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[www.timmins.ca](http://www.timmins.ca)

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October 20, 2025

By email: [Crawford@iaac-aeic.gc.ca](mailto:Crawford@iaac-aeic.gc.ca)

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada  
600-55 York Street  
Toronto, ON M5J 1R7

### **Re: Crawford Nickel Project**

Dear Sir / Madam,

The City of Timmins appreciates the opportunity to provide comments to the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada regarding the Crawford Nickel Project. Mining has always been at the heart of our community, and we view this project as a vital step in Canada's journey toward a cleaner, more sustainable economy.

The city recognizes the Crawford Nickel Project as a strategic opportunity to advance regional prosperity and support Canada's critical minerals strategy, while ensuring that environmental safeguards and social considerations remain a top priority throughout the assessment and implementation phases.

### **Housing and Accommodations**

The City of Timmins is taking a proactive approach to addressing housing needs in anticipation of future growth driven by major projects such as the Crawford Nickel Project. In 2024, City Council approved a comprehensive [Housing Action Plan](#) that identifies key priorities and strategies to increase the supply and diversity of housing across the community.

Building on this foundation, the City is finalizing a **Housing Community Improvement Plan (CIP)**, set to be implemented in early 2026, which will introduce targeted incentives to encourage new residential development, rental housing, and the revitalization of existing properties. At the same time, the [Melrose Heights subdivision](#) continues to expand, providing new housing opportunities for families and professionals choosing to call Timmins home. These initiatives collectively demonstrate the City's commitment to ensuring a balanced, accessible, and sustainable housing market that supports both community well-being and economic development.



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## **Community Safety and Well-Being**

The City of Timmins is committed to fostering a safe, inclusive, and resilient community through proactive planning and ongoing investment. Our [Community Safety and Well-Being Plan](#) serves as a strategic framework built around four key pillars: Homelessness, Addictions and Mental Health, Youth Engagement as well as Gender-Based Violence.

Each pillar reflects the City's dedication to addressing the root causes of social challenges, promoting collaboration among local service providers, and enhancing quality of life for all residents.

Complementing this approach, the City continues to make significant **annual investments in the Timmins Police Service budget**, ensuring that law enforcement has the resources, training, and tools necessary to maintain public safety, respond effectively to emerging issues, and strengthen community trust. Since 2022, the municipality and various provincial Ministries have promoted service enhancements with investments in human resources and service modernization projects. Authorized staffing levels have increased throughout the entire organization from 131 to 154 full time staff representing an 18 % increase in authorized staffing. Additional resources have been enhanced through capital projects that have equipped staff with the tools necessary to provide policing services. Some of those projects include specialized response vehicles, software applications, and mobile technologies including drones and other camera systems. These service expansions ensure the organization is a reliable and resilient service provider that is responsive to the residents and maintains the capacity to grow with the public safety needs of the community.

## **Education and Children Services**

The City of Timmins is proud to be served by four school boards, each providing quality education and support to students across the community. These include the District School Board Ontario North East (DSB1), the Northeastern Catholic District School Board (NCDSB), the Conseil scolaire catholique des Grandes Rivières (CSCDGR), and the Conseil scolaire public du Nord-Est de l'Ontario (CSPNE). Together, these boards offer a broad range of programs, from elementary to secondary education, as well as specialized French-language and faith-based learning opportunities, ensuring that children of all backgrounds have access to excellent education.

Beyond formal schooling, a variety of children's services that support healthy development and well-being are available in Timmins, including licensed childcare centres, early learning programs, recreational and after-school programs, and services for children with special needs. These combined resources help families thrive and contribute to the city's ongoing growth and vitality.

Timmins is also home to Northern College, Collège Boréal, Université de Hearst and Algoma University campuses, offering a variety of programs in trades, health sciences, business, and liberal arts. Together, these institutions give local students access to diverse post-secondary opportunities without leaving the region.



## **Investments in Health**

The City of Timmins continues to demonstrate strong leadership and commitment to local healthcare through strategic and sustained investments. The [Physician Recruitment Program](#), launched as a collaborative initiative with the Timmins and District Hospital, Agnico Eagle Mines, and other community partners, represents a \$1.8 million effort to attract up to 30 new doctors over three years. This program offers a \$60,000 startup grant per physician and includes a comprehensive outreach campaign with a new website and targeted marketing to address the shortage of family doctors and specialists in the region. The City has also contributed \$2 million over four years toward the [Timmins and District Hospital Emergency Department redevelopment](#), a vital project that expands emergency care capacity and modernizes local healthcare infrastructure. In addition, the City continues to fund its investment in the Medical Specialists Building, which will be paid off by 2028, and maintains an annual contribution of \$145,000 toward ongoing physician recruitment efforts. Collectively, these initiatives represent **nearly \$1 million in annual municipal investment in health**, underscoring Timmins' long-term commitment to ensuring residents have access to high-quality medical services and to strengthening the city's role as a regional healthcare hub.

The City of Timmins recognizes the Crawford Nickel Project as a significant opportunity to strengthen the local economy, create sustainable employment, and support community growth. By moving forward responsibly, we believe the Crawford Nickel Project will contribute to a thriving, resilient, and inclusive Timmins, ensuring that both current and future residents share in the benefits of sustainable development.

Sincerely,

<Original signed by>

Michelle Boileau  
Mayor



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