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Comité consultatif de l'environnement Kativik
Kativik Environmental Advisory Committee

**MINUTES OF THE 135TH MEETING
(ADOPTED)**

DATE: March 5 and 6, 2013

PLACE: Parliament Building, Quebec City

PRESENT:

Kativik Regional Government (KRG) appointees

Michael Barrett
Adamie Kalingo
Betsy Palliser

Government of Canada appointees

Claude Abel
Thessa Girard-Bourgoin, Vice-Chairperson
Gilles Tremblay

Gouvernement du Québec appointees

Paule Halley
Sylvie Létourneau, Chairperson
Vacant

Executive Secretary

Stéphanie Benoit

Environmental Analyst

Nancy Dea

Observer

Benjamin Patenaude

GUESTS:

Pierre Desrosiers, MCC
Robert Fréchette, Avataq Cultural Institute
Frédéric Poisson, Biodiversity Expertise Service, MDDEFP
Marie-Josée Côté, Biodiversity Expertise Service, MDDEFP
Alexandre Desjardins, Centre québécoise du droit de l'environnement

1. Call to order and adoption of agenda

The 135th meeting of the Kativik Environmental Advisory Committee (KEAC) began at 9:10 a.m. on March 5, 2013, at the Parliament Building in Quebec City. The chairperson opened the meeting and invited the members to propose modifications to the agenda which was then adopted unanimously. The 135th meeting of the KEAC took place in accordance with the agenda below:

1. Call to order and adoption of agenda

2. Business arising from the 134th meeting and correspondence

- a) Outstanding matters
 - i) Drinking water
 - ii) Abandoned camps
- b) Correspondence transmitted
 - i) Invitation to meet with the Minister of the MDDEFP
 - ii) Secrétariat au développement nordique
 - iii) Environmental assessment procedure applicable to the Hopes Advance mining project
 - iv) Transportation plan for Nord-du-Québec
 - v) Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 – Environment Canada
- c) Correspondence received
 - i) Public land assignment program
 - ii) Consultations with the MAMROT
 - iii) Declining caribou populations in Nunavik

3. Budget, secretariat and members

- a) Secretariat
- b) Vacant positions
- c) Budget
- d) Internal management
- e) 2011–2012 and 2012–2013 annual reports

4. Environmental assessment in Nunavik

- a) *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*
- b) Nunavik Marine Region Impact Review Board
- c) Revision of schedules 1 and 2 of Section 23 of the JBNQA
- d) Working group on public participation – MDDEFP
- e) New MDDEFP tool
- f) Archaeological heritage: A guide for project proponents
- g) Update and information regarding an environmental assessment guide and training
- h) Members of environmental committees in Nunavik

5. **Mining activities**
 - a) Draft *Regulation to amend the Regulation Respecting Mineral Substances, other than Petroleum, Natural Gas and Brine*
 - b) Mining exploration on Category I and adjacent lands
 - c) MDDEFP certificate of authorization – Tata Steel

6. **Land use planning**
 - a) Regional development plan

7. **Residual materials management**
 - a) Draft *Nunavik Residual Materials Management Plan*
 - b) Household hazardous residual materials awareness campaign

8. **Biodiversity Atlas for Northern Québec**

9. **KEAC website**
 - a) Work of the subcommittee
 - b) Social media and discussion forum
 - c) Request received from COFEX-North

10. **Miscellaneous**
 - a) KEAC article in *Makivik Magazine*

11. **Review of the minutes of the 132nd, 133rd and 134th meetings**

12. **Dates and place of the next meeting**

2. Business arising from the 134th meeting and correspondence

a) Outstanding matters

i) Drinking water

In early February 2013, the KEAC contacted the Société d'habitation du Québec (housing corporation, SHQ) to ascertain that it had received a proposal from the Kativik Municipal Housing Bureau (KMHB) regarding improved methods for cleaning water tanks in social housing units in Nunavik. On February 8, 2013, the KEAC received an email from Alain Bellefeuille, Director of the SHQ Intergovernmental Affairs and Aboriginal Branch. In his email, Mr. Bellefeuille confirmed that the SHQ had received the KMHB proposal in December 2012 regarding a new technique for water tank cleaning as well as estimated implementation costs. The technique described in the KMHB proposal is currently being tested by specialists of the École de technologie supérieure in Montreal. Mr. Bellefeuille will inform the KEAC of the testing results as soon as they become available.

ii) Abandoned camps

The environmental analyst presented a list of abandoned camps in Nunavik compiled by the Ministère des Ressources naturelles (natural resources, MRN) between 2000 and 2008. The MRN estimates there are 385 camps with permits and 51 of these have been reported as abandoned. Most of these camps are located in the Schefferville area. The environmental analyst contacted a representative of the MRN regional office who indicated that most of these camps have been maintained since 2008 and the MRN has not conducted any follow-up. The representative stated that the MRN plans to increase the number of site inspections.

The environmental analyst reviewed a briefing note on Québec legislation relating to camps, specifically the *Regulation respecting Outfitters*, the *Regulation respecting the Landfilling and Incineration of Residual Materials* and the *Environment Quality Act*, specifically Section II, Schedule A. The briefing note also contained information on the permit process for camps as well as the moratorium adopted in 2012 to suspend the authorization of new camps owned by non-beneficiaries of the *James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement (JBNQA)* on Category III lands. It would appear the MRN is changing the permit process for camps and has requested that the Hunting, Fishing, and Trapping Coordinating Committee (HFTCC) provide feedback on how the authorization process should be changed. A committee composed of Inuit, Cree, Naskapi and government representatives has been set up to discuss who is responsible for the clean-up of abandoned camp sites.

The members requested that an MRN representative be invited to discuss the topic and provide a clear picture of the responsibilities of the various stakeholders.

b) Correspondence transmitted

i) Invitation to meet with the Minister of the MDDEFP

On January 8, 2013, the KEAC transmitted to the Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement, de la Faune et des Parcs (sustainable development, environment, wildlife and parks, MDDEFP) an invitation to meet with the new minister, Yves-François Blanchet. The KEAC has not received an acknowledgement of receipt of the letter.

ii) Secrétariat au développement nordique

On January 9, 2013, the KEAC transmitted a letter to the Minister of Natural Resources, Martine Ouellet, welcoming the creation of the Secrétariat au développement nordique (northern development, SDN) and to request the KEAC be kept apprised of the activities of the SDN. An acknowledgement of receipt of the letter was received. An action plan for the SDN is currently being developed.

iii) Environmental assessment procedure applicable to the Hopes Advance mining project

On February 11, 2013, the KEAC sent a letter to the president of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA), Elaine Feldman, concerning the different environmental assessment procedures applicable to the Hopes Advance mining project near the community of Aupaluk. In its letter, the KEAC identifies a list of differences in the project descriptions submitted to the CEAA and the MDDEFP. The KEAC also discussed problems that could arise due to the application of three distinct environmental assessment procedures, public consultations, as well as the administrative timeframe applicable under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (2012)* and the *Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement (NILCA)*.

The members were surprised by the number of procedures applicable to a single project and asked if it would be better to harmonize the procedures. It was also suggested that the federal environmental assessment procedure described in Section 23 of the JBNQA should be used instead of the procedure contained in the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (2012)* since the regime established under the JBNQA promotes Nunavik Inuit and provides for more thorough social impact assessment.

iv) Transportation plan for Nord-du-Québec

On January 28, 2013, the KEAC transmitted a letter to the deputy minister at the Ministère des Transports du Québec (transportation), Dominique Savoie, requesting further information about the transportation plan for Nord-du-Québec. The KEAC has not received an acknowledgement of receipt of the letter.

v) Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011–2020 – Environment Canada

On January 31, 2013, the KEAC transmitted a letter to the Honourable Peter Kent, Minister of the Environment, regarding the federal government's goals and objectives for biodiversity up to the year 2020. The KEAC has not received an acknowledgement of receipt of the letter. The environmental analyst informed the members of her communications with an Environment Canada representative who had indicated that a new version of the document was available and integrated some of the comments received during the pre-consultations. The targets and goals have been updated to include indicators that allow progress regarding biodiversity to be tracked. The members were informed that other organizations had raised similar issues as the KEAC concerning in particular the north. A member made a comment regarding the fuzzy nature of the targets proposed in the initial plan. The members were informed that a final version of the document will be available at the end of the summer of 2013.

c) Correspondence received

i) Public land assignment program

The KEAC received a letter dated January 7, 2013, from Richard Savard, deputy minister at the MRN, in response to the KEAC letter sent in October 2012 concerning the MRN program to assign public lands to assist northern municipalities to meet the needs created by the implementation of socio-economic projects. In its letter, the KEAC asked if the program was applicable to the existing land regime in Nunavik. Mr. Savard responded to the effect that the legal guidelines of the MRN land assignment program are applicable to the JBNQA. The members were satisfied with the response.

ii) Consultations with the MAMROT

On January 8, 2013, the KEAC received a letter from Sylvain Boucher, deputy minister at the Ministère des Affaires municipales, des Régions et de l'Occupation du territoire (municipal affairs, regions and land occupancy, MAMROT) in response to a letter transmitted by the KEAC in November 2012 concerning Bill 34 (*Act to Ensure the Occupancy and Vitality of Territories*) and the fact that the KEAC should have been consulted. In his letter, Mr. Boucher indicated that, for this bill, the MAMROT had consulted the KRG, the MDDEFP and other government departments. He maintained that, since this bill has no impacts of environmental and social protection regimes, the KEAC was not consulted. The members are of the opinion that the KEAC should have been consulted and noted that, once again, a government department has demonstrated a poor understanding of the KEAC's role and mandate. It was suggested that the MDDEFP, in its capacity as the provincial administrator of Section 23 of the JBNQA, should inform the MAMROT and the other departments of the Québec government of the role played by the KEAC regarding the environment and land use (paragraph 23.5.26, JBNQA).

iii) Declining caribou populations in Nunavik

On January 8, 2013, the KEAC received a letter from Diane Jean, deputy minister at the MDDEFP indicating that the MDDEFP shares concern about declining caribou populations in Nunavik. Ms. Jean explained in the letter that the HFTCC will examine the issue before the MDDEFP adopts a management plan. The MDDEFP will keep the KEAC apprised of future developments on this matter.

3. Budget, secretariat and members

a) Secretariat

The administrative subcommittee presented three proposals to the members: 1) to hire Benjamin Patenaude to fill the position of executive secretary starting on April 1, 2013; 2) to extend the contract of Nancy Dea for a few months; 3) to hire Stéphanie Benoit on a temporary basis to carry out various duties through the summer of 2013. The three proposals were accepted by the members. The members were also informed that Nancy Dea would begin a maternity leave in the summer of 2013. Finally, the members discussed possible contracts with consultants mandated to complete analyses of legislative bills and to assist in other files.

b) Vacant positions

The members were informed of the appointment of Betsy Palliser by the KRG, replacing Charlie Argnak. It was noted that the position of a Québec-government appointee has been vacant for roughly a year. The members asked that a letter be transmitted to the MDDEFP requesting that the position be filled.

c) Budget

The members discussed KEAC finances as well as the possibility of contracting an accountant to prepare the annual budget and budget forecast for 2012–2013. The members requested that minor modifications be made to the budget forecast before it is transmitted as quickly as possible to the MDDEFP. Given the future executive secretary's family status, it will not be necessary to pay for housing in Kuujjuaq.

d) Internal management

The members were informed of some final details concerning the signing of the lease between the KRG and the KEAC for the rental of office space for the secretariat. The members prepared a resolution for the approval and signing of the new lease. The resolution was adopted.

The members also discussed the revision of the service contract template for consultants. The members will transmit their comments to the executive secretary.

- e) 2011–2012 and 2012–2013 annual reports

A total of 84 copies of the 2011–2012 KEAC annual report were disseminated to 40 recipients in December 2012. These recipients also received an electronic version of the annual report on January 11, 2013. Preparation of the next annual report will be undertaken by the temporary KEAC employee.

4. Environmental assessment in Nunavik

- a) *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (2012)*

The members again discussed the need to prepare a brief on the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (2012)*. The KEAC considers that it is still relevant to transmit its observations to the federal government. The members therefore decided to produce a brief.

- b) Nunavik Marine Region Impact Review Board

At the 134th meeting, Mishal Naseer gave a presentation on the mandate and environmental assessment procedure of the Nunavik Marine Region Impact Review Board (NMRIRB). At that time, the members proposed to re-discuss this topic at the 135th meeting in order to generate feedback on the new environmental assessment procedure applicable in the Nunavik Marine Region. Some members expressed concern that the social impacts of development projects seem to be given less consideration in the NILCA procedure than in the procedures provided under the JBNQA. As well, documentation regarding development projects may be found in the public register maintained by the NMRIRB at www.nmrirb.ca.

As well, the members discussed a letter transmitted by the Honourable Peter Kent, Minister of the Environment, on January 18, 2013, to the NMRIRB which is responsible for the assessment of the Hopes Advance mining project. In his letter, the Minister accepted the NMRIRB recommendation concerning the project. Further to an initial screening of the project, the NMRIRB recommended to the Minister of the Environment that a review of the project be carried out as provided for under the NILCA. The letter also emphasized that, pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (2012)*, a 365-day timetable must be respected by the federal government and that it would be appropriate for the NMRIRB to carry out its analysis of the project accordingly. The members discussed the points contained in the letter and raised questions about the organization of public consultations under the NILCA procedure. A member suggested the KEAC follow up with the NMRIRB to obtain additional information on the public consultation process and the reasons for holding the consultation.

- c) Revision of schedules 1 and 2 of Section 23 of the JBNQA

In January 2013, the KEAC was informed that the Cree Regional Authority and the MDDEFP had held a meeting to discuss the revision of schedules 1 and 2 of Section 22 of the JBNQA for

projects under provincial jurisdiction subject to environmental assessment procedures. It is important to note that no concrete steps have been taken regarding the revision of schedules 1 and 2 of Section 23 of the JBNQA since the Makivik Corporation transmitted a letter to the MDDEFP in 2011 indicating that it was prepared to participate in a revision of the schedules.

The members again pointed out that this revision must be undertaken as quickly as possible in order to update the lists of projects subject to environmental assessment. The members questioned to what degree the KEAC should be involved in the revision. Some members would like the KEAC to prepare its own list of amendments to schedules 1 and 2 of Section 23 of the JBNQA; other members believe that the KEAC must leave this work to the signatories of the JBNQA. Regardless, this file is very important to the KEAC and will be monitored regularly.

d) Working group on public participation – MDDEFP

In Nunavik, the Kativik Environmental Quality Commission (KEQC) is responsible for organizing public consultations on development projects subject to Section 23 of the JBNQA (solely for provincial jurisdiction). The KEAC was informed that in February 2013 the KEQC discussed the minutes of the first meeting of the MDDEFP working group on public participation held in January 2012. The minutes in particular identified different avenues for fostering access to information as well as public participation and consultation. The members still believe that current practices can be improved and are hopeful that another meeting will be organized shortly by the MDDEFP to follow up on the actions proposed by the working group.

e) New MDDEFP tool

The MDDEFP recently produced a guide for project proponents planning development in the north, in particular in Nunavik. The guide describes the elements that must be included in initial project descriptions according to the provincial review procedure under sections 22 and 23 of the JBNQA. It also contains the requirements for “grey-zone” projects that could either be subject to or exempt from the procedure and for which a decision is needed. The document is available in English and French on the MDDEFP website (<http://www.mddefp.gouv.qc.ca/evaluations/renseign-prelim.htm>). The members asked the executive secretary to draft an email for the KRG to publicize the new guide.

f) Archaeological heritage: A guide for project proponents

Pierre Desrosiers, an archaeologist with the Ministère de la Culture et des Communications (MCC), gave a presentation on recent amendments to the *Cultural Heritage Act*. Mr. Desrosiers also introduced a new guide for project proponents describing legal aspects of cultural heritage resource management, the place of archaeology in impact assessments, and the measures project proponents must undertake with regards to cultural heritage resources located in and around development projects. Robert Fréchette, Director General of the Avataq Cultural Institute, was invited by the KEAC to participate in the presentation.

One member pointed out that the MDDEFP directives for environmental impact studies make it mandatory for project proponents in southern Québec to conduct and finance archaeological research in intended development areas. Similar directives also apply to project proponents intending to carry out projects in northern Québec. The new guide and amended laws reinforce the obligation of project proponents to conduct archaeological research. Mr. Desrosiers explained that the MCC is trying to disseminate this information to other government departments to strengthen archaeological heritage protection requirements.

Another member pointed out that project proponents in the north sometimes do not conduct proper baseline studies as required elsewhere in the country. Archaeological research in the context of the Hopes Advance mining project is an example. Project proponents will often do only bibliographic research for a given area in order to expedite the permit process.

Mr. Fréchette was invited to present comments on behalf of the Avataq Cultural Institute and spoke of two key difficulties. The first involves the time constraints involved in impact studies, which compromise the quality of the results of archaeological research. The second is the considerable amount of time and resources that must be devoted by his organization for reporting to governments and businesses.

It was proposed that a letter be drafted to the deputy minister at the MDDEFP to insist on the need for stricter directives for project proponents when cultural heritage is an element of projects or when projects threaten this heritage. It was also proposed that certificates of authorization include clear guidelines for the protection of cultural heritage resources and that the MCC and the MDDEFP conduct follow-up to ensure the steps in the guide are completed correctly.

The KEAC will draft a letter to the MCC detailing its comments on the new guide. The letter will underscore the need to clearly describe the existing legal framework in the north and in the south regarding social and environmental impact assessments, the need for an English version of the guide, as well as the need for stricter requirements so that authorities can include cultural heritage resource protection in the project authorization procedure.

g) Update and information regarding an environmental assessment guide and training

On March 5, 2013, the environmental analyst and two KEAC members met with a representative from a consulting firm specializing in sustainable development strategies. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the development of a training guide and program for northern community stakeholders with regards to the environmental assessment and public consultation procedures applicable in Nunavik. A similar program was developed for the Cree procedures under Section 22 of the JBNQA and was delivered at workshops conducted during the fall of 2012 in several Cree communities.

The members discussed the possibility of creating a training program in Nunavik, specifically through a pilot project in one community. The members asked to receive before the

136th meeting copies of the presentations produced by the consulting firm for the training sessions in the Cree communities as well as a draft project proposal.

h) Members of environmental committees in Nunavik

At the 134th meeting, the environmental analyst presented a document describing the committees involved in environmental assessments in Nunavik as well as the other committees created pursuant to sections 22, 23 and 24 of the JBNQA. The members again revised the document and proposed to temporarily suspend the project.

5. Mining activities

Due to time constraints, the members decided to postpone the discussion of this topic to a telephone conference scheduled for March 14, 2013.

6. Land use planning

a) Regional development plan

Alexandre Desjardins, a lawyer with the Centre québécoise du droit de l'environnement, gave a presentation covering the results of a study prepared for the KEAC in early 2013. The goal behind the study was to document the development of zoning by-laws for the Kativik Region based on zoning by-laws in effect in regional county municipalities in southern Québec.

The presentation covered the following: the mandate given by the KEAC, governance, land use policies, and areas of interest defined in the *Master Plan for Land Use in the Kativik Region*. Mr. Desjardins also provided examples of zoning by-laws in accordance with the land uses defined in the Master Plan, a comprehensive development program, building standards, environmental protection clauses, as well as non-conforming structures and their protected use through acquired rights.

A member commented on the conditions applicable to building construction by non-beneficiaries of the JBNQA in essential subsistence harvesting areas, specifically mineral exploration camps. The owners of abandoned buildings should also lose their acquired rights. The issue of the legal obligation of owners to restore these sites was also raised.

Another comment was raised with regards to the fact that section 246 of the *Act respecting Land Use Planning and Development* is not applicable north of the 55th parallel. This is a critical point that underscores the possibility of developing zoning by-laws to include areas around villages and ecosystems requiring protection. A suggestion was made to develop a by-law to oblige project proponents to provide a deposit to cover the costs of site restoration for mineral exploration camps.

Finally, the study prepared by Mr Desjardins will be shared with the KRG to allow it to prepare a draft zoning by-law that will be submitted to the KRG Council in September 2013.

7. Residual materials management

a) Draft *Nunavik Residual Materials Management Plan*

In response to the growing need of northern villages to develop adequate residual materials management measures, the draft *Nunavik Residual Materials Management Plan* was prepared in August 2012 by the KRG Renewable Resources, Environment, Lands and Parks Department with MDDEFP funding. Residual materials management plans are mandatory for all municipalities in Québec. The draft *Nunavik Residual Materials Management Plan* lists a number of pilot projects for the treatment of a variety of residual materials over the next five years. The pilot projects were developed in consultation with residents and community representatives. In September 2012, the draft Management Plan was presented to the KRG Council. In February 2013, the KRG Executive Committee was mandated to establish a commission to hold public hearings. Public hearings are scheduled for May in Kuujuaq and Puvirnituk. Feedback received at these hearings will be integrated into the draft and submitted to the Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment, Wildlife and Parks for approval. On approval of the final version of the Management Plan, the KRG plans to adopt a by-law to allow its implementation and ensure the improved management of residual materials in the communities of Nunavik.

The KEAC was invited to provide feedback on the draft Management Plan. The members agreed to transmit their comments before the 136th meeting.

b) Household hazardous residual materials awareness campaign

In February 2013, magnets with information on household hazardous residual materials were distributed in Ivujivik, Quaqtaq and Inukjuak. The KEAC plans to next distribute the magnets in Akulivik and Puvirnituk. The members would like information about the distribution of the magnets to be announced on regional FM radio airwaves. Additional English and Inuktitut versions of the magnets will be ordered to complete their distribution in the communities of Nunavik.

8. Biodiversity Atlas for Northern Québec

Frédéric Poisson, project leader at the MDDEFP Biodiversity Expertise Service, gave a presentation on the Biodiversity Atlas for Northern Québec and the MDDEFP's mapping tools. Mr. Poisson was accompanied by Marie-Josée Côté who is the team leader of the Biodiversity Expertise Service. Preliminary Atlas results provide a summary of the data gathered during

MDDEFP fieldwork carried out between 2009 and 2012. The goals of the project are to enhance knowledge on biodiversity in the north and to be able to forecast using computer models its evolution according to expected climate change over the coming 50 years.

Mr. Poisson's presentation covered the following topics: the project's objectives, the study area, key concepts, the methodology, fieldwork, the abundance and diversity of vegetation species, hydrographical systems, lake sediment sampling and climatological mapping. The results presented also covered the partnerships established under the project that made it possible to obtain data on vegetation (MRN), vascular plant species (Université Laval), as well as current and future climatic models (Ouranos). A review of the literature of the Centre de la science de la biodiversité du Québec (biodiversity science) made it possible to summarize the impacts of climate change on ecosystems and Aboriginal groups, as well as to define the role of protected areas and ecological corridors. Summaries are available in French and English. Leaflets on the Aboriginal reality have been prepared in the different Aboriginal languages used north of the 49th parallel.

MDDEFP representatives also indicated that the data of the Ecological Reference Framework is free and available on request. Furthermore, fieldwork will be planned in Nunavik by Biodiversity Expertise Service teams in the summer of 2013. The data collected will be added to the mapping tools and the Biodiversity Atlas for Northern Québec.

A member stressed the importance of Inuit participation in the preparation of the Atlas, regarding knowledge acquisition in general, and the dissemination of project results in northern communities.

9. KEAC website

a) Work of the subcommittee

In January 2013, the members of the subcommittee in charge of website improvements met to discuss the changes required to the KEAC website. In October 2012, the selected firm was consulted to produce a preliminary flow chart and mock-ups detailing the changes for the subcommittee for feedback. The firm will provide new versions of the flow chart and mock-ups shortly to be used for the website.

b) Social media and discussion forum

At the 134th meeting, the members discussed the interest of environmental organizations in social media to disseminate information and serve as a discussion forum. The executive secretary will look into this topic. The members asked that the topic be put on the agenda of the 136th meeting.

c) Request received from COFEX-North

On December 18, 2012, the KEAC received an email from Claude Langlois, Chairperson of the Environmental and Social Impact Review Panel (COFEX-North), enquiring about the possibility of having COFEX-North meeting minutes posted on the KEAC website. The members concluded that COFEX-North and the KEAC must remain independent of one another. They asked the executive secretary to draft a response letter declining the request. Since the newly created NMRIRB already has a website, it would seem appropriate for COFEX-North, which was established more than 30 years ago, to have its own website where it can post meeting minutes and documentation related to development projects.

10. Miscellaneous

a) KEAC article in *Makivik Magazine*

The members decided on the topic of the KEAC environmental article for the spring issue of *Makivik Magazine*. It was proposed to inform Nunavimmiut about aluminium can recycling by sharing information recorded by the environmental analyst since 2006. According to the information gathered, it is estimated that Nunavimmiut use 5 million cans annually and that only 25% of these are recycled. Moreover, although provincial regulations concerning beverage-container recycling, which require retailers to accept empty refundable containers, are applicable in Nunavik, it seems that some retailers are not complying with the regulations. The draft *Nunavik Residual Materials Management Plan* prepared by the KRG states that, while recovery management procedures are in place in Nunavik, it is important to monitor the procedures to ensure retailers continue to recycle beverage containers.

The members requested the environmental analyst draft a letter to RECYC-QUÉBEC regarding aluminium can recycling in Nunavik. Letters will also be sent to retailers throughout the region to make them aware of the letter transmitted to RECYC-QUÉBEC and their legal obligations, as well as to encourage active aluminium can recycling efforts. A summary of the information gathered will be included with the letters.

The members also suggested that future articles submitted to *Makivik Magazine* could address the problem of plastic shopping bags and packaging.

11. Review of the minutes of the 132nd, 133rd and 134th meetings

The minutes of the 132nd meeting were adopted by email on January 16, 2012. The members also provided comments and suggestions regarding the minutes of the 133rd and 134th meetings. Their adoption was therefore postponed to a future meeting.

12. Dates and place of the next meeting

It was decided that the 136th KEAC meeting would be held in Umiujaq from June 17 to 21, 2013.



Benjamin Patenaude
Executive Secretary
January 20, 2014