

Putting People and the Planet First: What Manitobans Expect from Impact Assessment

October 30, 2025

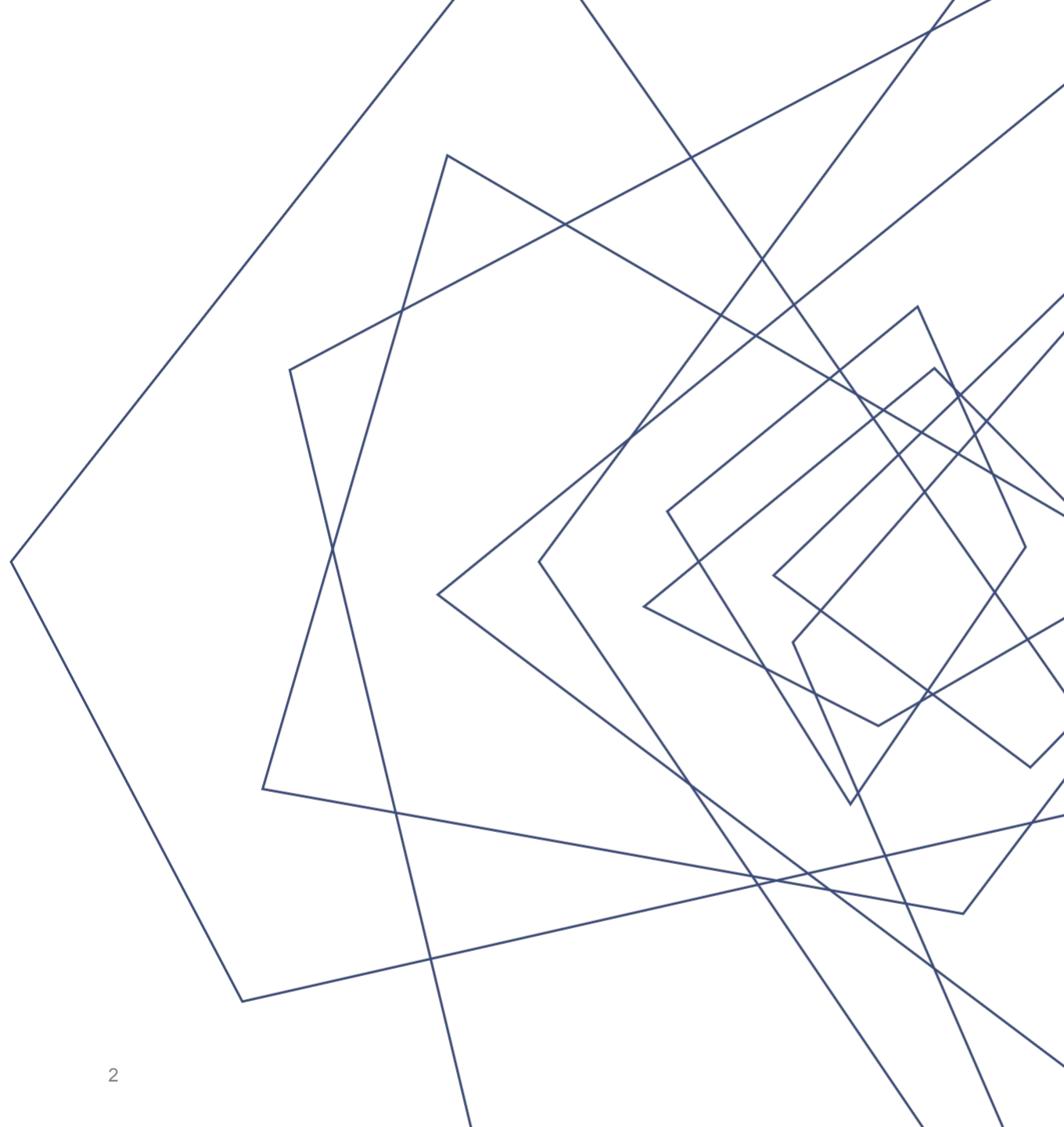


WHAT IS IMPACT ASSESSMENT?

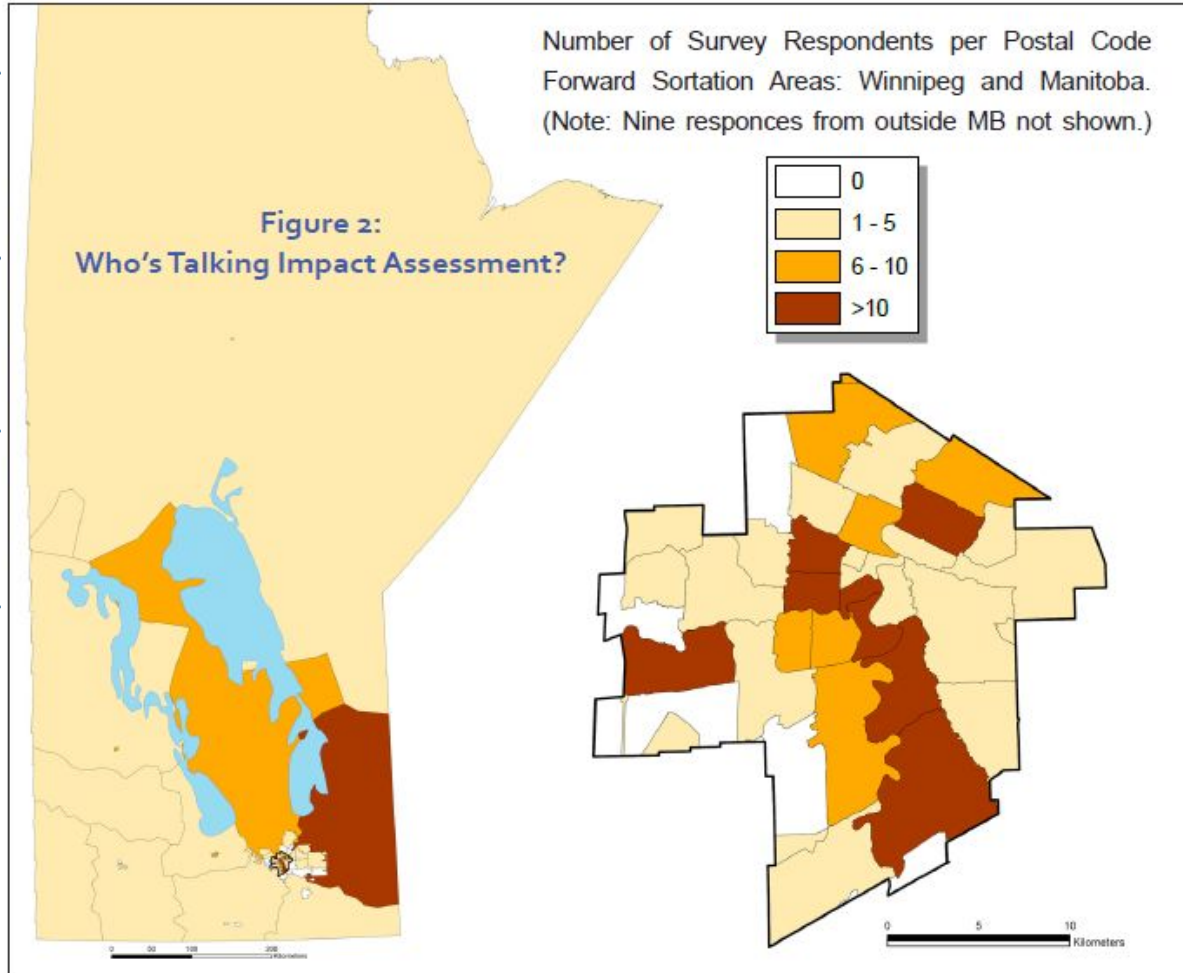
Impact assessment (IA) is a process that helps us understand the different possible outcomes of a proposed activity, before it starts.

It is an opportunity to “look before we leap.”

In Manitoba, the provincial impact assessment process is set out under *The Environment Act*.



METHODS



Survey

Public Workshops

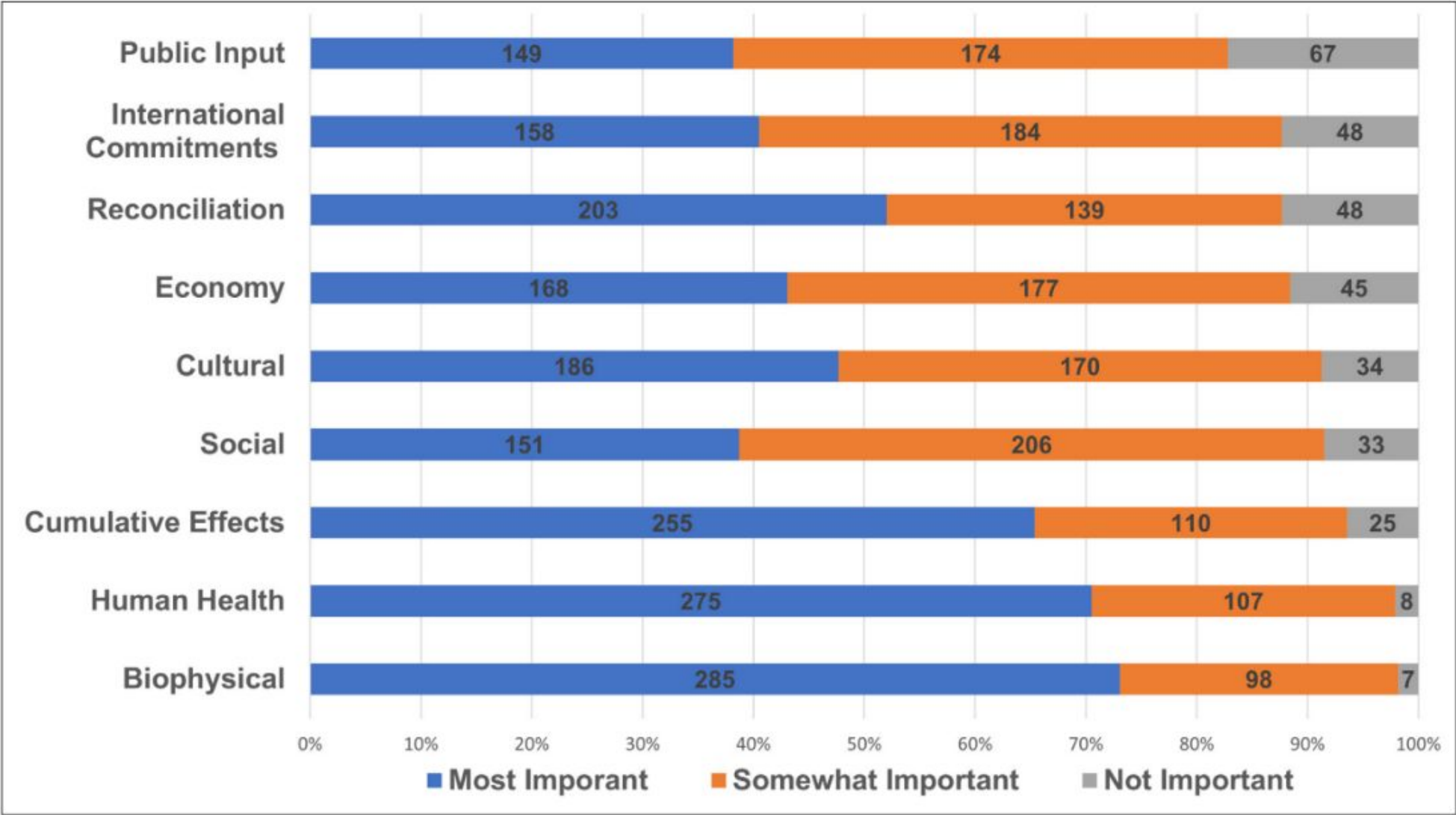
- Brandon
- The Pas
- Winnipeg

Expert Workshop

- Winnipeg

Interdisciplinary Academic Research

Figure 3: Priority Areas from Survey Data



WHY MANITOBA NEEDS REFORMS

OUTDATED
PROVINCIAL PROCESS

PROTECT
PEOPLE AND
PLANET

PROTECT PUBLIC
INTERESTS



MANITOBANS WANT A ROBUST PUBLIC
ENGAGEMENT PROCESS



WHAT WE HEARD: KEY THEMES

- **Broaden the scope of IA by expanding the range of potential effects assessed during the process.**
 - **Don't forget cumulative effects.**
- Make space for Indigenous-led assessment and traditional knowledge, meaningfully include Indigenous Rights-Holders.
- Significantly more opportunities for meaningful public engagement.
- Expand the range of activities and projects required to undergo impact assessment in Manitoba.

WHAT WE HEARD: KEY THEMES

- Make decisions in a public and transparent manner.
- Improve post-approval practices, including:
 - enforcement of legal requirements and licence conditions,
 - tracking and collecting additional data, and
 - independent and unbiased monitoring and reporting.
- Improve public trust in Manitoba's IA process.
- **Prioritize the protection of people and the environment, even when there is political pressure to approve natural resource developments.**

RECOMMENDATIONS

TALK TO INDIGENOUS RIGHTS-HOLDERS

- Engage with Indigenous rights-holders to identify meaningful reforms to impact assessment processes

TALK TO THE PUBLIC

- Meaningfully engage with the public to identify public interests and impact assessment reform priorities

REFORMS BASED ON PUBLIC INTERESTS

- Develop and introduce reforms based on the feedback on Manitobans

THANK-YOU

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