed on issues related to national security. They also participated in the Five Eyes Indigenous Network Summit at CSIS National Headquarters in June 2025, delivering a presentation and attending all unclassified sessions. In addition, the Métis Nation British Columbia also shared perspectives with foreign and Indigenous partners on key national security topics. CSIS also provided threat briefings to the Métis National Council at CSIS National Headquarters in July 2025 and travel security briefings in November 2025 ahead of international travel. The National Métis Veterans Council toured the National Headquarters in October 2025 for threat briefings and information exchange, during which the Métis National Council presented on veterans work. Lastly, Métis National Council and CSIS were coordinating with the Privy Council Office to facilitate security clearances to support further information sharing.

Moving forward, the department aims to continue collaboration with Métis partners to share priorities, exchange information, provide threat awareness, advance security clearances, and prioritize relationship-building.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Métis Priority 9

Justice and Policing Sub-Accord with Métis

Lead department(s)	Justice Canada (JUS), Public Safety Canada (PS)	Related articles	18, 33, 35
		Related APMs	NA

Status	On hold
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In fiscal year 2025-26, the Justice and Policing Working Group with the Métis National Council did not formally meet, as work on the Justice and Policing Sub-Accord is currently on hold. Public Safety Canada and Justice Canada, as the federal co-chairs of the Working Group, are currently determining next steps. Historically, JUS has provided funding to the Métis National Council and its Governing Members (at that time) to support consultation and cooperation in advancing this Action Plan measure, as well as Shared Priority 28 (finalization of the Indigenous Justice Strategy). These two measures have similar purposes and objectives; the reduction of over-representation, reduction of recidivism, the implementation of preventative and culturally responsive measures, and achievement of equity for Métis citizens through self-determination.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025-26, the Justice and Policing Sub-Accord work was paused, and as a result no consultation and cooperation took place. Options are being considered as to next steps.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Métis partners have highlighted challenges in securing consistent engagement and commitment from Canada to advance this Action Plan measure. Ensuring active participation and collaboration will be important to support progress under this Sub-Accord.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Métis Priority 10

Métis Co-development Principles

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), Justice Canada (JUS), Various	Related articles	4, 18, 19, 20
		Related APMs	NA

Status	On hold
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, CIRNAC worked with Métis partners to identify a path forward for continuing engagement with the broader Métis partners, including with respect to the status of the Co-development Principles. It is expected that progress towards this Action Plan measure could continue once a renewed mechanism for engaging with the Métis is established.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CIRNAC noted that, though Canada-Métis Nation Permanent Bilateral Mechanism meetings have been paused and the Co-development Principles have not yet been endorsed by the Prime Minister, the department has been applying the Co-development Principles to their regular bilateral meetings and interactions with Metis partners, including the Métis National Council, Métis Nation British Columbia, Otipemisiwak Métis Government, Métis Nation-Saskatchewan, Manitoba Métis Federation, and Métis Nation of Ontario. Further, some of the working groups on specific priority areas continued to meet with the Métis National Council. Following the Métis Nation-Saskatchewan's and Métis Nation British Columbia's withdrawal from the Métis National Council, CIRNAC determined that the Principles needed to be revisited to ensure that they had broad support. CIRNAC plans to continue to hold direct bilateral meetings at the senior and technical levels with the Métis National Council and its Governing Members, as well as separate meetings with Métis Nation British Columbia, Métis Nation-Saskatchewan, and the Manitoba Métis Federation.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Canada, the Métis National Council and the Governing Members finalized draft Co-development Principles, which were endorsed in principle in January 2024 and serve as a foundation for collaborative development with Métis governments. While partners see this as a significant step forward, additional

work was planned with Governing Members to refine the principles and provide guidance for their practical implementation. Progress on these follow-up discussions was limited, and further engagement between Canada and Métis partners was still pending.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Revision to the Co-development Principles to reflect their application to the appropriate Métis partners. [CIRNAC]	On hold	Long-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Métis Priority 11

Improving equitable health outcomes and services for Métis

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	SP6, SP7, SP8, SP71, SP81, IN13, IN14

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (5)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	Yes (2)

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, the Mental Wellness Program within ISC supported Métis-specific approaches to mental wellness through partnerships with Métis governments and organizations through funding initiatives such as land-based camps, mobile outreach, and counselling services.

In addition, Métis partners are designing and delivering Métis-specific health services through the Indigenous Health Equity Fund. For example, the Otipemisiwak Métis Government is planning to enhance community capacity, expand access to mental health supports via the Community Wellness Advocate Program, and provide ongoing supports after substance use treatment through the Substance Use Recovery Wrap-Around Program and the Connections in Recovery Peer Support Group. Implementation work across regions includes strengthening program administration with Indigenous communities, updating plans, refining reporting on outcomes, and improving progress tracking.

Under the Addressing Anti-Indigenous Racism in Canada's Health Systems initiative, funding is supporting Health System Navigator and Patient Advocate positions in several Métis governments to improve access to culturally safe care. Métis-specific midwifery and doula projects are advancing, including development of a Métis midwifery education program and wrap-around supports for expectant families. Support has also been provided to the Métis Health Experience Program in British Columbia for citizens experiencing healthcare harms.

Based on feedback from Indigenous partners, the department received new authorities to work on separate approaches with First Nations, Inuit, and Métis partners to co-develop policy and/or legislative options. However, there is no additional funding to support this work, which will pose a barrier to participation with partners.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025-26, ISC and the Mental Wellness Program have maintained frequent, structured engagement with Métis partners, primarily for information sharing and coordination. The Mental Wellness Program held voluntary quarterly bilateral meetings with Métis partners to exchange updates on investments and activities, and used the Métis National Council's Métis Vision for Health to guide policy decisions.

ISC officials worked with Métis partners on implementing the Indigenous Health Equity Fund, including regular outreach to support the development of implementation plans, obtain progress updates, and discuss reporting strategies.

The department also engages Indigenous partners through the Addressing Anti-Indigenous Racism Advisory Circle, held meetings with national Indigenous women's organizations, and ad hoc sessions with partners as required, focusing on sharing updates on program decisions and learning about partner projects. The department also engaged with Indigenous partners through the Indigenous Women's Wellbeing Advisory Committee, that provides policy and program advice on issues impacting the health and wellness of First Nations, Inuit and Métis women and 2SLGBTQI+ people across the lifespan.

ISC is a participant of the Government of Canada and Métis Nation permanent bilateral mechanism at all levels; however, the mechanism is currently on pause due to internal Métis governance changes. ISC continues to meet bilaterally with Métis Nation partners, including the Métis National Council and its current Governing Members, Otipemisiwak Métis Government and Métis Nation of Ontario, as well as Métis Nation British Columbia, Métis Nation-Saskatchewan and Manitoba Métis Federation, to share information and advance joint work and priorities.

The department noted that, in relation to new legislative initiatives, federal government departments are in the process of assessing next steps. While there is no additional funding available, in some cases, Indigenous partners have carried forward funding from previous years to support their continued participation.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Métis Priority 12

Métis indicators of poverty and well-being

Lead department(s)	Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)	Related articles	21, 23, 39, 43
		Related APMs	SP75

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, ESDC continued to collaborate through the Métis Nation Council to develop Métis specific indicators of poverty. These indicators will help inform how the Government of Canada measures progress towards the 2030 Sustainable Development Goal in alignment with Métis knowledge systems, priorities and values.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Collaborative work continued through working groups supported by the Métis Nation Council and policy, such as the Métis Health Forum, which included a panel discussion focused on defining poverty and well-being through a Métis lens. The Métis Nation Council shared a report on this engagement to inform ongoing dialogue with ESDC. ESDC will complement collaboration with the Métis Nation Council with bilateral engagement with Métis Nation governments who no longer work through the Métis Nation Council governance and collaboration structures.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	Following the completion of a workplan to co-develop a robust set of Métis-specific indicators of poverty and well-being that reflect the distinct experiences and aspirations of the Métis, work is ongoing in collaboration with the Métis National Council to develop these indicators. This milestone was agreed upon as part of the establishment of the Engagement Protocol Agreement signed in March 2024. [ESDC]	Underway	Long-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Métis Priority 13

K-12 Métis Education Co-Development

Lead department(s)	Indigenous Services Canada (ISC)	Related articles	14
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Planning
Tracking	Behind
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	Maybe

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Due to the pause of the Métis-Nation-Canada Permanent Bilateral Mechanism, internal discussions took place and are ongoing to determine next steps on advancing this Action Plan measure.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

ISC, during the pause in the work of the Permanent Bilateral Mechanism, collaborated horizontally with other federal departments throughout the year to develop options for engagement strategies that would assist officials in their consultation and cooperation with Métis partners moving forward. Internal discussions continue on a departmental engagement approach to advance work for this Action Plan measure.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Indigenous Modern Treaty Partner Priority 1

Co-development of Modern Treaty Implementation Policy

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	2, 4, 5, 18, 19, 23, 27, 31, 37, 38, 39, 40
		Related APMs	SP14, SP19, SP30, SP66, SP67, SP111, IN3, IN9, ME10, MT2, MT7, MT15

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, Canada and Indigenous Modern Treaty Partners continued to co-develop outstanding elements of *Canada's Collaborative Modern Treaty Implementation Policy* with Indigenous Modern Treaty Partners, as set out within Section 8.1 of the Policy. Elements are being addressed based on priorities, capacity and resources among the parties involved.

A. New and improved mechanisms: No advancement as all parties agreed that this work was not a priority in 2025-26.

B. Measurement strategy: Indigenous partners obtained data from Statistics Canada (StatCan), and a work plan was developed to conduct a preliminary analysis. This analysis is expected to be completed in 2026 and will support the development of a future measurement strategy.

C. Exercising jurisdiction: Discussions on removing barriers to the exercise of jurisdiction were moved to bilateral tables, with discussions continuing into 2026-27.

D. Concluding self-government arrangements: CIRNAC continued progress towards co-developing self-government agreements with Indigenous Modern Treaty Partners who do not have self-government arrangements as part of their agreements. The department will continue working with other implicated departments, agencies, provinces, and territories to identify and address barriers that arise at negotiation tables.

E. Supporting evolution of Modern Treaties: CIRNAC is working with partners to facilitate Modern Treaty evolution. This is accomplished through negotiations on amendments tailored to individual agreements. See Modern Treaty Priority 15 for additional information.

F. Improving dispute resolution processes: CIRNAC provided a draft dispute resolution policy to Indigenous Modern Treaty and Self-Governing Partners for input and feedback, with the aim of seeking consensus.

G. Support to Boards: CIRNAC conducted an analysis and provided recommendations on alleviating barriers to Modern Treaty-based board member recruitment and retention; specifically regarding Ministerial member remuneration rates. Approval of remuneration rate increases to 26 Ministerial board members and Chairpersons were announced.

H. Updating the *Cabinet Directive on the Federal Approach to Modern Treaty Implementation*: Work focused on further developing and clarifying key elements of the revised *Cabinet Directive*, including clarifying federal roles and responsibilities, establishing clearer expectations for early engagement and decision-making across federal departments and agencies, promoting Modern Treaty education and awareness within the federal public service, strengthening mechanisms to support the identification and resolution of implementation issues, and enhancing transparency and accountability.

I. Modern Treaty training: Over 5,000 public servants enrolled in the Canada School of Public Service's (CSPS) Modern Treaties course.

J. Improving information sharing: CIRNAC worked closely with Modern Treaty Partners and Self-Government Agreement Holders to finalize the Terms of Reference for the Intergovernmental Leaders' Forum and associated Intergovernmental Policy Circle.

K. Effective and transparent mechanisms: CIRNAC worked closely with Modern Treaty Partners and Self-Government Agreement Holders and federal departments to co-develop draft Terms of Reference items for the Intergovernmental Leaders' Forum. Further, the Intergovernmental Policy Circle has been used as an effective forum to advance key federal priorities with partners, including economic prosperity and major projects.

L. Funding to support participation: CIRNAC streamlined the process to provide more transparent and dedicated funding to support Indigenous Modern Treaty Partners' meaningful participation in legislative, policy, and program development. Initiatives such as the Modern Treaty Implementation Policy Working Group and the Intergovernmental Policy Circle facilitate collaboration between Canada and Modern Treaty Partners on cross-cutting policy issues and brings relationship building to the forefront of policy making.

M. Co-development guidance: CIRNAC worked closely with Modern Treaty Partners to advance co-development where possible. The department provided guidance to other federal departments and agencies on the application of *Canada's Collaborative Modern Treaty Implementation Policy* to support their efforts towards collaborative policymaking and co-development.

N. Fostering cultural competency: Public servants continued to be encouraged to pursue their own cultural competence through learning opportunities such as CSPS courses in Cultural Competency, Indigenous Languages, and fireside chats with Indigenous experts. CIRNAC has mandated 15 hours per year for staff to advance their own cultural competencies.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CIRNAC worked closely with Indigenous Modern Treaty Partners through regular working groups and other mechanisms to determine which sub-elements of this Action Plan measure were of priority, and what resources and capacity would be required to advance these sub-elements. Regular meetings and consultations facilitated discussions on governance, coordination, and the sharing of information, ensuring Indigenous partners had access to timely updates for informed decision-making. Funding was provided to support key collective Crown-Indigenous engagement mechanisms with Indigenous Modern Treaty and Self-Governing Partners. Overall, the commitment to collaboration and the establishment of effective communication channels were central, reflecting a dedication to supporting the implementation of modern treaties and enhancing Indigenous governance. Canada remains committed to ongoing collaboration with Modern Treaty Partners and continues to engage on various key priorities to support the effective implementation of modern treaties.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Overall, partner experiences have been widely varied but limited progress has been made over the past fiscal year. This reflects the breadth of this Action Plan measure, the varied needs and realities of Modern Treaty Partners, and the realities of working with the provinces and territories on Modern Treaty implementation. One Indigenous Modern Treaty Partner specifically noted that it has observed changes in Canada's capacity and engagement, along with challenges in obtaining clarity on Canada's treaty mandates. In addition, getting perspectives from other federal departments has proven to be challenging to advance the work trilaterally. Other Indigenous Modern Treaty Partners stated that they are still waiting for responses to submitted proposals long after related meetings were held.

In relation to specific sub-elements of this Action Plan measure, partners noted the following:

A. New and improved mechanisms: Very limited progress has been made on this sub-element. The lack of progress forces litigation to resolve misinterpretations of treaty rights, as official dispute resolutions mechanisms are ineffective.

B. Measurement strategy: Very limited progress has been made on this sub-element. Work is needed towards a common interpretation of broad objectives and identification of barriers to implementation.

C. Exercising jurisdiction: While some progress was made on this sub-element, work has stalled.

D. Concluding self-government arrangements: There is skepticism towards Canada's commitment to this sub-element. Canada has pushed to limit commitments in treaties and self-government agreements in favour of side agreements like fiscal arrangements to reduce implementation obligations. Partners also noted concerns that federal mandates and approaches do not always reflect the full scope, intent, or precedents established in existing agreements.

E. Supporting evolution of Modern Treaties: Some progress on this sub-element has been made. Two Recognition, Adaptability, Predictability meetings were held with the Alliance of British Columbia Modern Treaty Nations. Progress was also made in relation to treaty amendment processes. At the same time, some partners indicated that progress has been uneven and highlighted the need for more timely follow-

up on implementation commitments, greater transparency, and continued efforts to address longstanding implementation issues in a manner consistent with the principles and objectives of the UN Declaration.

F. Improving dispute resolution processes: Partners reported that a draft dispute resolution policy was received from CIRNAC and they are working collaboratively to review and revise the policy.

G. Support to Boards: Due to lack of resourcing, there has been limited progress since a comprehensive Boards and Committees roundtable held in Whitehorse in March 2025 to highlight with federal representatives the issues and barriers for implementation. While partners welcomed ongoing commitments to work collaboratively on these issues, some expressed a desire for more concrete follow-up actions and clearer pathways to address the concerns raised through the roundtable process.

H. Updating the *Cabinet Directive on the Federal Approach to Modern Treaty Implementation*: In February 2026, CIRNAC indicated to Indigenous Modern Treaty Partners that they are reviewing the Cabinet Directive and it will be shared in the near term. Some partners expressed concern regarding the pace of progress on the updated Cabinet Directive, noting that delays in its finalization have contributed to uncertainty regarding its practical application across federal departments. Several partners indicated that inconsistent implementation approaches can create administrative burdens, duplication of effort, and additional costs for Indigenous governments, particularly where capacity is already constrained. Some also noted that significant efforts were undertaken by Indigenous partners to provide input within relatively short timelines and expressed a desire to see that work reflected in a timely manner.

I. Modern Treaty training: There has been no meaningful change in public servant awareness related to Modern Treaties. Although this has been acknowledged by CIRNAC, results and engagement with other government departments also shows it is not clear if meaningful work has been undertaken to provide training to federal government officials to ensure Modern Treaties are respected and promises upheld.

J. Improving information sharing: No meaningful work was undertaken during this reporting period to advance this sub-element. Modern treaty partners expressed frustration at the lack of progress, given the commitment to improve information sharing in Canada's Collaborative Modern Treaty Implementation Policy.

K. Effective and transparent mechanisms: While Indigenous partners did indicate positive conversations within the Intergovernmental Policy Circle, no meaningful work was undertaken during this reporting period to advance this sub-element.

L. Funding to support participation: No meaningful work was undertaken during this reporting period to advance this sub-element. Modern Treaty partners expressed continued frustration at the lack of consistent or dedicated funding for legislative, policy, or program engagement.

M. Co-development guidance: No meaningful work has been undertaken on co-developing guidance that provides instructions to federal departments and agencies on the meaning and parameters of legislative and policy co-development, and the specific circumstances under which co-development should occur.

N. Fostering cultural competency: There has been no meaningful change in public servant education, knowledge and understanding of Modern Treaties. Modern Treaty and Self-Governing Partners noted the absence of a process to identify and address federal legislative and policy barriers.

Milestones

No	Milestone	Status	Timeline
1	F. Advancement of a new approach to Dispute Resolution. [CIRNAC]	Underway	Short-term
2	D. Signature of Final Self-Government Agreement for the Tlegohli Got'ine. [CIRNAC]	Implementation ongoing	Medium-term

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Indigenous Modern Treaty Partner Priority 2

Federal implementation of Modern Treaties

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), Various	Related articles	13, 15, 18, 19, 37
		Related APMs	SP14, MT1.9

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Not funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Throughout 2025-26, CIRNAC, Justice Canada (JUS) and the Canada School of Public Service (CSPS) offered training and job aids on the UN Declaration and the UN Declaration Act, which includes references to Modern Treaties. Through the Deputy Ministers' Oversight Committee on Modern Treaty Implementation, Deputy Ministers were regularly updated on new opportunities to recognize the Modern Treaty distinctions into operations and programs in keeping with the UN Declarations Act. CIRNAC will continue to look for opportunities to reiterate the need for public servants to implement the UN Declaration Act in ways that recognize the significance and unique distinctions of Modern Treaties.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Consultation and cooperation efforts between CIRNAC and Modern Treaty Partners are ongoing through various forums, particularly as efforts pertain to the ongoing development of *Canada's Collaborative Modern Treaty Implementation Policy* and Modern Treaty implementation more broadly. These discussions include how the UN Declaration is being interpreted for application.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Indigenous partners indicated that no meaningful work was undertaken to advance this Action Plan measure, noting that most departments, including many branches of CIRNAC, continue to take the view that engagement with National Indigenous Organizations and Provincial-Territorial Organizations meets the need to engage with Modern Treaty Partners and Self-Governing Indigenous Governments. This causes significant issues and there continues to be a substantial failure on the part of Canada to recognize its unique relationship with Indigenous Modern Treaty partners and Self-Governing Indigenous Governments including the need to engage with these governments in a distinct manner. Respect for a distinctions-based approach may require both structural adjustments—such as Modern Treaty Partner

participation at the IFPT—and strengthened education for federal officials on its importance and practical application.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Indigenous Modern Treaty Partner Priority 3

Consistency of laws and policies in Modern Treaty implementation

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), Various	Related articles	37
		Related APMs	SP1, MT1.11, IN1

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

CIRNAC noted that, in joint efforts with Modern Treaty Partners, Canada continues to build on efforts to ensure the full, effective, diligent and timely implementation of all Modern Treaties in Canada through several evolving initiatives. These renewed efforts include several new and enhanced mechanisms identified through the 2023 *Collaborative Modern Treaty Implementation Policy*, and include the Intergovernmental Policy Circle and working groups, modernizing the 2015 *Cabinet Directive on the Federal Approach to Modern Treaty Implementation*, pursuing amendments to treaties, and other related tools (see Modern Treaty Priority 1), the development of oversight mechanisms (see Modern Treaty Priority 9), and amendments to legislation (including recent changes to the [Interpretation Act](#) - see Shared Priority 2). CIRNAC noted that enhancements to funding and capacity may be required to support internal work and external work with other key partners and stakeholders.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Please refer to Modern Treaty Priority 1, Modern Treaty Priority 9, and Shared Priority 2 for information related to engagement with Indigenous partners.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Indigenous partners indicated no meaningful work was undertaken in the last fiscal year to advance this Action Plan measure. We heard that, "Canada has taken no clear, proactive steps to align its policies to support the implementation of treaties and self-government. This can be most clearly seen when Self-Governing Indigenous Governments seek to implement their jurisdiction. Canada's policies are designed for on-reserve poverty management and not ensuring comparable resources for an Indigenous government to implement its jurisdiction."

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Indigenous Modern Treaty Partner Priority 4

Modern Treaty implementation and Honour of the Crown

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), Various	Related articles	37
		Related APMs	SP25

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Work is ongoing with Modern Treaty Partners toward fully implementing Agreements, supported by Canada's *Collaborative Modern Treaty Implementation Policy*. Current funding supports policy and engagement activities to promote education, awareness, and collaboration with Indigenous partners, though additional resources may be needed in future to strengthen both internal federal work and external partnerships.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CIRNAC met with Modern Treaty Partners through bilateral and collective tables, with the objective to take a broad, purposive approach to implementing Modern Treaties in a way that fulfills the spirit and intent of Modern Treaties and upholds the honour of the Crown. The department noted that all federal departments and agencies will continue to work with Modern Treaty Partners towards the fulfillment of treaty obligations, conducted in a manner that recognizes and respects the nature of the relationship between treaty partners, and upholds the honour of the Crown. Such efforts will include a mix of consultation and cooperation elements, as determined by relevant departments and Modern Treaty Partners.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Indigenous partners indicated no meaningful work was undertaken in the last fiscal year to advance this Action Plan measure. Canada has taken no clear, proactive steps to align its policies to support the implementation of treaties and self-governments. The inability of CIRNAC to bring a whole of government approach to Canada's efforts to implement treaties and self-government creates significant delays, adds immense cost to self-governing Indigenous governments and has a substantial negative impact on those living in these communities.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Indigenous Modern Treaty Partner Priority 5

Fulfilling treaty promises through Modern Treaty Implementation Policy

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), Various	Related articles	13, 37
		Related APMs	SP25, MT1.8

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

In 2025-26, CIRNAC continued work on updating the 2015 *Cabinet Directive on the Federal Approach to Modern Treaty Implementation*. While not complete, this work focused on: clarifying federal roles and responsibilities including Deputy Head accountabilities; establishing clearer expectations for early engagement, coordination, and decision-making across federal departments and agencies; promoting Modern Treaty education and awareness within the federal public service; strengthening mechanisms to support the identification and resolution of implementation issues; and enhancing transparency and accountability through clearer expectations for record-keeping, oversight, and the provision of information to central agencies and oversight bodies. Current funding supports policy and engagement mechanisms under *Canada's Collaborative Modern Treaty Implementation Policy* to support education, awareness and collaboration with Indigenous partners. CIRNAC noted that additional funding and capacity may be required to support internal federal work and external work with other key partners and stakeholders.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Key consultation and cooperation activities with Indigenous Modern Treaty Partners took place through the Modern Treaty Implementation Policy Working Group, including a presentation outlining proposed revisions to the 2015 *Cabinet Directive on the Federal Approach to Modern Treaty Implementation* and the circulation of a draft for review and comment. Individual components of the revised *Cabinet Directive* may require further co-development with Indigenous Modern Treaty Partners. This will take place, as required, through the Modern Treaty Implementation Policy Working Group.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Indigenous partners indicated that they worked closely with CIRNAC and Canadian Heritage (PCH) to develop three new funding models to support implementation of *Canada's Collaborative Modern Treaty Implementation Policy*; however, due to political and geo-political changes over the course of 2025-26, these funding proposals were not able to be considered by Cabinet.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Indigenous Modern Treaty Partner Priority 6

FPTI collaboration in Modern Treaty implementation

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	27, 39, 40
		Related APMs	MT1

Status	Planning
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Indigenous, federal, provincial, and territorial collaboration in Modern Treaty implementation remains a priority for the Intergovernmental Policy Circle, with CIRNAC officials continuing to participate in Privy Council-led working groups and keeping key stakeholders informed of issues raised by Indigenous Modern Treaty partners. Current funding supports policy and engagement mechanisms under the *Canada's Collaborative Modern Treaty Implementation Policy* to promote education, awareness, and collaboration with Indigenous partners, with possible future increases needed to strengthen internal federal work and external partnerships.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

Canada remains committed to working with Modern Treaty Partners to strengthen intergovernmental coordination and ensure that Modern Treaty obligations are implemented in a consistent and effective manner. This objective can be raised at the Modern Treaty Implementation Policy Working Group or through bilateral engagements with Indigenous partners as part of ongoing collaboration, and has also been raised in the past at the Intergovernmental Leaders Forum with the Prime Minister.

Canada will continue to seek opportunities for meaningful engagement with Indigenous partners and relevant federal, provincial, and territorial stakeholders. CIRNAC noted that work led by the Privy Council Office (PCO) is ongoing to address the issue of Modern Treaty Partner participation and representation in Federal/Provincial/Territorial Indigenous tables.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

In February 2026, Indigenous Modern Treaty Partners and Self-Government Arrangement Holders were invited to meet with CIRNAC and PCO to discuss possible participation and discussion topics for an upcoming joint federal-provincial-territorial First Ministers' Meeting with First Nations, consistent with

Canada's distinctions-based approach that reflects the importance of recognizing Modern Treaty Partners within governance discussions. Work remains ongoing on this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Indigenous Modern Treaty Partner Priority 7

P/T collaboration to advance Modern Treaty rights

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	27, 39, 40
		Related APMs	MT6

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

CIRNAC and other departments are exploring ways to work with provinces and territories to advance the objectives of the UN Declaration as they relate to the rights, interests, jurisdictions, obligations, and authorities of Indigenous Modern Treaty Partners across Canada, though no specific activities are identified. Funding supports policy and engagement mechanisms under *Canada's Collaborative Modern Treaty Implementation Policy* to promote education, awareness, and collaboration with Indigenous partners, with potential future increases needed to strengthen internal federal work and external partnerships.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: No

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: No

Canada remains committed to working with Modern Treaty Partners to strengthen intergovernmental coordination and ensure that Modern Treaty obligations are implemented in a consistent and effective manner through the Modern Treaty Implementation Policy Working Group and bilateral engagements with Indigenous partners as part of ongoing collaboration. Canada will continue to seek opportunities for meaningful engagement with Indigenous partners and relevant federal, provincial, and territorial stakeholders.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

In February 2026, Indigenous Modern Treaty Partner and Self-Government Arrangement Holders were invited to meet with CIRNAC and PCO to discuss possible participation and discussion topics for an upcoming joint federal-provincial-territorial First Ministers' Meeting with First Nations. Work remains ongoing on this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Indigenous Modern Treaty Partner Priority 8

Co-developing funding approaches to Collaborative Self-Government Fiscal Policy

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), Various	Related articles	3, 4
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Complete
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: Yes

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: Yes

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

CIRNAC noted that, while this Action Plan measure has been identified as “complete,” Indigenous partners will look to approval and implementation of proposals through *Canada’s Collaborative Self-Government Fiscal Policy* as the true measure of success. These proposals would relate to expenditure need methodologies for infrastructure, lands management and language revitalization. Self-governing Indigenous Governments are expected to cover the costs of their respective representative participation. However, additional funding was made available to support a secretariat to facilitate effective coordination of the representatives of each.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025-26, formal policy co-development between Canada and 26 self-governing Indigenous Governments was paused following completion of co-developed expenditure need proposals for infrastructure, lands management, and language revitalization while Canada focused on internal consideration of the proposals. As a result, opportunities for ongoing engagement with partners on implementation were limited during this period. In October 2025, Canada and Indigenous partners re-engaged on multiple streams including lands, tax, and social well-being, with exploratory discussions also underway on housing and economic development and the review of the Collaborative Self-Government Fiscal Policy to maintain relationships and identify future priorities. In parallel, Canada has proposed interim measures to support lands management activities in the short-term while longer-term methodological work continues. The process remains iterative and continues to benefit from on-going engagement including monthly working groups, technical sessions, and regular discussions to advance shared priorities and support more aligned discussions.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

In 2025-26, some partners attempted to engage with federal representatives to implement the funding methodologies described in this Action Plan measure, but were unsuccessful due to a lack of participation by federal representatives. As a result, little work has been done to advance this Action Plan measure. Following the election of a new federal government in April 2025, CIRNAC indicated that they could not discuss the status of the funding methodologies. This continued until February of 2026, when CIRNAC indicated that the Lands, Resources and Treaty Management funding methodology would need to be modified before it could be advanced for approvals.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Indigenous Modern Treaty Partner Priority 9

Co-developing a Modern Treaty oversight mechanism

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	27, 37, 40
		Related APMs	SP25

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Yes
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Fully funded
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

CIRNAC noted that legislation to establish a new Commissioner for Modern Treaty Implementation was re-introduced in Parliament for first reading Bill C-10 (previously Bill C-77) on September 25th, 2025 and is proceeding through the Parliamentary process. This carries forward the work to establish a Commissioner for Modern Treaty Implementation through Bill C-77, which was developed through input and engagement with partners and introduced in the first session of the 44th Parliament before Parliament was prorogued. Time-limited federal investments have been allocated to support the establishment of the Modern Treaty Commissioner's Office.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CIRNAC provided regular updates to Modern Treaty Partners on the status of the Commissioner for Modern Treaty Implementation, including the impacts of prorogation on Bill C-77 and its subsequent re-introduction in Parliament (Bill C-10). The majority of consultations and engagements with Indigenous partners occurred in previous years when co-developing the proposal. If Bill C-10 receives Royal Assent, it is anticipated that Indigenous Modern Treaty Partners will be engaged in the development of a shortlist of potential candidates for the role of the Commissioner.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Indigenous partners have indicated significant progress on implementation of this measure. Submissions noted that Modern Treaty Partners across Canada have collaborated in the development of legislation to create the office of Commissioner for Modern Treaty Implementation. Some Modern Treaty leaders have appeared before committee in support of the bill, noting it will go a long way in ensuring that their treaties are fully implemented.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Indigenous Modern Treaty Partner Priority 10

UN Declaration as an interpretive tool for Modern Treaty implementation

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), Various	Related articles	37
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Funding not required
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

CIRNAC meets regularly with Modern Treaty and Self-Government partners through established technical working groups to ensure momentum and progress is made towards commitments identified under the Modern Treaty Implementation Policy (endorsed in 2023).

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

See above.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Indigenous partners indicated that more work is required for this Action Plan measure to ensure that federal departments recognize the distinct interests of Modern Treaty Partners. Yukon Nations in particular noted there is a lack of UN Declaration considerations in advancement of Modern Treaty Partners' interests within the Yukon context. Partners reiterated that the UN Declaration serves as another lens through which Modern Treaties may be viewed and implemented and that recognition of Indigenous Modern Treaty Partners as a distinct element within Canada's distinction-based approach is required under the Collaborative Modern Treaty Implementation Policy. They also noted that it is an ongoing process implementing the constitutionally protected rights set out in Treaties in a broad and purposive manner to uphold the honour of the Crown.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Indigenous Modern Treaty Partner Priority 11

Modern Treaty tax policies, systems, arrangements, and incentives

Lead department(s)	Finance Canada (FIN)	Related articles	3, 4
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Funding not required
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

Budget 2025 proposed a new opt-in Fuel, Alcohol, Cannabis, Tobacco, and Vaping value-added sales tax framework that would allow Indigenous governments to levy their own five per cent tax on these specific products. This tax is analogous to the First Nations Goods and Services Tax. Enabling legislation is included in Bill C-15, which received royal assent on March 26, 2026. Budget 2025 also confirms the government's intention to explore additional flexible, opt-in Indigenous tax jurisdiction arrangements to strengthen fiscal relationships and expand revenue-generating opportunities for Indigenous governments. As an example, Finance Canada (FIN) regularly engages with self-governing Indigenous governments through the Standing Tax Working Group under Canada's Collaborative Self-Government Fiscal Policy process.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025-26, FIN continued to engage with Indigenous partners and representative organizations to gauge interest and obtain input on key design elements of the Fuel, Alcohol, Cannabis, Tobacco, and Vaping framework, building off of feedback received during consultations in previous years. In addition, through the Standing Tax Working Group, the department explored options to enhance flexibility in personal income tax regimes and create incentives for Indigenous governments to voluntarily impose taxes within their land bases. Looking ahead to 2026-27, FIN plans to negotiate and cooperate with interested Indigenous governments on implementing taxes under the Fuel, Alcohol, Cannabis, Tobacco, and Vaping framework, and to continue advancing Indigenous tax jurisdiction arrangements through ongoing engagement via the Standing Tax Working Group.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Indigenous partners indicated there was limited meaningful progress to advance this Action Plan measure. Self-governing Indigenous governments have been engaging with FIN to explore mechanisms to achieve greater flexibility and self-determination over their tax systems and create incentives for Self-governing Indigenous governments to enter into the tax system and/or exercise their tax powers.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Indigenous Modern Treaty Partner Priority 12

Modern Treaty partner collaboration and FPIC on environmental legislation and policies

Lead department(s)	Various	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	NA

Status	NA
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	NA
Requires regulation	NA

Funding	NA
Indicators	NA
Developed with partners	NA
Can be disaggregated	NA

Link to TRC-CTAs: NA

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: NA

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

No update(s) were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: NA

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: NA

No update(s) were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No meaningful action has been taken to collaborate with Modern Treaty Partners to pursue possible changes to federal environmental legislation, regulations and policies to align with Canada's Modern Treaty relationships, objectives and obligations, including the spirit and intent of those agreements. Antiquated environmental assessment laws, land planning legislation and mining laws remain inconsistent with treaty agreements.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Indigenous Modern Treaty Partner Priority 13

Modern Treaty partner collaboration and FPIC on fisheries legislation and policies

Lead department(s)	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	NA

Status	Underway
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	No
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Partially funded
Indicators	Yes (1)
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	Yes (1)

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

DFO focused its work with Modern Treaty partners to advance bilateral discussions and negotiations to address their fisheries interests in British Columbia, Yukon, Northwest Territories, Nunavut, and Quebec. These ongoing discussions may contribute to new or revised fisheries policies, legislation or regulations and support the implementation of this Action Plan measure. To better align with Canada's Modern Treaty relationships, objectives and obligations, including the spirit and intent of those agreements, DFO has undertaken bilateral discussion with Indigenous Modern Treaty partners to develop treaty fish chapters that address their fisheries priorities including co-management. DFO noted that existing funding within the department supports these discussions, Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada provides funding to support bi-lateral discussions and negotiations to Indigenous Modern Treaty partners.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

In 2025-26, DFO continued to advance bi-lateral discussions with Indigenous Modern Treaty partners to address their fisheries priorities. The department enters discussions and negotiations with partners at their request or when negotiations led by Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada implicate DFO. Negotiations typically begin with exploratory discussions which, over time, follow a co-development approach to reaching final agreements. At the time of reporting, Indigenous Modern Treaty partners have not approached DFO requesting more formal, multi-lateral targeted discussions on any specific policy, legislation or regulatory changes they propose to advance. The preference to date has been for bilateral discussions and/or negotiations of new approaches. However, policy innovations achieved at one table can inform innovations at other tables.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Modern Treaty Nations in British Columbia collaborated with DFO to develop a template engagement protocol for fisheries related matters, including [Fisheries Act](#) authorizations and fisheries related policy changes. While the development of the template engagement protocol is not joint decision making, it was noted as a positive step. However, it does not cover all matters of interest, as engagement on requests for review was considered out of scope. Other partners indicated that, from their perspective, no meaningful work was undertaken in 2025-26 to pursue possible changes to federal fisheries legislation, regulations and policies to support joint-decision making regarding fisheries.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Indigenous Modern Treaty Partner Priority 14

Respecting Modern Treaties in land and land use planning legislation, policies, and programs

Lead department(s)	Various	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	NA

Status	NA
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	NA
Requires regulation	NA

Funding	NA
Indicators	NA
Developed with partners	NA
Can be disaggregated	NA

Link to TRC-CTAs: NA

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: NA

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

No update(s) were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: NA

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: NA

No update(s) were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No meaningful work has been undertaken to ensure that federal legislation, policies and programs related to land and land use planning are reflective of Modern Treaties relationships, objectives and obligations and the spirit and intent of these agreements.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Indigenous Modern Treaty Partner Priority 15

Supporting Modern Treaties evolution to reflect Indigenous rights developments

Lead department(s)	Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC)	Related articles	38, 39
		Related APMs	MT1

Status	Implementation ongoing
Tracking	On-track
Requires legislation	Maybe
Requires regulation	No

Funding	Funding not required
Indicators	No
Developed with partners	No
Can be disaggregated	No

Link to TRC-CTAs: No

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: No

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

CIRNAC is working with partners to facilitate Modern Treaty evolution. This is accomplished through negotiations on amendments tailored to individual agreements. This work provides paths for Modern Treaties to keep pace with new legislated Indigenous rights frameworks, such as [An Act respecting First Nations, Inuit and Métis children, youth and families](#).

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: Yes

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: Yes

CIRNAC engaged with multiple Indigenous Modern Treaty Partners to discuss potential agreement amendments. For example, in British Columbia, Tla'amin Nation, Tsawwassen First Nation, and Maa-nulth First Nations were engaged on a bilateral basis per the nation-to-nation, government-to-government nature of the agreement to work on amendment negotiation. This engagement aims to ensure Modern Treaties in British Columbia are keeping pace with new legislated Indigenous rights frameworks. Conversations with Indigenous partners on Modern Treaty evolution will continue in 2026-27, and in some instances may lead to Modern Treaty amendments followed by implementation.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

Partners indicated that some progress was made to advance this Action Plan measure over the last fiscal year. Notably, the first Periodic Review of the Tsawwassen First Nation Final Agreement presented an opportunity to demonstrate effective government-to-government relationships and timely treaty implementation. As of February 2026, the parties to the Treaty (Canada, British Columbia, and Tsawwassen First Nation) are working to amend the Treaty based on work completed during Phase 1 of the review process. However, some partners indicated challenges in relation to the amendment of treaties, citing the absence of clarity to jurisdiction between First Nations as well as changes in the Government of Canada's capacity for engagement.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Indigenous Modern Treaty Partner Priority 16

Upholding Modern Treaty partners' rights across international borders

Lead department(s)	Various	Related articles	NA
		Related APMs	NA

Status	NA
Tracking	NA
Requires legislation	NA
Requires regulation	NA

Funding	NA
Indicators	NA
Developed with partners	NA
Can be disaggregated	NA

Link to TRC-CTAs: NA

Link to MMIWG-CFJs: NA

Work completed to advance Action Plan measure in 2025-26:

No update(s) were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Consultation and cooperation

Occurred: NA

Opportunity for future consultation and cooperation: NA

No update(s) were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Indigenous partner perspectives on implementation

No input was provided for this Action Plan measure.

Milestones

No milestones were provided for this Action Plan measure.

Other departments and agencies that contributed to this APM: None

Annex C: Section 5 consistency assessments of laws and regulations

Note: During this reporting period, departments were asked to provide information on whether and how consistency with UN Declaration was assessed. The UN Declaration Act does not prescribe a process by which consistency is to be assessed leaving it to individual departments and agencies to implement, though many benefited from the use of Justice Canada's [Interim Guidance for officials on how to assess consistency with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#). The consistency assessments summarized below were completed internally by departments and do not necessarily reflect Indigenous peoples' views on the consistency of these legislative initiatives with the UN Declaration.

Legislation tabled during the 2025-26 fiscal year

Procedural legislation with likely minimal impacts on Indigenous rights and interests

The following bills are procedural bills with little to no substantive content.

Bill C-1 *An Act respecting the administration of oaths of office:*

This is a pro-forma bill introduced in the House at the beginning of each session. It is not debated or voted on.

Bill C-6 *An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the federal public administration for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2026:*

Funding for government operations

Bill C-7 *An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the federal public administration for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2026:*

Funding for government operations

Bill C-17 *An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the federal public administration for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2026:*

Funding for government operations

Bill C-23 *An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the federal public administration for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2026:*

Funding for government operations

Bill C-24 *An Act for granting to His Majesty certain sums of money for the federal public administration for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2027:*

Funding for government operations

Bill C-26 *Improving Housing Supply Act:*

To authorize certain payments to be made out of the Consolidated Revenue Fund for the purpose of improving housing supply

Bill S-1 *An Act relating to railways:*

This is a pro forma bill introduced in the Senate at the beginning of each session. It will not be debated or voted on.

Laws of general application with potential impacts on Indigenous rights and interests

Bill: C-2

Name: *Strong Borders Act*

Department: PS

Subject: Security of the border between Canada and the United States and other security measures

Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:
No

Analysis: N/A

Bill: C-3

Name: *An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2025)*

Department: IRCC

Subject: Make changes to the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent

Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:
No

Analysis:

Changes to the *Citizenship Act* stemming from Bill C-3 address the Ontario Superior Court of Justice's declaration that certain key provisions of the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent were unconstitutional. The legislative changes contained in Bill C-3 were first introduced in May 2024 as part of Bill C-71 (*An Act to amend the Citizenship Act*). As required by the Cabinet Directive on the Federal Approach to Modern Treaty Implementation, an Assessment of Modern Treaty Implications was conducted.

Bill: C-5

Name: *Building Canada Act (part of the One Canadian Economy Act)*

Department: PCO/MPO

Subject: Projects of national interest

Related articles: 18, 19, 25, 26, 29, 32

Assessment was completed:
Yes

Analysis:

The Building Canada Act sets out the obligation to consult Indigenous peoples when considering projects for listing under the Act, and no projects will be added to the schedule until consultation has taken place. For projects that are added to the Schedule of the Building Canada Act, the regulatory review process will continue to include further consultations with potentially impacted Indigenous peoples, as the Act sets out the obligation that they be consulted before the Minister issues the document containing the project's authorizations and conditions. The Government has created an Indigenous Advisory Council to help shape how the Major Projects Office works with Indigenous

peoples. This includes providing advice on advancing economic participation in major projects, and how best to integrate UN Declaration's principles throughout the process.

Bill: C-8

Name: *An Act respecting cyber security, amending the Telecommunications Act and making consequential amendments to other Acts*

Department: PS

Subject: Cyber security

Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:
No

Analysis:

C-8 applies to federally regulated sectors (energy, finance, banking, and transportation) and focusses on protecting telecommunications infrastructure.

Bill: C-9

Name: *Combatting Hate Act*

Department: JUS

Subject: An Act to amend the Criminal Code (hate propaganda, hate crime and access to religious or cultural places)

Related articles: 2, 5, 18

Assessment was completed:
Yes

Analysis:

The new intimidation, obstruction and hate crime offences are consistent with combatting discrimination based on identity and protecting social and cultural institutions.

Bill: C-11

Name: *An Act to amend the National Defence Act and other Acts*

Department: DND

Subject: Military Justice System Modernization

Related articles: Article 5

Assessment was completed:
Yes

Analysis:

Bill C-11 amends provisions of the *National Defence Act* that relate to the military justice system in response to the Report of the Third Independent Review Authority to the Minister of National Defence and the Report of the Independent External Comprehensive Review of the Department of National Defence and the Canadian Armed Forces.

Bill: C-12

Name: *Strengthening Canada's Immigration System and Borders Act* **Department:** PS
Subject: Canada's Immigration System, security of borders, and other related security measures
Related articles: All

Assessment was completed:
No

Analysis: N/A

Bill: C-13

Name: *An Act to implement the Protocol on the Accession of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership*

Department: GAC

Subject: International trade

Related articles: 5, 20.1, 21, 31

Assessment was completed:
No

Analysis:

An Assessment of Modern Treaty Implications (AMTI) on the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) proposed text was conducted and identified modern treaty implications related to federal procurement. These implications have been addressed through the inclusion of reservations and exceptions for Indigenous peoples in the relevant chapters of the agreement. These reservations and exceptions are continued in the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP, which is fundamentally based on TPP text) and will be applied to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (the UK) as part of its accession to the CPTPP. In addition, preambular language of the CPTPP reaffirms the importance of promoting corporate social responsibility, Indigenous rights, and traditional knowledge. Given the potential impacts raised through the AMTI were addressed via negotiations and will be applied to the UK upon entry into force of Bill C-13, the consistency assessment was not assessed/considered.

Bill: Bill C-14

Name: *Bail and Sentencing Reform Act*

Department: JUS

Subject: An Act to amend the Criminal Code, the Youth Criminal Justice Act and the National Defence Act (bail and Sentencing)

Related articles: Articles 7, 11,12

Assessment was completed:

Yes

Analysis:

The changes in Bill C-14 implicates the UN Declaration Act since it potentially intersects with the following rights and objectives in the UN Declaration: rights related to liberty (Article 7), rights to practice cultural traditions and customs (Article 11), and rights to practise and teach their spiritual and religious traditions (Article 12), and potentially others.

Bill: C-15

Name: *An Act to implement certain provisions of the budget tabled in Parliament on November 4, 2025*

Department: FIN

Subject: Amendments to the First Nations Goods and Services Tax Act

Related articles: 3, 4

Assessment was completed:

Yes

Analysis:

The Fuel, Alcohol, Cannabis, Tobacco, and Vaping taxation framework supports self-determination and is consistent with the UN Declaration, as it allows interested Indigenous governments to have access to additional revenue streams to be used to fund community priorities.

Bill: C-15

Name: *An Act to implement certain provisions of the budget tabled in Parliament on November 4, 2025*

Department: FIN

Subject: Amending the alternative minimum tax to exempt certain trusts for the benefit of Indigenous groups

Related articles: 3, 4, 5

Assessment was completed:

Yes

Analysis:

An exemption for Indigenous settlement and community trusts from the alternative minimum tax is expected to ensure that the reform is consistent with the UN Declaration by maintaining the current tax treatment of these trusts.

Bill: C-15

Name: *Budget 2025 Implementation Act, No. 1*

Department: DFO

Subject: Budget Implementation Act to implement certain provisions of the budget tabled in Parliament on November 4, 2025

Related articles: 19

Assessment was completed:

Yes

Analysis:

The proposed legislative amendments are considered consistent with Article 19 of the UN Declaration and section 5 of UN Declaration Act. Divestiture of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation and repeal of the Freshwater Fish Marketing Act may affect both Indigenous and non-Indigenous fish harvesters in rural and remote communities that rely on the Freshwater Fish Marketing Corporation, with impacts depending on the successor entity's mandate and business model. Access to the fishery itself would not be affected, as the Freshwater Fish Marketing Act does not regulate fishing access.

Bill: C-15

Name: *An Act to implement certain provisions of the budget tabled in Parliament on November 4, 2025*

Department: PHAC

Subject: Regulatory oversight of facilities handling human pathogens and toxins

Related articles: 1, 2, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22, 23

Assessment was completed:

Yes

Analysis:

Potential indirect intersections were identified with UN Declaration Act articles on equality and non-discrimination, economic and social rights, and participation in decision-making and Indigenous institutions. However, the proposed amendments to the *Human Pathogens and Toxins Act* were assessed as having no inconsistencies with these articles, as they apply broadly to protect the health, safety, and security of all individuals in Canada, including Indigenous peoples, and Indigenous peoples were therefore not directly involved in the assessment.

Bill: C-15**Name:** *Canadian Energy Regulator Act***Department:** NRCan**Subject:** Extending the export licencing period for liquefied natural gas from a maximum of 40 to 50 years.**Related articles:** 18, 19, 21, 23, 26, 29, 32**Assessment was completed:**

Yes

Analysis:

NRCan assessed the legislative amendment proposal using the “Section 5 Consultation & Cooperation Tool,” identifying potentially implicated articles and outlining possible inconsistencies with additional context. Indigenous peoples were not directly involved in the assessment due to cabinet confidence and commercial confidentiality. The final analysis found no inconsistencies with the initiative with the UN Declaration.

Bill: C-16**Name:** *Protecting Victims Act***Department:** JUS**Subject:** An Act to amend the Criminal Code and other acts to strengthen responses to gender-based violence, including intimate partner violence and child crimes, strengthen victims’ rights and address criminal court delays**Related articles:** 21, 22**Assessment was completed:**

Yes

Analysis:

The amendments in Bill C-16 may impact the rights and interests of Indigenous peoples, including those set out in Articles 21 and 22, which speak to, amongst other things, ensuring that Indigenous women and children enjoy the full protection and guarantees against all forms of violence and discrimination.

Bill: C-18**Name:** *An Act to implement the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement between Canada and Indonesia***Department:** GAC**Subject:** International trade**Related articles:** 5, 20.1, 21, 31**Assessment was completed:**

No

Analysis:

The Initial Assessment of Modern Treaty Implications examined the geographical scope and subject matter of the initiative in relation to modern treaties in effect and did not identify any potential modern treaty impacts. The Canada-Indonesia CEPA does not have a geographic footprint but applies on a national scope. The original decision to launch negotiations with Indonesia was found to potentially

have modern treaty implications in the area of government procurement market access. However, given that the final outcome of the CI-CEPA does not include market access for government procurement, there are no potential modern treaty impacts. As in its other free trade agreements (FTAs), Canada has retained the policy flexibility necessary to provide preferential treatment to Indigenous peoples and Indigenous-owned businesses, including in the areas of services, investment, environment, and state-owned enterprises through specific reservations and exceptions. Further, the CI-CEPA also contains an Aboriginal Rights general exception article, which provides greater certainty that the Government of Canada can adopt or maintain measures it considers necessary to fulfill its legal obligations to Indigenous Peoples, including those recognized and affirmed by section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, or those set out in self-government agreements between central or regional levels of government and Indigenous Peoples. Given the Initial Assessment of Modern Treaty Implications of the final outcomes of the CEPA did not identify any potential modern treaty impacts, the consistency assessment was not assessed/considered.

Bill: C-20

Name: *An Act respecting the establishment of Build Canada Homes (Build Canada Homes Act)*

Department: Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada (HICC)

Subject: Seeks to establish Build Canada Homes (currently a Special Operating Agency within Housing, Infrastructure and Communities Canada) as a standalone Crown corporation.

Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:
Yes

Analysis:

The first stage of assessment did not find potential intersections between the proposal and the UN Declaration, given that it is general legislation that does not seek to change the current role or impact the responsibilities of the Government of Canada with respect to Indigenous rights, or the overall Indigenous housing landscape. Rather, this is a machinery of government change, that shifts roles and responsibilities internally within the Government of Canada.

Indigenous peoples have been engaged throughout the design and development of Build Canada Homes as an overall initiative, as well as on the legislation specifically, since its introduction in the House of Commons. The assessment was based in part on these, and other ongoing conversations with Indigenous partners.

Bill: C-22

Name: *An Act respecting lawful access*

Subject: Lawful access

Related articles: N/A

Department: PS

Assessment was completed:
No

Analysis: N/A

Bill: S-4

Name: *An Act to amend the Energy Efficiency Act*

Department: NRCan

Subject: Amendments to enable continued energy use and energy cost reductions for Canadians and their businesses in the context of today's modern technologies and digital marketplaces.

Related articles: 19, 29, 32

Assessment was completed:
Yes

Analysis:

The proposal broadly intersects with Article 19 and Article 32 of the UN Declaration, with Article 19 being upheld through prior engagement with Indigenous groups on the Canada Green Buildings Strategy, which these amendments support. Indigenous peoples were not involved in this specific assessment, but NRCan does not anticipate impacts on existing recognized and affirmed Indigenous or treaty rights and will consider potential future impacts on Indigenous peoples in subsequent legislative processes.

Bill: S-5

Name: *An Act respecting the interoperability of health information technology and to prohibit data blocking by health information technology vendors*

Department: Health Canada

Subject: Establishment of requirements for health information technology interoperability and to prohibit data blocking by health IT vendors.

Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:
Yes

Analysis:

An Assessment of Modern Treaty Implications (AMTI) identified relevant considerations related to Indigenous self-governance, Indigenous Peoples' custodianship of data, including health data, and the need to further understand Indigenous partners' concerns related to data governance. Bill S-5 is narrowly focused on health IT vendor requirements to support interoperability and prohibit data blocking. It would not compel health information sharing or alter existing privacy obligations. Health

Canada has and will continue to engage Indigenous organizations and partners, Indigenous health and data organizations, and Modern Treaty and Self-Government organizations. Engagement has supported consideration of Indigenous rights, interests, and perspectives, including in relation to Indigenous data sovereignty and future regulatory development.

Bills relating to Indigenous rights and interests

Bill: C-21

Name: *An Act to give effect to the Red River Métis Self-Government Recognition and Implementation Treaty and to make consequential amendments to other Acts*

Department: CIRNAC

Subject: Recognition and implementation of Métis self-government

Related articles: 3, 4, 5, 18, 19

Assessment was completed:
Yes

Analysis:

The initiative was co-developed and advances the recognition and implementation of Métis self-government, consistent with the rights of Indigenous peoples to self-determination and self-government. It supports participation in decision-making processes and reflects a co-development approach aligned with the principles of the Declaration.

Bill: C-27

Name: *An Act to give effect to the Final Self-Government Agreement for the Tłegóhłı Got'ıne and to make consequential amendments to other Acts*

Department: CIRNAC

Subject: Implementation of the Final Self-Government Agreement for the Tłegohli Got'ine, including recognition of governance authorities and related amendments to federal legislation

Related articles: 3, 4, 5, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 33, 34, 35

Assessment was completed:
Yes

Analysis:

The legislation supports the implementation of Indigenous self-government and reflects recognition of the right of Indigenous peoples to self-determination and self-government. By giving effect to the negotiated agreement, the legislation advances Indigenous participation in decision-making and supports governance structures determined by the Tłegohli Got'ine. It also enables the Tłegohli Got'ine to enforce their own laws and deliver culturally relevant programs and services, including education, traditional healing, income support, and social housing.

Bill: S-2

Name: *An Act to amend the Indian Act (new registration entitlements)*

Department: ISC

Subject: Enfranchisement; natal band membership; individual deregistration; removal of outdated and offensive language related to dependent persons

Related articles: 3, 4, 9, 15(2), 19, 34

Assessment was completed:

No

Analysis:

Bill S-2 seeks to address enfranchisement in response to the *Nicholas et al. v. AGC* litigation, and addresses issues raised during the collaborative process held in 2018 and 2019, including voluntary deregistration, natal band membership, and some outdated and offensive language. Engagement sessions were also held to discuss feedback on the proposed amendments and inform the drafting of the bill. Engagement and co-development for Bill S-2 (former Bill C-38) therefore occurred at an earlier pre-UN Declaration Act stage. Bill S-2 replaced the former Bill C-38 since it did not receive Royal Assent before Parliament dissolved in March 2025. The proposed provisions of Bill S-2 reflect the initially proposed amendments of Bill C-38 to continue efforts to address these inequities.

Regulations published in the Canada Gazette during the 2025-26 fiscal year

Name: *Agricultural Marketing Programs Act*

Department: AAFC

Subject: Regulations Amending the Agricultural Marketing Programs Regulations (2025)

Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:

Yes

Analysis:

It was determined that there are currently no anticipated direct, indirect, hidden or unintended effects anticipated with the proposal regarding the rights and interests of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples. As such, no articles were identified. An inconsistency was not identified.

Name: *Agricultural Marketing Programs Act*

Department: AAFC

Subject: Regulations Amending the Agricultural Marketing Programs Regulations (Canola 2025 and 2026)

Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:

Yes

Analysis:

It was determined that there are currently no anticipated direct, indirect, hidden or unintended effects anticipated with the proposal regarding the rights and interests of First Nations, Inuit and Métis Peoples. As such, no articles were identified. No inconsistencies were identified.

Name: Regulations Amending the Compensation for Destroyed Things and Animals Regulations (maximum amounts for cattle)

Department: CFIA

Subject: Update maximum amounts of compensation for cattle to better reflect current market realities.

Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:
Yes

Analysis:

The Compensation for Destroyed Things and Animals Regulations are applicable across Canada, and compensation is applicable equally to Indigenous producers should they have animals ordered destroyed. The amendment is administrative in nature to increase the maximum amounts of compensation in the Compensation for Destroyed Things and Animals Regulations for cattle ordered destroyed, noting that the actual compensation amount is based on the market value of the animal. There are no changes to the underlying compensation principles or processes. As such, there are no anticipated direct, indirect, hidden or unintended effects to Indigenous producers anticipated for this initiative.

Name: Regulations Amending the Health of Animals Regulations and the Safe Food for Canadians Regulations (Reducing Red Tape and Supporting Resilience — Import Reference Document, Hatcheries and Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

Department: CFIA

Subject: Omnibus package of amendments to reduce red tape to support the competitiveness and resiliency of the agricultural sector

Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:
Yes

Analysis:

The amendments focus solely on reducing burden within existing regulatory requirements; they do not introduce any new obligations. Their purpose is to enhance regulatory flexibility and clarity. As such, no intersections were identified with the UN Declaration. The primary aim of the omnibus regulatory package is to reduce red tape by introducing regulatory flexibility in specific areas of the Health of Animals Regulations (including the Import Reference Document) and the Safe Food for Canadians Regulations, to support economic competitiveness and innovation in the agriculture and agri-food sector. By reducing regulatory burdens and increasing flexibility, it may help Indigenous agricultural and agri-food producers to participate more fully in the affected industries.

Name: Regulations Amending the Plant Breeders' Rights (PBR) Regulations

Department: CFIA

Subject: Proposed amendments to clarify scope and extend duration of pre-existing intellectual property rights

Related articles: 31.1

Assessment was completed:

Yes

Analysis:

Article 31.1 of the UN Declaration recognizes Indigenous peoples' rights to maintain, control, protect, and develop their cultural heritage, traditional knowledge, and related intellectual property, including plant genetic resources. A potential intersection with Article 31.1 was considered, but no intersection was found because the Regulations Amending the Plant Breeders' Rights deal only with the breeding and protection of new plant varieties, which differ from native plant species, and include legal safeguards that prevent misappropriation or "bio-piracy" of plant genetic resources. The amendments do not create new rights but extend and clarify existing ones in line with other jurisdictions and international obligations.

Name: Regulations Amending the Plant Protection Regulations

Department: CFIA

Subject: Amendments to increase regulatory agility, reduce red tape, and promote use of electronic documentation submissions

Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:

Yes

Analysis:

The objectives of the Regulations Amending the Plant Protection Regulations were to increase regulatory agility, to reduce red tape and to promote the use of electronic documentation submission. The amendments did not amend the context of the Regulations and/or the position of the CFIA on any regulated pest. Indigenous peoples are not directly impacted by enabling agility in regulatory amendments.

Name: Regulations Amending and Repealing Certain Regulations

Department: CFIA

Subject: Omnibus regulatory package to remove outdated and unnecessary rules

Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:

Yes

Analysis:

Given that the amendments are administrative in nature to repeal regulations that are no longer relevant, they are not expected to disproportionately impact Indigenous peoples or groups. The repeal of the spent and outdated regulations and the Golden Nematode Order will not impact Indigenous community members any differently than other stakeholders. This repeal is not expected to have any adverse impacts to Indigenous communities and right holders.

Name: Regulations Amending the Class II Nuclear Facilities and Prescribed Equipment Regulations: SOR/2025-197

Department: CNSC

Subject: To clarify and align the CNSC's and designated officers' powers to certify and decertify radiation safety officers in the Regulations with the grant of authority by Parliament to the CNSC in the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act*

Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:
No

Analysis:

This regulation amendment was part of the miscellaneous amendment regulation process. These amendments were correcting discrepancies between English and French, and harmonizing the powers of the *Nuclear Safety and Control Act* with the regulations and making non-substantive amendments to improve clarity, so no intersection with the UN Declaration was expected. In accordance with the miscellaneous amendment regulation process, no engagement was completed as the amendments were minor.

Name: Regulations Amending Certain Regulations Made Under the Nuclear Safety and Control Act (Imports, Exports and Safeguards)

Department: CNSC

Subject: Ensure CNSC's regulatory framework is aligned with safeguard agreements and international export controls by amending the General Nuclear Safety and Control Regulations and Nuclear non-proliferation Import and Export Control Regulations

Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:
No

Analysis:

The Rights Impact Assessments and draft regulations were pre-published on the Canada Gazette, Part I on March 30, 2024, meaning that all substantive policy analysis and drafting was finalized in 2023, prior to the publication of consistency guidance.

Name: Nuclear Security Regulations

Department: Canadian
Nuclear Safety Commission

Subject: Security at nuclear facilities and for nuclear materials in Canada.

Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:
No

Analysis:

The Nuclear Security Regulations were substantially complete before the posting of the Guidance from Department of Justice in June 2024. By that point, the engagement and analysis of the Nuclear Security Regulations were complete. The Nuclear Security Regulations publication was delayed in part due to the federal election in 2025. However, Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission did perform extensive engagement with Indigenous nations and communities and also completed the Modern Treaties analysis as per the requirements of the Directive. The Nuclear Security Regulations were also reviewed under an UN Declaration Act lens by the drafters at Department of Justice.

Name: Regulations amending the Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations

Department: DFO

Subject: Aquatic invasive species

Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:
Yes

Analysis:

DFO assessed that the proposed amendments to the Aquatic Invasive Species Regulations are minor, administrative or confirmatory in nature and do not tangibly intersect with the rights of Indigenous peoples set out in the UN Declaration. More than 800 Indigenous contacts were engaged through national consultations and notified of the public comment period, which DFO considers consistent with Article 19 on consultation and cooperation, although they were not involved in the consistency assessment. No inconsistencies with the UN Declaration were identified.

Name: Regulations amending the Marine Mammal Regulations

Department: DFO

Subject: Southern Resident Killer Whale Approach Distances

Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:
Yes

Analysis:

An internal assessment found that the proposed regulatory amendments may affect the interests, though not the exercise of rights, of modern treaty partners. DFO engaged Indigenous partners through existing advisory and technical forums to ensure these rights and interests were considered, and will continue working with partners to monitor implementation, assess effectiveness, and address issues as they arise.

Name: Maintenance and Repair of Ontario Municipal Drains Regulations

Department: DFO

Subject: Eliminate the need for proponents to apply for *Fisheries Act* reviews and approvals of their routine-type projects, when the conditions of the regulations are followed.

Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:

Yes

Analysis:

No UN Declaration articles were identified as potentially relating to this regulatory proposal.

Name: Critical Habitat of the Plains Minnow (*Hybognathus placitus*) Order

Department: DFO

Subject: Protection of a species' critical habitat

Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:

Yes

Analysis:

Indigenous partners were consulted, but these consultations did not necessarily further the objectives of UN Declaration Act. The assessment drew on input from the Arctic and Northern Policy Framework's Arctic and Marine Transportation Initiative, GBA Plus analysis, letters sent to Indigenous partners, and the Recovery Strategy and Action Plan.

Name: Critical Habitat Order for Silver Chub (Great Lakes - Upper St. Lawrence populations)

Department: DFO

Subject: Critical Habitat Order

Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:

Yes

Analysis:

Indigenous partners were consulted, but these consultations did not necessarily address the objectives of UN Declaration Act. The assessment relied on input from the Arctic and Marine Transportation Initiative, GBA Plus analysis, letters sent to Indigenous partners, and the Recovery Strategy and Action Plan.

Name: Order Designating the Qikiqtait Marine Protected Area (MPA)

Department: DFO

Subject: Marine Protected Areas

Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:

No

Analysis:

Fisheries and Oceans Canada fully met all consultation obligations under applicable modern treaties and completed the required Modern Treaties analysis, as per the requirements of the Directive, which found minimal implications on rights, and/or self-government provisions of Nunavut and Nunavik Treaty Partners. Inuit harvesting rights will not be limited. The MPA falls within the Nunavut Settlement Area and triggers Article 9 of the Nunavut Agreement. DFO fulfilled its obligations through conformity determination by the Nunavut Planning Commission, review by the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, and negotiation of an Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement with the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, completed prior to the establishment of the MPA. DFO will continue engagement with Nunavut partners during implementation and subsequent conservation planning.

Name: Order Designating the Sarvarjuaq Marine Protected Area (MPA)

Department: DFO

Subject: Marine Protected Areas

Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:
No

Analysis:

Fisheries and Oceans Canada fully met all consultation obligations under applicable modern treaties and completed the required Modern Treaties analysis, as per the requirements of the Directive, which found minimal implications on rights, and/or self-government provisions of Nunavut Treaty Partners. Inuit harvesting rights will not be limited. The MPA falls within the Nunavut Settlement Area and triggers Article 9 of the Nunavut Agreement. DFO fulfilled its obligations through conformity determination by the Nunavut Planning Commission, review by the Nunavut Wildlife Management Board, and negotiation of an Inuit Impact and Benefit Agreement with the Qikiqtani Inuit Association, completed prior to the establishment of the MPA. DFO will continue engagement with Nunavut partners during implementation and subsequent conservation planning.

Name: Order Amending Schedule 1 to the *Species at Risk Act*
(Certain Wildlife Species of Red Knot and Four Other Wildlife
Species)

Department: ECCC

Subject: The Order ensures that the various measures under *Species at Risk Act* to protect and recovery wildlife species at risk apply or are applied appropriately to the species included in the Order.

Related articles: 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 45

Assessment was completed:
Yes

Analysis:

The proposal is consistent with the cited articles because it embeds species-at-risk listing within a framework that protects biodiversity central to Indigenous rights and commits to engagement and recognition of Indigenous knowledge. The *Species at Risk Act* relies on collaboration with Indigenous partners in species assessments, recovery planning, and habitat protection, reflecting UN Declaration's emphasis on Indigenous rights to lands, resources, and cultural practices.

Name: Order Amending Schedule 1 to the *Species at Risk Act*
(American Marten, Newfoundland Population and Eighteen Other
Wildlife Species)

Department: ECCC

Subject: The Order ensures that the various measures under *Species at Risk Act* to protect and recovery wildlife species at risk apply or are applied appropriately to the species included in the Order.

Related articles: 3, 4, 5, 10, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 37, 45

Assessment was completed:
Yes

Analysis:

The proposal is consistent with the cited articles because it embeds species-at-risk listing within a framework that protects biodiversity central to Indigenous rights and commits to engagement and recognition of Indigenous knowledge. The *Species at Risk Act* relies on collaboration with Indigenous partners in species assessments, recovery planning, and habitat protection, reflecting UN Declaration's emphasis on Indigenous rights to lands, resources, and cultural practices.

Name: Citizenship Regulations and Citizenship Regulations No. 2 **Department:** IRCC
Subject: Regulatory changes to support implementation of Bill C-3 (An Act to amend the Citizenship Act (2025)) which made changes to the first-generation limit to citizenship by descent.
Related articles: N/A

Assessment was completed:
No

Analysis:

In consultation with the Cabinet Directive on the Federal Approach to Modern Treaty Implementation, consideration and assessment of the modern treaty implications was completed and it was determined that the amendments were not expected to have an impact on modern treaty obligations. It was also determined that directed Indigenous consultation was not required.

Name: Energy Efficiency Regulations, 2016 (Amendment 18) **Department:** NRCan
Subject: Energy efficiency standards, testing standards, labeling, reporting, and verification of energy-using products (i.e., faucets, showerheads, air conditioners/heating equipment, water heaters, and lighting).
Related articles: 19, 32, 38

Assessment was completed:
Yes

Analysis:

Articles 19, 32, and 38 of the UN Declaration were identified as potentially relating to Amendment 18 to the Energy Efficiency Regulations, with Natural Resources Canada engaging Indigenous partners on the regulations and the Canada Green Buildings Strategy but not involving them directly in the consistency assessment. While potential intersections were noted, particularly regarding consultation, resource use, and regulatory measures to achieve the Declaration's objectives, no specific intersections or impacts were identified for Amendment 18, and no comments were received from Indigenous partners indicating inconsistency. NRCan remains willing to work with Indigenous partners to identify any inconsistencies with the UN Declaration and to amend the Energy Efficiency Regulations as appropriate within its legal authority.

Name: *An Act to amend the Canada–Newfoundland and Labrador Atlantic Accord Implementation Act and the Canada–Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Resources Accord Implementation Act* **Department:** NRCan
Subject: Order Fixing the Day on Which Certain Provisions of *An Act to amend the Canada–Newfoundland and Labrador Atlantic Accord Implementation Act and the Canada–Nova Scotia Offshore Petroleum Resources Accord Implementation Act* and to make consequential amendments to other Acts
Related articles: 25, 26

Assessment was completed:
Yes

Analysis:

Offshore renewable energy projects in the future could have an impact on the Indigenous rights referenced in Articles 25 and 26, though there is some uncertainty as to whether these rights may be impacted. Offshore renewable energy projects would be subject to impact assessment/project reviews, following an established land tenure process with opportunities for Indigenous engagement and/or consultation.

Indigenous peoples were not involved in the UN Declaration assessment. It was unclear to what degree Indigenous peoples in Atlantic Canada used areas in the offshore in a significant manner, but it was determined that this could be learned through engagement with Indigenous peoples. Addressing potential impacts to fishing was beyond the scope of the present legislative initiative and the specific impacts, if any, could not be known until projects have been proposed. In the interim, through Regional Assessments and subsequent engagement by the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Energy Regulator, Indigenous groups have been engaged and shared their concerns for meaningful consideration.

Name: National Historic Sites of Canada Order

Department: Parks Canada

Subject: Adding a site to the NHS of Canada Order to enable application of the Canada National Parks Act and relevant regulations

Related articles: 11, 12, 18, 19, 20, 29(i), 32

Assessment was completed:

Yes

Analysis:

Parks Canada currently manages the Grosse Ile and Irish Memorial National Historic Site and adding the site to the National Historic Sites of Canada Order is primarily an administrative change. It will result in Parks Canada's ability to issue authorizations that support management of hyperabundant deer species, which in turn may support First Nations implication in deer management and disposal of harvested deer. In the long run, the change in legislative regime may be positive or neutral in relation to these articles.

Annex D: Indigenous Partnership Fund recipients

- 2 Spirits in Motion Society
- Algonquins of Pikwakanagan First Nation/Algonquin Anishinabeg Nation Tribal Council
- Assembly of First Nations
- Assembly of First Nations - Newfoundland (Regional Chief's Office)
- Assembly of First Nations Northwest Territories
- Assembly of First Nations of Québec and Labrador
- Assembly of First Nations Yukon
- Assembly of Manitoba Chiefs
- Atikamekw Sipi - Conseil de la Nation Atikamekw
- B.C. Aboriginal Network on Disability Society
- BC Assembly of First Nations
- Behdzi Ahda' First Nation
- Blackfoot Confederacy Tribal Council (Treaty 7)
- Blood Tribe
- Chiefs of Ontario
- Chippewas of Nawash Unceded First Nation
- Conseil de la Nation huronne-wendat/Huron-Wendat Nation
- Cree Nation Government (CNG) - Department of Justice and Correctional Services
- Deline Got'ine Government
- Epekwitk Assembly of Councils (L'nuey)
- Eskasoni Band Council
- Federation of Sovereign Indigenous Nations
- Femmes Autochtones du Québec Inc. (FAQ)
- File Hills Qu'Appelle Tribal Council
- First Nation and Carcross Tagish First Nation
- First Nation of Nacho Nyak Dun
- First Nations in Treaty 2 - Anishinaabe Agowidiiwinan Secretariat
- Indigenous Youth Roots Canada (formerly known as Canadian Roots Exchange)
- Innu Nation
- Innu Takuaikan Uashat mak Mani-utenam
- Institute for the Advancement of Aboriginal Women (IAAW)
- Inuit Tapiriit Kanatami
- Kebaowek First Nation
- Keewatin Tribal Council Inc.
- Kwilmu'kw Maw-Klusuaqn Negotiation Office (KMK)
- Les Femmes Michif Otipemisiwak - Women of the Métis Nation (LFMO-WNM)

- Manitoba Keewatinowi Okimakanak (MKO)
- Manitoba Métis Federation (MMF)
- Métis Nation – Saskatchewan (MN-S)
- Métis Nation British Columbia (MNBC)
- Métis Nation of Alberta (MNA)
- Métis Nation of Ontario (MNO)
- Mi'gmawe'l Tplu'taqnn Inc. (MTI)
- Mohawk Council of Akwesasne
- Mushkegowuk Council
- National Association of Friendship Centres (NAFC)
- Native Women's Association of Canada (NWAC)
- Nisga'a Lisims Government
- Nishnawbe Aski Nation
- Ontario Federation of Indigenous Friendship Centres (OFIFC)
- Ontario Native Women's Association (ONWA)
- Passamaquoddy Recognition Group (Peskotomuhkati Nation at Skutik)
- Pauktuutit Inuit Women Canada (PIWC)
- Prince Albert Grand Council (PAGC)
- Red Sucker Lake First Nation
- Samson Cree Nation (SCN)
- Sapotaweyak Cree Nation (SCN)
- Sayisi Dene First Nation (Ghotelnene K'odtineh Dene)
- Shoal Lake Cree Nation
- Silent Drums Inc.
- Southern Chiefs' Organization Incorporated
- Stoney Nakoda Tsuut'ina Tribal Council Ltd.
- Teslin Tlingit Council, Dakhka Nation- Taku River Tlingit
- The First Nations of The Maa-nulth Treaty Society
- Thélá:ylexw awtxw Foundation
- Timiskaming First Nation
- Tkémúlps te Secwépemc
- Tl'etinqox Government
- Treaty 8 First Nations of Alberta (T8FNA)
- Tribal Chiefs Venture (Treaty 6)
- Tsawwassen First Nation
- Tsilhqot'in National Government
- Union of Ontario Indians
- W8banaki

- Wolastoqey Nation
- Yukon Aboriginal Women's Council (YAWC)
- Zagimē Anishinabēk

Annex E: List of abbreviations and acronyms

- 2SLGBTQI+ – Two-Spirit, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex and additional sexually and gender diverse people
- AI – Artificial Intelligence
- APAC – Action Plan Advisory Committee
- APM – Action Plan Measure
- CFI – Canadian Foundation for Innovation
- CFJs – Calls for Justice
- CIHR – Canadian Institutes of Health Research
- CIRNAC – Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
- CSPS – Canada School of Public Service
- CTAs – Calls to Action
- DFO – Fisheries and Oceans Canada
- ECCC – Environment and Climate Change
- FN – First Nations Priorities
- FNHA – First Nations Health Authority
- FNLC – First Nations Leadership Council
- FNIYES – First Nations and Inuit Youth Employment Strategy
- FNWMI – First Nations Waste Management Initiatives
- FPIC – Free, Prior and Informed Consent
- Guide (the) - Interim Guide for Officials on How to Assess Consistency with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- ICPC – Inuit-Crown Partnership Committee
- IN – Inuit Priorities
- INRP – Indigenous Natural Resource Partnerships
- IPF – Indigenous Partnership Fund
- ISC – Indigenous Services Canada
- LAC – Library and Archives Canada
- LCAC – Land Claims Agreement Coalition
- MÉ – Métis Priorities
- MMIWG+ – Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and 2SLGBTQIA+
- MT – Modern Treaty Partner Priorities
- NICPF – Northern and Indigenous Crime Prevention Fund
- NSERC – Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council
- NWT – Northwest Territories
- OLF – Our Land for the Future
- PCH – Canadian Heritage

- PFP – Project Finance for Permanence
- PS – Public Safety Canada
- PSE – The first Nations Post-Secondary Education
- RCMP – Royal Canadian Mounted Police
- SP – Shared Priorities
- SSHRC – Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council
- TBS – Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat
- TRC – Truth and Reconciliation Commission
- UN Declaration – United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- UN Declaration Act – *United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*
- UNPFII – UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues