



# **CSR Standards Navigation Tool**

**Canada's Extractive Sector CSR Counsellor  
Jeffrey Davidson**

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## **CANADIAN DEFINITION OF CSR**

« **Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)** is defined as the voluntary activities undertaken by a company, *beyond the minimum requirements imposed by law*, to operate in an economic, social and environmentally sustainable manner»



# Office of the CSR Counsellor

**The Counsellor - special Advisor to the Minister of International Trade**

**Office established in 2009**

**Two mandated functions:**

- **Advisory – explaining Government CSR expectations to Canadian mining, oil and gas companies**
- **Review - non-judicial dispute resolution mechanism**

**More recently guided by the 2014 CSR Strategy, “Doing Business the Canadian Way”, which**

- **Shifted focus of efforts from reaction to prevention**
- **Endorsed two additional international standards**
- **Recognized value of industry-wide initiatives promoting good practice, namely *Towards Sustainable Mining* (Mining Association of Canada) and *E3 Plus* (Prospector and Developers Association)**



# From Reacting to Preventing

- **Active promotion of good practice**
  - Conferences or special event presentations, face to face meetings; small group discussions and dialogues
  - Extension of outreach to stakeholders in countries where Canadian companies are active and/or risks are high
- **Early detection of emerging situations**
  - Office-initiated research and monitoring
  - Trade Commissioners on Post as CSR advocates and eyes and ears on the ground
- **Constructive interventions to facilitate solutions and diminish risks of escalation and conflict**
  - Direct contact with corporate and site level senior management
  - Assessment and advice
- **Authority to recommend denial or withdrawal of certain government services**
  - When companies not operating in good faith, unwilling to improve practices or cooperate with Office of the Counsellor



# International CSR Standards

## 2009 Endorsements

- The OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises (2011 update)
- The UN Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (2000)
- The Global Reporting Initiative (Mining and Metals Supplement)
- IFC Social and Environmental Performance Standards

## 2014 Additions

- The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (2011)
- The OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Supply Chains of Minerals from Conflict-Affected and High-Risk Areas

### CSR Guidance Developed in Canada

- E3Plus – A framework for Responsible Exploration (PDAC)
- Towards Sustainable Mining (Mining Association of Canada)

# international.gc.ca/csr-counsellor

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## Trade

### Services and Tools

Export and Import Controls  
Trade Commissioner Service  
Office of the Chief Economist  
Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

#### CSR Counsellor

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Our Role  
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Trade Portfolio Partners  
Business Women in International Trade (BWIT)  
CanExport

## Office of the Extractive Sector Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Counsellor

[Español](#) (.PDF - 186 KB)

The Office of the Extractive Sector CSR Counsellor advises extractive companies and other stakeholders on the implementation of CSR performance standards and guidelines. The Office also reviews the CSR practices of Canadian extractive (mining, oil and gas) companies operating abroad.

Formal and informal dialogue facilitation is offered, to assist companies and project-affected stakeholders outside of Canada with dispute resolution. However, the Office focuses its efforts on the prevention, detection and resolution of disputes in their early stages.

### About us

Who we are, how we work, and the history of the Office.

### Resources

Publications, presentations, interviews and key documents related to the Office, as well as useful CSR links.

### Our role

We provide advice and review the CSR practices of Canadian extractive companies operating abroad.

### Events and Outreach

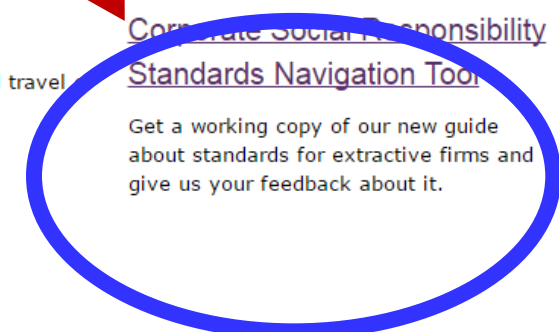
Past and upcoming outreach and travel the CSR Counsellor.

### Engaging with the Office

All stakeholders can bring CSR related issues to our attention.

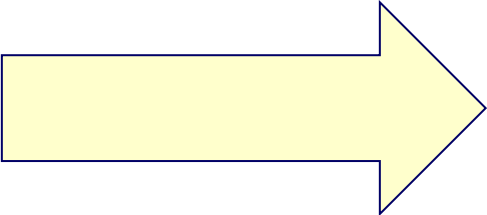
### Corporate Social Responsibility Standards Navigation Tool

Get a working copy of our new guide about standards for extractive firms and give us your feedback about it.





**6 International Standards, Guidelines + Additional Tools**



**1 Navigation Tool**



# CSR Standards Navigation Tool

- Allows companies to more quickly access and understand GoC expectations and the principles against which their performance will be evaluated

Corporate Governance

Social

Environmental

Labour

- To quickly identify relevant issues relating to site specific situations
- To assist in determining what steps and practices may be required to ensure responsible conduct and performance





## Contact Info

**Jeffrey Davidson**  
CSR Counsellor

[Jeffrey.davidson@international.gc.ca](mailto:Jeffrey.davidson@international.gc.ca)

**Download the tool and read office updates:**  
[http://www.international.gc.ca/csr\\_counsellor](http://www.international.gc.ca/csr_counsellor)