



Blue Box Seminar Series

Department of Geography

PRESENTS:

Friday, March 10th, 2023

3-4pm SN2025

Dr. Steve Bonnell

Adjunct Professor, MUN Geography

Director, Impact Assessment Agency of Canada



50 Years of Environmental Assessment in Canada: Challenges, Changes, Lessons, Opportunities

This year represents 50 years of environmental assessment (EA) processes and practice in Canada. Over that period, EA has become an important and widely used means of understanding and addressing the potential effects of proposed development activities in a variety of sectors and contexts. This presentation will provide an overview of the EA process, the continued evolution of its nature and scope, and some key areas of ongoing discourse - based on observations from my 25 years as an EA practitioner in Canada. This includes highlighting how my work as a practitioner has influenced and shaped my academic interests, and vice versa. It will also introduce and describe some important, up and coming aspects of contemporary EA practice in Canada - namely, strategic and regional assessments - including their purpose, objectives and role in addressing some of the long-standing challenges of project-specific EA application.

The views presented are solely those of the author, and not necessarily those of any other individual or organization.