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Tom Briggs, Chair  
Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board  
200-9523 100th St  
Fort St John BC V1J 4N4

Dear Mr Briggs:

I would like to thank you, Bill Lux and Jason Lee for meeting with me on May 3, 2010, to discuss the 2010-2011 Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board (M-KAB) Expenditure Plan.

I enjoyed the opportunity to meet with members of the M-KAB and hear about the plans for the coming year. I appreciate all the work you and the Board continue to do with regard to the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area (M-KMA).

I am pleased to provide you with the approved M-KAB Expenditure Plan for 2010-2011 and wish you well in delivering on the projects identified in this Plan.

Again, thank you for your time and all your efforts in providing advice to government regarding the management of the M-KMA.

Sincerely,



Steve Thomson  
Minister

cc: Gary Townsend  
Assistant Deputy Minister, ILMB



MUSKWA-KECHIKA  
MANAGEMENT AREA

2010-2011  
Muskwa-Kechika Trust Fund  
Record of Decision

The Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board (M-KAB) recommends to the Minister of Agriculture and Lands, acting as Trustee of Muskwa-Kechika Trust Fund account, that an amount totalling **\$438,500.00** reflecting projected expenditures to be made from the M-KMA Trust Account to the M-KAB for the fiscal year April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011.

Government has directed the Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board to utilize these funds by March 31, 2011. The projected expenditures in this expenditure plan have been developed to exhaust the funds remaining in the M-KMA Trust account.

*On the part of the Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board:*

*All recommendations for expenditures from the Muskwa-Kechika Trust Account funds for the fiscal year 2010-2011 are consensual recommendations of the Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board, presented on behalf of the Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board.*

Tom Briggs  
Chair, Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board

May 3 / 2010  
Date

*On the part of the Trustee of the Muskwa-Kechika Trust Account funds:*

*I accept the recommendations of the Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board made in this Expenditure Plan, for expenditures for the fiscal year 2010-2011 from the Muskwa-Kechika Trust Account funds.*

Honourable Steve Thomson, Minister Agriculture & Lands  
(Trustee for the M-KMA trust account)

May 15 / 2010  
Date

# 2010-2011 Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board Expenditure Plan

Appointed by the Premier of British Columbia, the *Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board* (M-KAB) serves to advise the provincial government concerning matters of natural resource management in the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area (M-KMA), as defined by the *Muskwa-Kechika Management Area Act (1998)* (*M-KMA Act*) and its subsequent amendments.

As well, the *M-KMA Act* charges the M-KAB to make recommendations to the *Trustee of the Muskwa-Kechika Trust Fund*, (Trustee, Trust Fund) concerning expenditures from the Trust Fund. These recommendations are made on a basis that is consistent to the existing strategic plans and governance model of the M-KAB.

Accordingly, this Expenditure Plan provides recommendations to the Trustee of the Trust Fund, by the M-KAB, concerning expenditures from the Trust Fund for the fiscal year 2010-2011 which will exhaust those funds remaining in this Trust Account.

## Specifics

In 2008, the Minister responsible for the M-K Trust Fund, the Honourable Pat Bell, provided direction to the M-KAB to expend the remaining funds in the Trust Fund account by March 2011.

The Chief Executive Officer of the Integrated Land Management Bureau, in a letter to the M-KAB, dated May 22, 2009 has directed the M-KAB to prepare an expenditure plan for the 2009-2010 fiscal year and the 2010-2011 fiscal year utilizing the remaining funds in this account.

All proposed expenditures in this Expenditure Plan meet the requirements as laid out in the *M-K Management Plan Regulation* for Trust fund expenditures.

2010-2011

**Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board Expenditure Plan**  
**Projects Recommended for Funding**

**Knowledge and Understanding**

This Committee focuses on the collection, dissemination and understanding of research information and data used in integrated resource management decision making in the M-KMA.

**1. Investigating Impacts of Wind Power Developments in the M-KMA \$60,000**

This project will create and map a range of plausible development scenarios and use these to investigate the potential impacts of wind power projects.

This will include the construction and operations of turbines, the development of permanent and long term roaded access, transmission corridors and year round service access. The project will also work to engage the Northern Managers Committee as well as ILMB, Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Forests and Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources staff.

The results of this project will assist the M-KAB in its role to provide advice to the provincial government on natural resource development in the M-KMA.

**Resource Management**

This Committee focuses on the decision making processes and practices regarding the management of renewable and non-renewable resources and activities within the M-KMA.

**2. Muskwa-Kechika Barrel Clean Up \$50,000**

This project was approved in the 2009-2010 Expenditure Plan; however with the approval coming late in the year, the funding could not be utilized and as such is required to be in place as soon as possible.

This is one of the projects funded by the M-K Trust Funds up to 2006. Locating abandoned barrels/drums consisting of fuel and other products in the M-KMA resulted in over 1000 barrels identified. In an effort to prevent environmental damage, these barrels were brought together in various locations and stockpiled, to be flown out and barrels transported to a facility that would deal with hazardous materials.

With trust fund monies expiring in 2006, barrels were transported to and stockpiled in key areas to be transported out of the M-KMA; some are located on existing land tenures. There has been no other funding to remove these from the M-KMA and have them dealt with properly at a designated location.

This project would ensure that all existing barrels stockpiled from the previous project work would be removed and properly disposed of. The North East Wildlife Society has offered to be a partner in this project and has funding available to support the M-KAB completion of this project.

## **Monitoring and Reporting**

This Committee focuses on the mechanism and processes that will ensure the M-KMA vision is met.

### **3. Establishing a Monitoring framework for Resource Activities in the M-KMA \$30,000**

ILMB staff has assessed impacted sites in the M-KMA to review reclamation on these sites. This project will advance this work to develop a process to determine when a site disturbance is considered returned to a natural state and how it is then “taken off the books” as a reclaimed site. Further a template will be developed for reporting out operational level monitoring of all resource activities in the M-KMA.

## **Awareness and Support**

This Committee works to build a constituency of advocates for the M-KMA.

### **4. M-KMA Youth Training Opportunities \$ 100,000**

The Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board has supported a Youth Camp in the M-KMA for over 10 years. The camp is hosted by First Nations and focuses on cross cultural training and experience, career training opportunities and exposure to natural resource management and development.

For most years, this camp has been hosted on a rotational basis by Kaska Dena and the Treaty 8 Tribal Association. Each First Nation has supplied the camp facilities as well has secured other funding to host this camp annually.

\$50,000 of this funding will be provided to Treaty 8 Tribal Association for their hosting the 2010 Youth Camp. Location to be determined by Treaty 8.

\$50,000 will be provided to the Kaska Dena Council to host the 2011 Youth Camp. This funding is required to be with Kaska by March 31, 2011.

### **5. Muskwa-Kechika video/film \$ 115,092**

This project was approved in last years Expenditure Plan and was posted for a Request for Proposals in late February. Review and acceptance of the best proposal was completed in March, however the contract and funds have not be signed off. The contract has now been signed and the project is ready to move ahead.

## **Organizational Development**

This Committee works to strengthen the institutional and administrative structures supporting Advisory Board.

### **6. Muskwa-Kechika Information Data Base and record keeping \$10,000**

Since the establishment of the M-KMA, a searchable data base for all relevant M-KMA research, inventory and other documents has never been established. The Advisory Board has worked with the provincial government over the years as well as UNBC to establish such a data base but it has not been committed to and completed and updated.

The M-KAB is required to disseminate information on the M-KMA and these past projects and work done by others is critical to the Advisory Board being successful in this regard.

As well as establishing a searchable data base for relevant M-KMA records, this project will ensure that all relevant trust fund projects are in hard copy as well as digitized for easy access and use by others. The M-K office in Fort St John will house this data base with a back up system in place. The M-KAB will work to ensure this is kept up for the future and M-K information is readily available to any who request or require this type of information.

**7. Establishing strong linkages between First Nations and the M-KAB \$ 20,000**

The Organizational Development committee will scope out with First Nation members on the Advisory Board the details and opportunities for strengthening the relationship and linkages between the Advisory Board and First Nation leadership and communities.

**8. Contingency \$ 53,408**

In an effort to utilize all the remaining funds in the M-K Trust Account, the M-K Executive is recommending that a contingency in the amount of \$53,408 be retained. .

This contingency, will be utilized by the Executive of the M-KAB to ensure that all the above approved projects, which are estimates, have enough funding to complete.

Subject to the completion of the above projects, the M-K Executive would approve further expenditure of the contingency funds in supporting other key initiatives that could utilize funding by the end of the fiscal year.

Some projects that are in initial planning/discussion stage that could potentially use some funds are: a partnership with the Oil and Gas Commission in investigating impacted sites in the M-KMA that could possibly have soil contaminates; support for First Nations leadership working through a “government to government” relationship with the Province of BC; support for key note speakers for upcoming M-KAB meetings and potential work that will support the M-KAB as it moves forward in a monitoring role for the M-KMA.