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DEVELOPMENT OF CRITERIA AND INDICATORS FOR MONITORING PROGRESS TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE REMEDIATION

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ABSTRACT Criteria and indicators have been described as new tools for better definition of sustainable management concepts and for monitoring temporal change in the conditions and outputs of systems that they helped to define. With the ongoing quest for cleaner technology utilization in the remediation industry, a set of criteria and indicators were developed by stakeholders in the Alberta's remediation industry under the aegis of sustainable remediation technologies initiative. The initiative which met mostly on monthly basis for two years consisted of 18 professionals and experts drawn from the academics, environmental consulting companies, manufacturing companies, engineering companies, municipal authority and provincial environmental agencies. The group, using interactive discussion approach, came up with 16 indicators which were grouped into technical, environmental, economic and socio-cultural criteria. Experts agreed that these first set of indicators, with ongoing work for further expansion, will both facilitate the monitoring of our progress towards sustainable remediation and help in measuring the sustainability of commonly used remediation techniques in the province.

Keywords: Remediation, Sustainable remediation, Cleaner technology, Sustainable development, Criteria and indicators.