

MUSKWA-KECHIKA ADVISORY BOARD

FALL 2010 Meeting

North Peace Cultural Centre
Fort St John B.C

October 5th, 6th and 7th

FINAL MINUTES

October 5th 1:00 PM to 4:30 PM

M-KAB members attending: Tom Briggs (Chair) Barry Holland Stephanie Killam Peter Stone Johnny Mikes Corrine Porter	Sub Regional Managers Committee (SRMC): Karrilyn Vince (NE Managers Chair) Kathie Wagar (Omineca Managers Chair) Tom Ouellette (Oil & Gas Commission) Maurice Lirette Ministry of Environment (by phone)	Regrets: Bill Lux Leif Olson Roslyn Pokiak Tim Trapp Laureen Whyte Jason Lee Wayne Sawchuk
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Tom Briggs, Chair of M-KAB - Welcome and introductions

Tom provided high level overview of this meeting and importance of moving forward for the M-KMA and then went through the power point presentation (NOTE: materials in this presentation were provided in all handouts to government managers prior to this meeting and to the M-KAB members at this meeting)

Key M-KAB Advisory Board points from presentation:

- The M-K Act and M-K Management Plan Regulation bring these two groups together to work collaboratively.
- Emphasize the responsibility of government to “report out” on all activities in the M-KMA to this Advisory Board
- Improve communications particularly the government managers and staff following up on issues/concerns, strategic plans etc back to the Advisory Board when requested by the Advisory Board.

Karrilyn Vince went thru a presentation on the Sub Regional Managers Committee’s , their current role and priorities
(This power point presentation to be posted on M-K member web page after meeting.)

Key slides from the presentation that the Advisory Board members further discussed:

Shared Business Plan -- NE Regional Priorities

- RMCP Goal 1: Promoting economic development and the resiliency of communities across BC with excellent public service
- RMCP Goal 2: Ensuring environmental standards and environmental sustainability is achieved with resource use activities in BC
- RMCP Goal 3: Increasing the efficiency of public service delivery to meet the budget and demographic challenges facing government

SHARED BUSINESS PLAN:

- RMCP Goal 1: Major Projects (over 30 major projects for example Willow Creek Mine Expansion, wind power clean energy projects, pipelines)
- RMCP Goal 2: Priority Species and Conservation Values (Caribou)
- RMCP Goal 3: First Nations Coordinated Consultation and Engagement, Compliance and Enforcement, Natural Resource Authorization Coordination, Change Leadership and Communication and Coordinated Human Resource Strategy

FOLLOW UP REQUIRED FROM THIS PRESENTATION:

- **M-K Secretariat to have Karrilyn provide current list of SRMC and Interagency Directors (IAD) committees to Board members**
- **Karrilyn to provide list of the 30 major projects before NEMC**
- **Kathie Wagar to provide template that Omineca Managers use for bringing projects/issues forward to their manager's group**

Question on process from the last slide on "relationship with Board" – What is the process in terms of supporting projects within MK ? How is the NEMC is involved?

Karrilyn advised that for NEMC to support projects within the M-K, it would have to be tabled with them and prioritized into the government priorities.

Discussion on improving communications and process for working with government and the Board:

- Tom recommend to have several managers attend an Executive call and discuss and work thru this,

There was concern from Advisory Board members about M-K issues will fall out in terms of NEMC/OMC, how priorities and making decisions, will be a challenge to make all

things brought forward to be discussed at monthly meetings, M-KAB will have to table issues and arrange to be put on agenda and discussed at one of the monthly meetings.

Discussion on how to make communications and decisions with the MK, the Board and gov't improve and work with the Exec and next meeting, template from Kathie??? Thru Secretariat and help that way??

FOLLOW UP REQUIRED:

Secretariat to set up for October 28th set up with Maurice Lirette and a couple of managers who will attend this meeting and outline steps to improve communication with the Advisory Board.

Secretariat to discuss with Maurice prior to Exec meeting and see if some options can come forward for the Executive to review.

Maurice then provided a brief update for Ministry of Environment - --restructuring of Ministry, prescribed burning this spring in the M-K, he went on Kechika river trip with Kaska Dena –to review the jet boat traffic concern on Kechika and hunting pressures etc,

Maurice brought forward: How do we manage access boats and airplanes which are outside provincial jurisdiction? How to do this etc, what kind of limits do we look at in terms of how much is too much ---- MoE would like to engage the Board on these discussions.

MoE following up on inventory, the plains bison in Sikanni, over populated and strategy to deal with this.

The parks plan priorities essentially complete are sitting with First Nations, (T8)

(Meeting with Government Managers ended at 4:30 pm – Secretariat followed to set up the meeting for the Advisory Board for the next day)

October 6th

Attending:	Guests:	Regrets:
Tom Briggs (Chair) Barry Holland Stephanie Killam Johnny Mikes Wayne Sawchuk Peter Stone Corrine Porter	Rod Backmeyer (ILMB)	Bill Lux Leif Olson Roslyn Pokiak Tim Trapp Laureen Whyte Jason Lee

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7:30 to 9:00 am “ In Camera” M-KAB breakfast meeting (Board members only)
(Open discussion for Board members attending to bring forward issue or concerns affecting the Board - M-KAB Chair follows up with the Secretariat on any key decisions or actions required coming from this session.

9:00 am M-KAB meeting:

Current Expenditure Plan projects: Update

Secretariat tabled a one page status sheet on all the current Expenditure Plan projects underway and this was an open session for Board members to be brought up to date on these projects

FOLLOW UP REQUIRED:

With the cancellation of the Youth Camp in 2010 by Treaty 8, there was little information provided to the Board from Treaty 8 on this.

It was believed that there may have been some discussion about a “joint” youth camp for 2011 with Kaska but Corrine advised that Kaska was unaware of this.

Corrine advised she would follow up with a discussion with Jason Lee on this and report back to the Advisory Board thru the Executive.

Remaining Funds in Trust Account:

Secretariat noted that depending upon the \$50,000 from this years Youth Camp, which is understood to be held by Treaty 8 for a camp next year, there is approximately \$83,000 remaining in the trust account.

There were two (2) unsolicited projects that came forward over the past month.

- Sonja Leverkus, MoF Ft Nelson provided a brief on a prescribed fire project she is working with in the M-KMA and put a request forward (based on the direction from) the Secretariat to the Resource Committee. The Resource Management Committee of the Advisory Board reviewed this and felt the Advisory Board was not able to support this with funding. This recommendation was supported at the Executive meeting prior to this Board meeting.
- Wildlife Infometrics, (Mackenzie) provided some details on the follow up work on the caribou survey the Advisory Board undertook over a year ago that identified caribou in two M-KMA RMZ's that were previously believed not to have caribou in them. Wildlife Infometrics is following up on this as well as with the identified caribou herds in and adjacent to the M-KMA as part of the provincial caribou strategy. They have put forward a project for around \$80,000 for this work and requested the Advisory Board if they could provide any funding to support this work.

Other identified potential projects brought forward:

- Possibly have Y2Y hold \$7-10,000 for the “rollout” of the M-K Conservation Assessment project and have the Monitoring project as part of this as well.
- A potential meeting with Treaty 8 Chief and Council to discuss the M-KMA and the M-K Advisory Board the objective to improve communications and build a stronger relationship (the intent is part of the Expenditure plan project to improve relationships between the Advisory Board and First Nations.) Corrine and Peter felt that this meeting would not be required with Kaska.

NO Decisions were made on any of the remaining funds in the Trust account. Questions on the Wildlife Infometrics project requires follow up, discussions with Y2Y to determine if they would be able to house funds for the project roll out etc.

Secretariat to follow up with a couple of Board members, Karrilyn, Resources North on some outstanding issues and to table for the October 28th Executive meeting to make a decisions as time is of the essence for these remaining funds.

1:00 PM: Internal Discussion for M-KAB on issues brought forward by Secretariat

Secretariat tabled some issues and concerns in an email to the Executive in early September. Executive requested this email be provided to all Board members and table at this meeting.

M-K Office:

At the in camera session the Board members agreed to shut down the M-K office **subject to** the Secretariat providing a detailed “close up” plan to the Executive for October 28th . Executive will review and determine if final approval of a closure will be done and timing for this closure etc.

M-K Committees

Also, at the in camera discussion, the members agreed to eliminate separate monthly committee meetings, they were not working. The decision is to hold “one” committee meeting monthly for all committees, this would be one week prior to the Executive meeting (which is set for the last Thursday of each month)

All Board members will be notified of this meeting and the Committee Chairs will ensure that their respective business is tabled and discussed at these meetings as required. All Board members will have the ability to participate in all discussions and actions/decisions will be then tabled with the Executive for their review and approval.

M-K Act and Regulation:

With the last round of work done on the Regulation and government not making changes, does the Advisory Board want to bring this forward again or wait until government tables it??

DECISION:

A letter (Stephanie to make an initial draft and provide to the Secretariat) to go to government that this is still an important requirement to be done.

M-K Board appointments:

This is a government issue and needs to be done by them. There was no desire for the Board members at this meeting to come up with details on a smaller Board or how representation would be on this Board. The current Board members impressed that appointments must be made in a timely manner and that the long time for making current appointments is too long and needs to be dealt with quicker by government. (This point was made at the government managers meeting previously)

M-KAB meetings per year:

It was brought forward that the Board currently meets twice a year or 3 times at discretion of Chair/Executive and that after each current Board meeting a date was established for the next meeting without determining what Board business is required to be dealt with for that meeting.

It was discussed that M-KAB meetings should be timed in a way so that there is enough “business” to table for such a meeting, that an arbitrary date not be picked in advance and then work to flesh out an agenda for that meeting.

It was then recommended that the next M-KAB meeting be targeted for the first week of May – the objective would be that most expenditure plan projects would be completed and that the full Board could be briefed on the outcomes of the project and the Board would then determine the “next steps” in implementation of these projects.

Determining the role for support services for the Advisory Board:

(Secretariat advised the Executive in early September that he would not renew his agreement after March 31, 2011)

Secretariat tabled that the “status quo” for the support services should not be acceptable to the Advisory Board. A request for the Executive to discuss this was deferred to this full Board meeting.

No details on what the support services would entail was discussed at this meeting, the members attending requested that the current Secretariat table something for the Board to review in 6 months.

Future funding for this Advisory Board

Future funding options for the Advisory Board was tabled at the March meeting. It was to be brought forward again at this meeting.

Current operational funds remaining sit at \$221,000 at the end of September. The Secretariat shared his observations that this funding, (with the close down of the office) could last the Board another two (2) years for operation as the trust funds monies will be gone and the focus of the Board has changed etc).

Does the Advisory Board desire someone to attend a future meeting to bring forward ideas and options for future funding for this Board?

This was turned down and the members felt that there was no immediate requirement to deal with this and deferred this to a later date.

DECISION:

A letter should go to Gary Townsend (ILMB Assistant Deputy Minister) in March about the operational funds and note that the Board has worked diligently with these funds and that will allow them to operate for over 3 years instead of the two years ILMB had stated in their letter when providing these funds.

This completed the agenda as tabled.

It was determined that there was not need to meet for half a day (October 7th)

Tom adjourned this meeting at 4:30 pm and it is noted that the next meeting is targeted for the first week of May 2011, to be finalized by the Executive in January.