

OVERVIEW OF THE FEDERAL CONTAMINATED SITES ACTION PLAN (FCSAP)

October 24, 2024



BACKGROUND

- **Tens of thousands of contaminated sites in Canada**
 - Most privately owned or belong to municipalities or provinces/territories
 - Approximately 5,800 active or suspected sites are federal responsibility and identified on the Federal Contaminated Sites Inventory; over 18,400 closed sites
- **Federal Contaminated Sites Action Plan (FCSAP) established in 2005, responding to Officer of the Auditor General (OAG) call to address federal contaminated sites**
 - Objective: reduce health and environment risks and financial liability
 - \$4.54B committed from 2005-2020 (Phases I-III)
 - Program renewed from 2020-2035 with \$1.16B for Phase IV (2020-2025)
 - Budget 2024 provided funding for Phase V (2025-2030)
 - 17 custodial departments/agencies/consolidated Crown corporations, 4 Expert Support departments, Secretariat
- **Environment and Climate Change Canada is:**
 - Federal lead and provides Secretariat support along with Treasury Board of Canada Secretariat;
 - Expert technical support/advice; and
 - Also a custodian of contaminated sites.
- **Despite progress, an estimated \$2.7B of liability for FCSAP eligible sites remains at the end of 2023-2024.**

WHAT SITES ARE ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING UNDER FCSAP?

- **Contaminated sites under federal responsibility:**
 - Federal lands (e.g. harbours, airports, military bases, national parks, First Nations reserves among others);
 - Non-federal land where the government has caused contamination, e.g. through lease arrangements; or
 - Non-federal lands where the government has accepted responsibility, e.g. some abandoned mines in the North.
- **Contaminated sites with legacy contamination:**
 - Occurred prior to 1998, before modern legislation, policies and best practices (e.g. Canadian Environmental Protection Act, Treasury Board policies, environmental management systems).
 - The restriction for contamination having to occur before 1998 does not apply to sites located on First Nations reserves or affecting Indigenous communities in the North.
- **Higher priority sites:**
 - Sites must be assessed and classified as high priority (Class 1), medium priority (Class 2) or low priority (Class 3) to be eligible for remediation funding.
- **FCSAP provides three types of funding:** assessment, remediation/risk-management and program management.
- **Phase IV expanded eligibility** to increase flexibility and efficiency, e.g. bundling lower and higher priority sites.

CONTAMINATED SITES OUTSIDE OF FCSAP

- Not all federal contaminated sites are eligible for FCSAP funding.
- Other sources of funding are also used to work on federal contaminated sites. For example:
 - The Northern Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program under Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada addresses eight of the largest abandoned mines in the North.
 - Custodians and other federal organizations utilize their own funding to complete assessment and remediation work on non-FCSAP eligible sites that fall under their jurisdiction.
- Very few abandoned mines are federal, as responsibility for regulating mines rests with provinces and territories.



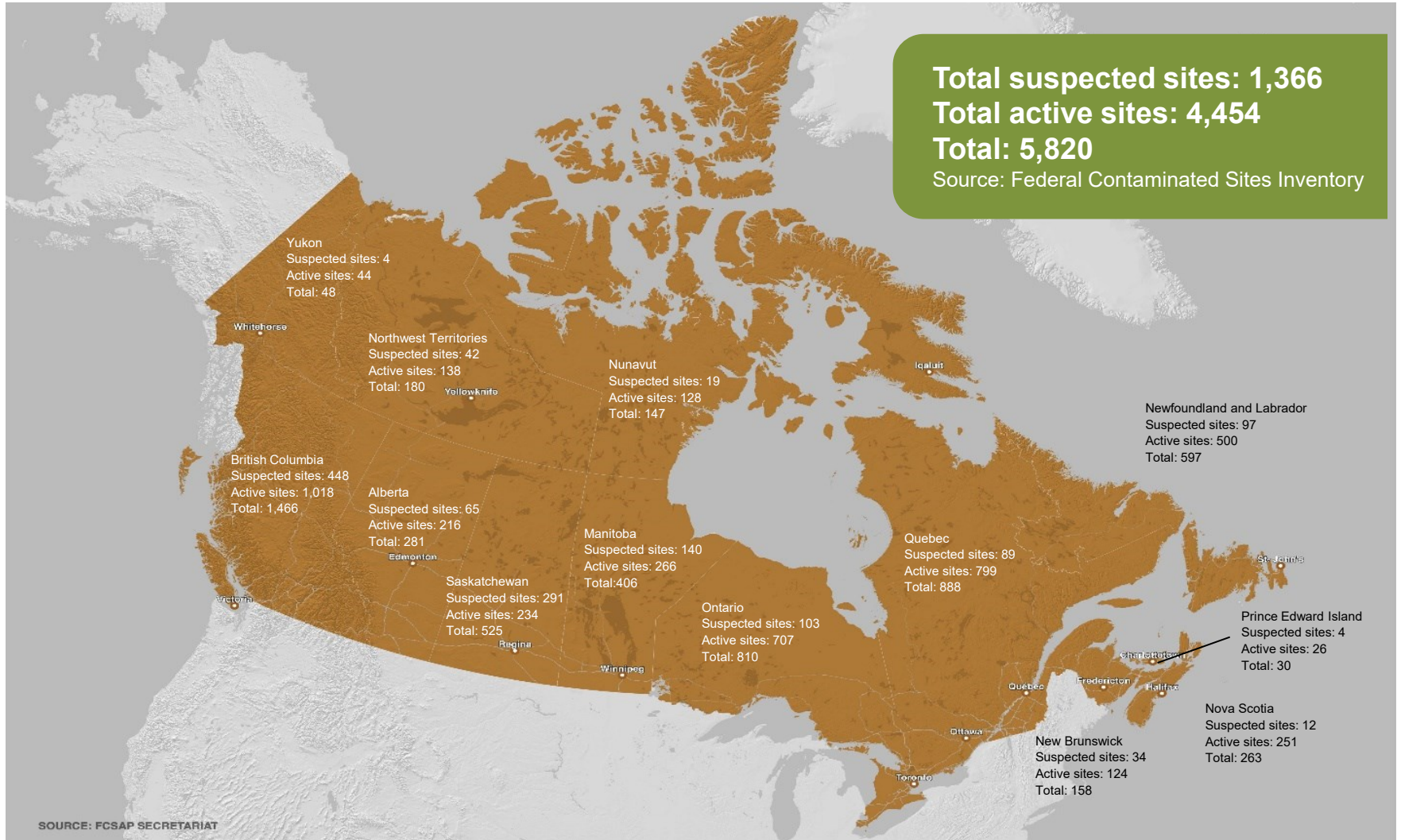
FEDERAL CONTAMINATED SITES INVENTORY (FCSI)

- The federal government keeps an inventory of all known federal contaminated sites; this inventory is:
 - Publicly available
 - Updated annually
 - Accessible at:

<https://www.tbs-sct.gc.ca/fcsi-rscf/home-accueil-eng.aspx>

- FCSI has **24,229 sites** on it (as of October 2024). These include:
 - **4,454 sites** that are being **actively** assessed or remediated;
 - **1,366 sites** where contamination is only **suspected** but assessments have not begun;
 - **18,409 sites** that have been **closed** after remediation was completed or after assessments found that there were no elevated risks.

CURRENT STATUS OF SITES



FCSAP ACHIEVEMENTS

- **After 19 years of FCSAP (2005-2024)**

\$5.7 billion investment

- World-class contaminated sites management industry in Canada

3,000 sites with remediation

- 2,100 fully remediated

Skills development and job training

- 27 400 direct jobs; \$2.4 billion spent in Canada's North

Science development

- 88 environmental quality guidelines, technical guidance, tools

FCSAP PHASE IV

- Federal Budget 2019: \$1.16 billion for FCSAP Phase IV from 2020-2025

Risk Reduction

- Prioritized actions
- Collaborative planning
- Communication with industry

Linkages to Federal Priorities

- Indigenous engagement and economic opportunities
- Innovative technologies
- Climate change resiliency

FCSAP PHASE IV (2020-2025)

Program Activity	Funding (\$M)	Planned Site Activity
Remediation	\$1,050	1,316
Assessment	\$24.3	242
Program Management	\$83.4	--
Total	\$1,157.7	--

FURTHER INFORMATION

- More information on FCSAP can be found at:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/pollution-waste-management/contaminated-sites.html>

- For any other inquiries, please contact the FCSAP Secretariat at:

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