

# IMPACT ASSESSMENT: THE NEXT GENERATION

## HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PRELIMINARY PROGRAM



Calgary skyline. Photo courtesy of Meetings & Conventions Calgary.



International Association  
for Impact Assessment

33rd Annual Conference  
13-16 May 2013  
Calgary, Alberta, Canada

For the preliminary program:  
[www.iaia.org/iaia13/](http://www.iaia.org/iaia13/)



## What is IAIA?

The **International Association for Impact Assessment** is the leading global network of best practices of impact assessment for informed decision-making regarding policies, programs, plans, and projects.

Our members comprise over 2000 impact assessment professionals from over 120 countries, with representation from industry, consultants, government and NGOs.

Our annual conference is the international forum for advancing innovation and communication of best practices to further the development of local, regional and global capacity in impact assessment.

## Why are IAIA conferences special?

IAIA is the only international, interdisciplinary conference dedicated to the art and science of impact assessment... *the only one*. Around 800 attendees from around the globe will come to hear from an exclusive mix of speakers representing many areas of expertise and interest. The conference is highly participatory with numerous in-depth workshops, roundtables, Q&A sessions, forums, and concurrent sessions, meaning you can participate actively and present your work and ideas.

As a conference participant, you will have access to training, papers, publications, tools, techniques, and case studies.

As a sponsor, you will have an opportunity to support this conference with access to leading impact assessment professionals and their work.

## Why should you be at IAIA13?

The IAIA 2013 conference will provide opportunities for you to learn, to influence, and to make new connections. Some key benefits for Alberta professionals include:

- The opportunity to discuss new ideas and practice approaches with friends and colleagues.
- The opportunity to liaise with professionals in the private and public sectors as well as from financial institutions such as the World Bank, the International Finance Corporation, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank and others.
- The opportunity to present innovative solutions to the domestic and international community.
- The opportunity for learning and benchmarking best practices from around the world.
- The opportunity to present the new and innovative policies, programs and projects being undertaken in Alberta such as carbon sequestration, monitoring programs, Aboriginal consultation approaches, industry research and technology, land use planning, approaches to the oil sands, shale gas development, and regulatory reforms.

# About the conference theme

IAIA 2013 embraces the impact of current global change now and in the coming decades and how impact assessment (IA) itself will evolve. The “next generation” refers to both a new generation of practitioners and new impact assessment approaches to address issues of global concern. The next decades are seen as a nexus of environmental effects to the global commons (e.g., climate change, biodiversity, soil degradation and loss, ocean productivity, loss of aboriginal cultures) coupled with increased urban, human and economic development. These global changes have profound implications to the trajectory of IA and of people and nations. You, as a participant in this conference, need to be part of this new future.



## Who will benefit from attending IAIA13?

- Policy makers and decision makers
- Educators, trainers, and students
- Corporate, industry, and foundation leaders
- Consultants
- Practitioners and users of IA
- Legislators
- Government agency staff
- All others with an interest in impact assessment

## What can you do?

**Submit.** Submit an abstract for a poster or an oral presentation. Abstracts due December 31, 2012.

**Attend.** Register to attend the conference on the IAIA web site ([www.IAIA.org](http://www.IAIA.org))

**Sponsor.** Help make the Calgary conference a resounding success for an influential international audience.

**Be visible.** Learn about opportunities to highlight your company with a booth at the exhibits.

## What will happen at the conference?

**Over 125 sessions, theme forums and plenaries** on a variety of relevant topics, such as:

- Emerging global trends in IA for the coming decades
- From EA to impact and benefit agreements: private governance and consent
- Country experiences with oil industries and impact assessment
- EIA and a new generation of clean energy projects in BC
- Arctic hydrocarbons: addressing community aspirations and effects
- Special focus on health in impact assessment
- Evolving standards for EA: the consultant's perspective
- The role of impact assessment in project decision making in the Alberta oil sands
- Communication with stakeholders and general public: from state of the art to innovation
- Strategic environmental assessment and climate change
- Guidelines and tools for integrating climate change in impact assessment
- Closing gaps for EIA in the next generation: sharing biodiversity data
- Innovative modeling tools for sustainable energy policy assessment
- Understanding and managing cumulative impacts in resource regions
- When things go sideways: understanding emotion, opposition and outrage
- Impact of dams on communities: lessons learned and the future role of SIA
- International finance institutions: Emerging ESIA standards and practice
- Environmental baseline data in the IA: what is appropriate?
- Modern interdisciplinary approaches for ESHIA in the Arctic

### Special meeting

Following the conference is a special half-day meeting coordinated by the World Bank.

- Consultation with IAIA conference participants on the Review and Update of the World Bank Safeguard Policies
- Applying International Finance Corporation's Performance Standards: Progressive Realization of Key Principles
- Country Safeguard Systems: Asian Development Bank and World Bank Experience

### Technical visits

A number of interesting technical visits have been arranged that will enable local and international participants to tour significant areas within Alberta, including Fort McMurray, Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump, the TransCanada Highway Twinning Project, Kananaskis Country and Calgary's East Village, while learning about past and current challenges and successes in impact assessment.

Learn what Calgary has to offer!


### Training courses

Twelve 2-day training courses are available to new and experienced practitioners and people who commission or review IAs.

The training courses use pedagogy, small group work and interactive discussions to delve into issues around methodology and tools, problem solving and innovative thinking.

Learn more about IA!

Come see what is going on!



IAIA, in cooperation with Calgary Parks Foundation, will plant a grove of trees in Calgary to offset this conference's carbon footprint.