

MUSKWA-KECHIKA ADVISORY BOARD

October Board Meeting:
Fort St John, B.C.
FINAL
October 22nd and 23rd 2008

ATTENDING:

M-KAB Members:	BC Government:	Regrets:
Tom Briggs (M-KAB Chair) Corrine Porter Bill Lux Wayne Sawchuk Barry Holland Andy Johnson Leif Olsen Darrell Regimbald Johnny Mikes Roslyn Pokiak Stephanie Killam Laureen Whyte Tim Trapp Jason Lee Don Roberts (Secretariat)	Jennifer Pollard (IAMC) Karrilyn Vince (ILMB) Sonja Leverkus (MoF) Graham Suther (MoE) Layne Lybbert (ILMB) Pierre Johnstone (MoE) Maurice Lirette (MoE) Guests:	Laurie Montour Peter Stone Jack Sime

October 22nd: : Meeting began @ 9:00 am

Welcome and Introductions

Review Action items and Decision from June 4th and 5th:

- Report out on all outstanding items and current status (Don Roberts)

Review, comments and edits/additions to June 4/5 minutes

- **APPROVED** as tabled

Advice Tracking sheet: (Master List)

Comment from Wayne: on access routes and funding advice column, make it clear that funding would be only on access routes not other routes

Review correspondence:

Letter from Minister Bell to Tom Briggs: highlighted to the Advisory Board the key points from letter

Karrilyn Vince: Gary Townsend will talk to SLUPIF tomorrow morning and ILMB will provide initial response

MoF letter re MPB and response to date from Mackenzie, Peace and Ft Nelson

National Geographic Magazine letter and map issue:

- Article is out with author's route noted.

ACTION: re National Geographic Article on the M-KMA

Don will provide copies of the National Geographic Magazine with the M-K article to those requesting such.

CPAWS letter

- tabled as information to the Board, Don advised that CPAWS will keep the Advisory Board aware of the response to this letter.

9:30 Chair and Executive report out to Board

Tom Briggs made reference to the response letter from Minister Bell, wanted to bring the Advisory Board up to date where things are at with budget and outstanding issues before the Advisory Board.

Highlighted to all Issues Management tracking form used by Executive and for reference in binder to all Board members.

Committee Reports: (NOTE: All committees submitted a brief overview of their work and was included in meeting package)

Resource Management

Hard Creek Nickel mineral update

Bill Lux highlighted that this will have downstream effects inside the MK
At this point, advanced exploration, doing mine plan and submit and then EA process will take place, there is a "corner stone" agreement with Kaska

Kucho Creek mine: when submit new plan, Bill will report back to Board,
(Surewood Copper)

Ministry of Energy, Mines Petroleum Resource – noted changes in staff, Peter Scharf moved on. (need name)

Oil and Gas Commission: noted Ben Mitchell-Banks, no longer contact, Lance Ollenberger and committee is trying to engage Lance. Suggestion for Don to see if Howard could be engaged since he's moved to the OGC in Victoria.

Questions on Resource Committee report:

CAD:

J Lee: is there timeline on this and has it been tested within gov't?

KVince: not in depth, with ILMB staff in PG,

WSawchuk: one tech in PG to test, needs to be more than this, technical components with this. Lot of money put in it, warrants a good hard look at it by government.

JMikes: is this in budget this year, - how do we get this done this year? My concerns are that we can't talk about it, we are lay people don't know what it can and can't do –

J Lee: draft a letter put it in writing timeline etc and need to use this

J Pollard: high end force and don't have the data

Mikes: Board doesn't know what we want the CAD to do – we need a vision if we are clear on this,

D Regimbald: there are tradeoffs etc, other values if proposed activity how does it impact other values

JMikes: What scale?

ACTION: re Gov't testing of the Conservation Area Design (CAD)

Jennifer Pollard to follow up, use staff in Prince George, no letter will go out on this and Jennifer will report back to Resource Committee. Don Roberts to track this for committee

Job Op program - brief overview of the proposed project and tie into government – Question: will Board lead this? Answer: Yes with gov't support

Monitoring and Reporting:

Review of State of MK report – detailed discussion set for tomorrow afternoon

R Backmeyers project - model developed and now being field tested, Rod unable to attend this meeting due to sickness. He will present this back to the Committee at next meeting.

Highlighted D Luff's is attending meeting to discuss with us UNBC Research Forum and oil and gas activity in the M-KMA.

Knowledge and Understanding :

UNBC agreement is now signed off. There is a need for an initial meeting with UNBC and determine the role for Kathy Parkers role with the Committee/Advisory Board.

Geographic Valuation System workshop - need to meet with committee to flesh out

Artist that approached Jason – prints and sell his artwork and is prepared to have some funds to Youth Camp 50% to go to youth camp.

Individual is willing to attend next K&U meeting to discuss and raise funds for Youth Camp in 2009.

If this is a go, then funds generated could be with an agreement with FN hosting the camp and not Board.

Awareness and Support Report:

Discussed all initiatives in the report and tabled that public survey contract signed, brochure is almost complete and ready to print, 10 year video project will be re-posted on BC Bid late winter. Focused on the work ahead for the committee.

Organizational Development Report:

Highlighted key issues and request for additional Board members to be on committee, will be discussed at in camera session tomorrow morning.

M-KAB GATHERING INFORMATION SECTION:

Wind Power Application Process:

ILMB Presentation:

Layne Lybbert went over the application process and highlighted the role of the M-KAB in his presentation. (presentation was provided in paper form for Board members)

Investigative Use Permits (IUP's)'s in the MK - 3 totally within, 1 or 2 overlapping MK to date,

If IUP applicant wants to pursue further work to determine capability of area for wind power, they can apply for a License of Occupation to put up met towers

Can apply to Canadian Environment Assessment process to get subsidy, no matter what size of project.

Must be 50kw or more to kick in BC Environmental Assessment process.

JMikes adjudication process, how is wildlife etc concerns etc.

LLybbert: One adjudicator for each permit, (Land Officer) takes in all info brought forward and makes decision based on information gathered.

IUP cost \$500 for permit, met tower up to \$200k per tower May be advertised, may not

License of Occupation – advertise is at discretion of Lands officer

WSawchuk – can you provide which ones have been advertised? NO

R Pokiak LoOcc – time period?

Met towers tied to term of IUP - License of Occupation up to 5 years.

Ministry of Environment:

Graham Suther did presentation on MoE's role in wind power applications. (hand out of presentation)

Pictures from Dokie met tower out of Chetwynd.

Graham slide presentation (handouts??)

Presentations on Wind power ended at 12:40

12:40 PM LUNCH: (Tom Briggs did a presentation for Tara Forest, former M-K Coordinator for her work and dedication to the M-KAB)

1:30 M-KAB GATHERING INFORMATION: (con't)

David Luff: Inukshuk Consulting

Provided a presentation to the Board UNBC Research Forum (handout) He is working with Julian Griggs on this and encouraged Board members to attend;

David and Julian's presentation/discussion at the UNBC Forum will be on December 3rd in the morning:

David and Julian to present findings back to the Board

With David's work with the oil and gas sector, he presented some information on future Oil and gas plays in NE BC. His presentation materials will be posted to the M-KAB member web page.

Ministry of Environment Update Report to Board:

Maurice Lirette highlighted his 1 year in regional manager position - overview of staff, and work to date.

Noted: Nancy Wilkin (ADM) moved on Ralph Archibald new A/ Deputy Minister

AMA review: update: Discussed the process to date, small contract was undertaken by consultant and presented to Maurice. No decision has been made on any suggested changes to routes, however some recommendations are in the report.

ACTION: re Access Management Review with MoE

Maurice will provide Secretariat with the consultant report for Board review.

This report will be reviewed by Resource Committee for any follow up advice/action

From day 2 discussion: Secretariat will draft a letter on this to request the rationale for any recommended changes and what the process MoE uses to accept any changes. Through the Resource Committee, the Advisory Board may want to provide further advice on changes once they understand what changes are being proposed and why.

Wildlife Plan:

Pierre Johnstone did a high level overview of this plan and noted a timeline to work toward sign off. Minister will have to sign this plan off.

Once all consultation has taken place, he will provide the "final" draft to the Advisory Board before sending up for sign off.

ACTION: re posting current draft of Wildlife Plan

Pierre will provide Secretariat with most up to date version of the Wildlife Plan and this will be posted on the secure page for members

Parks Planning: S Fraser

End of November to Board review plans, trying to nail down FN vision statement for all plans, and then to Board

Collaborative agreements with First Nations are separate
Dune Za Keyih planned for the summer of 2009

October 23, 2008

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7:30 - 9:00 am M-KAB "in camera" breakfast meeting, Advisory Board members only, Tom Briggs leads discussion. No notes and will report out to Secretariat later on any action items.

9:25 ILMB Senior Staff Discussion with Advisory Board:

Gary Townsend

No formal presentation, appreciates the opportunity to address the Board and bring all up to date on the key issues with ILMB.

Mentioned about New Minister, Sr Exec meet last Monday and briefed him on MK, Minister Hagen is familiar with Board and M-K and a strong supporter

Budget:

2008-09 Minister Bell's letter and budget, expenditure plan Gary urged the Advisory Board to commit expenditures in operational budget,

2009-10 Will enter in to system another \$250,000 but will not know if this will be available to early in new fiscal year.

Steve Carr seeking a stable funding model for ILMB which includes the M-KAB,

Regulation amendments, Brian Braidwood, its been 10 years, other legislation gone thru (Forest Practices Board) process is significantly changed

Fell back to regulation instead of the Act, and ILMB has asked Advisory Board to stand down on this aspect and Board has accepted this recommendation last year.

Steve and Gary gone back to leg counsel and asked to keep this to go forward. Leg counsel has flagged this as yellow tag, not high but asked to go thru, Gary optimistic it will go through, Cabinet will make decisions,

Wayne Substantive changes?

KVince: No, update from old regs (language) to new , clean ups but not substantial

99.9 % ready to go will wait for Brian and leg counsel to let us know target is in November.

SLUPIF:

Draft response available handed out,

Gary went over those recommendations that will not be accepted by government,

Wayne, committee to review this draft and respond back to government

KV went thru key recommendations that response has been changed,

From this discussion, these were to be followed up on:

Victoria meeting with ADMs etc too difficult to secure Ministers with their schedules, target ADM's those who have statutory responsibilities in the M-KMA

Further discussion on the need for this Advisory Board to have meeting with new Minister and go over key issues.

ACTION: re: meeting with Minister Hagen

Secretariat to draft another letter to meet with Minister, and Gary will work to coordinate with Minister prior to December

ACTION: re: 2009-10 Trust Fund Expenditure Plan

Trust Fund Expenditure plan for next year, must be done annually and submitted by March for Minister sign off. Secretariat will work with Committees over the winter to review and update the expenditure plan and present back at the next Advisory Board meeting.

Wayne: wind power, conflicts with wind power and caribou habitat etc.
Need a plan for this in NE

Gary, independent power office to address issues such as lack of “strategy” etc, to stop from the securing the land base for whatever reasons etc, geographic opportunities etc. gold rush mentality

10:50 M-KAB Review and discussion on information presented previous day:

Wind Power:

Much discussion took place by various Advisory Board members on this topic.

Based on presentations and with the Board discussion, the following was recommended:

ACTION: re wind power in the M-KMA

Secretariat to draft letter for Resource Committee regarding concern about wind power in the M-KMA – ensure that the perception is not made that its not allowed, however make sure key issues (caribou habitat impact) etc are highlight in the letter. Identify a need to have a strategy for wind power in the M-KMA prior to any further tenures being issued.

Wildlife Plan:

Again a good discussion from the Advisory Board on the status of this plan and the fact there is the need to have a plan signed off.

DECISION: re Wildlife Plan

The M-KAB can accept that the Wildlife plan has to be signed off as it is imperative to have a plan in place and begin to work with it.
It's noted that several Advisory Board members and those they represent have some issues with the plan to date, it is felt that its best at this point to get it signed off. Once in place, there needs to be a commitment from MoE to work with the plan and ensure that concerns and issues that come forward will be dealt with and an updated plan will be done accordingly.

ACTION: re Wildlife Plan

Secretariat to draft letter for Resource Committee advising government of this decision.

Range Allocation Presentation:

The Advisory Board appreciated the information presented, the outstanding concern from some Board members is the allocation process and the need to ensure that an equitable arrangement is done (based on the LRMP recommendation) between range tenures, residents and wildlife.

The aspect of invasive weeds in the M-KMA and the north caught the attention of the Advisory Board. It was determined that they would be prepared to support education work in this area.

ACTION: re: Invasive Plants

Secretariat to contact MoF Range (Sonja Leverkus) and request her to outline her requirements for brochures and handouts to educate back country users in the M-KMA. Advise that they will be prepared to support the preparation and printing of this information as long as government can distribute.

Park Plans:**ACTION: re Park Management Plans**

Secretariat to draft letter on getting the details in writing of the status of plans and requesting these be completed in a timely manner. The Advisory Board is concerned about how long some of these plans have been in draft form and what it will take to get signed off.

Recreation Management Plan:**ACTION: re: Recreation Management Plan**

Secretariat to determine the current status of the plan and outline what it would take to get it completed. This will be reported out to the Resource Committee.

Stone Sheep study at Sulphur 8 Mile

A discussion took place about the proposed seismic work in this area prior to the research being completed. It was noted that seismic is allowed at this time, the research would be making recommendations on drilling activity.

Recommendation from the Advisory Board:

ACTION: re seismic in the Sulphur 8 Mile area

Secretariat to draft letter to OGC and seismic company requesting they hold off until the research is completed. It seems that this work is so close to be finalized and that the recommendations will be completed by late 2010 that it would be wise for this work to wait until then.

State of the M-K Report:

The committee recommended that this final draft go out to key groups to review and get their feedback prior to finalization and distribution.

Board members asked why at this point would we do this, why not finalized this first report and ask them to critique it and provide input to making it better for the next report. Agreed by Board.

Regarding the \$20,000 in budget to finalize, it is recommended to seriously look at reducing the cost of finalizing this report and the distribution. Need to keep printed copies low and if needed can provide on CD at lower cost.

ACTION: re State of the M-K Report

Secretariat to get final draft from consultant and begin to get distribution list going. Ensure a covering letter from the M-KAB is with each copy distributed that highlights this being the first report, note there are some inaccuracies in the report and request feedback on the report to make it a valuable tool in monitoring the M-KMA over time.

DECISION: re M-K Office

From the in camera morning session, the Advisory Board is directing the Secretariat to request a lease agreement with the City of Fort St John with the M-KAB for up to 2 years. The Advisory Board will cover these costs from the budget it has been allocated. The Secretariat will work closely with the Executive on this recommendation to have something in place as soon as possible

2:30 CLOSING REMARKS by M-KAB Chair;

Tom thanked the members attending this meeting for taking time to avail themselves, the turnout of 14 members was very good. He felt that this was a good meeting and a number of key issues were discussed and appropriate action to be followed up by the Board's committees.

NEXT MEETING: February 25th and 26th 2009 in Mackenzie (to be confirmed by Executive)