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Comité consultatif de l'environnement Kativik
Kativik Environmental Advisory Committee

**MINUTES OF THE 142ND MEETING OF THE KEAC
(APPROVED)**

DATES: November 19, 20 and 21, 2014

LOCATION: Main Conference Room, Makivik Corporation, Kuujjuaq

PRESENT:

Appointed by the Kativik Regional Government (KRG)

Michael Barrett
Betsy Palliser

Appointed by the Government of Canada

Claude Abel, Chairperson
Line Choinière
Caroline Girard (November 19 and 20, 2014, exclusively)

Appointed by the Gouvernement du Québec

Paule Halley (by conference call on November 21, 2014, exclusively)
Sylvie Létourneau, Vice-Chairperson
Julie Samson

Executive Secretary

Benjamin Patenaude

Environmental Analyst

Vacant

ABSENT:

Joseph Annahatak, KRG appointee

GUESTS:

Véronique Gilbert, Environmental Specialist, KRG
Sylvia Jonas, Environmental Technician, KRG
Jacques Lacroix, Executive Secretary, KEQC

1. Call to order and adoption of the agenda

The 142nd meeting of the Kativik Environmental Advisory Committee (KEAC) began at 3 p.m. on November 19, 2014, at the Kuujjuaq office of the Makivik Corporation. The chairperson opened the meeting and invited the members to propose modifications to the agenda. Modifications were made and the 142nd meeting of the KEAC took place in accordance with the agenda below:

1. Call to order and adoption of the agenda
2. Adoption of minutes from the 140th meeting
3. Business arising from the 141st meeting and correspondence
 - a) Working group on public participation – MDDELCC
 - b) Mid-Canada Line clean-up project
4. Budget, secretariat and members
 - a) Budget
 - b) Secretariat
 - c) Members
 - d) Annual report 2013–2014
 - e) Five-year action plan, 2015–2020
 - f) Status of active KEAC files
5. Environmental assessment in Nunavik
 - a) Environmental assessment information pamphlet
 - b) Evaluation of the social impacts of development projects subject to different procedures
6. Mining activities
 - a) *Mining Act*
 - b) Environmental assessment procedure applicable to the Hopes Advance Iron Mining Project
 - c) Comments on CEEA authorization of the Nunavik Nickel marine infrastructure project
 - d) Phase II of the Raglan mine project
7. Uranium industry consultations conducted by the BAPE and the KEAC
8. Residual materials management
 - a) Extended producer responsibility – KRG
9. Plan Nord
10. Miscellaneous
 - a) Green Corner article, *Makivik Magazine*
 - b) KEAC website
 - c) KEQC website
 - d) Quebec-government water management strategy

e) Anchoring zones near Quaqtq

11. Dates and location of the next meeting

2. Adoption of the minutes of the 140th meeting

The members reviewed comments on the minutes of the 140th meeting. It was decided to postpone adoption of the minutes until the revision of the section on the *Mining Act* presentation has been completed by Roc Gaudreau of the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles (energy and natural resources, MERN).

3. Business arising from the 141st meeting and correspondence

a) Working group on public participation – MDDELCC

At the 141st meeting of the KEAC, two members were identified to sit on the working group on public participation created by the Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques (sustainable development, environment and fight against climate change, MDDELCC). The next meeting could be held early in 2015. The KEAC is waiting for the MDDELCC to announce the meeting.

As well, the members were informed that the Environmental and Social Impact Review Committee (COMEX) created pursuant to Section 22 of the *James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement* (JBNQA) plans to develop a website in order to make available to the public its documents and a registry of development projects studied. The COMEX also intends to improve the format of public consultations. The members noted these recent undertakings and recognized their potential to improve transparency and access to information by the general public.

b) Mid-Canada Line clean-up project

On October 17, 2014, the KEAC sent an email to Anick Lavoie of the MDDELCC regional office requesting a KRG representative be present as an observer at a meeting between the Department of National Defence (DND) and the MDDELCC. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the DND's financial contribution to the third phase of the Mid-Canada Line clean-up project. The members asked to receive a copy of the minutes of this meeting once it has taken place. On November 12, 2014, the KEAC received a response from a representative of the MDDELCC regional office informing the KEAC that the date of the proposed meeting has not been confirmed, but that the report on the characterization work at Pointe Louis XIV is being prepared. According to the representative, it will be easier for the MDDELCC to establish a work plan for the third phase of the Mid-Canada Line clean-up project once the report has been completed.

4. Budget, secretariat and members

a) Budget

The expense report of the KEAC for September and October 2014 was presented. The members discussed the KEAC annual funding application for the year 2015–2016 and, more specifically, the possibility of requesting an increase in annual funding.

The proposal to open a credit card account for the KEAC was also discussed and it was decided to pass a resolution to this effect. The resolution was adopted unanimously. The members discussed the preparation of a memorandum of agreement to govern the use of the credit card that will need to be signed, once it is ready, by the KEAC chairperson and executive secretary.

Finally, the members discussed the need for computer software to assist the executive secretary to process expenses and analyze budget information. Research will be conducted for this purpose.

b) Secretariat

The members discussed the proposal to hire a part-time environmental analyst and the working conditions for this position. It was decided that a list of active KEAC files be developed to assess the KEAC's present workload and determine the tasks to be delegated to the new environmental analyst.

c) Members

The members welcomed Caroline Girard, the new KEAC member appointed by the federal government.

d) Annual report 2013–2014

The final version of the 2013–2014 KEAC annual report was adopted and will be sent for Inuktitut translation.

e) Five-year action plan, 2015–2020

At the last meeting of the KEAC, the members requested that an annual budget forecast be developed for the five-year action plan, 2015–2020. The forecast was presented and described in detail. The members provided their comments and agreed that, once the necessary changes have been made, the final version of the action plan should be sent for translation.

f) Status of active KEAC files

Following the 141st meeting of the KEAC, a table indicating the status of active KEAC files was prepared and presented. It was expressed that the KEAC members responsible for certain files should be indicated in future updates.

5. Environmental assessment in Nunavik

a) Environmental assessment information pamphlet

At the 141st meeting of the KEAC, the members requested that a representative of the Nunavik Marine Region Impact Review Board be contacted about how to simplify the section of the pamphlet on the procedure provided for under the *Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement*. The members requested that a draft of the pamphlet be prepared and distributed to representatives of different regional organizations for their feedback.

b) Evaluation of the social impacts of development projects subject to different procedures

At the 141st meeting of the KEAC, the members discussed the possibility of carrying out a study on the evaluation of the social impacts of projects subject to different environmental assessment procedures. It was decided that a work plan would be developed to identify the purpose and scope of such a study. The members were informed that a graduate student is currently working on a similar project for Aupaluk. The members agreed that the student represents an interesting resource for this project.

6. Mining activities

a) Mining Act

On November 12, 2014, the KEAC received an email from the environmental analyst of the James Bay Advisory Committee on the Environment (JBACE) about an upcoming information session on new regulations and a related policy that the MERN and the JBACE are developing to assist project proponents and municipalities to implement the new provisions of the *Mining Act*. These sessions are scheduled for the spring or summer of 2015 following the publication of the new regulations in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*. The members expressed interest in participating in these information sessions and discussed the possibility of hiring a consultant to provide support on this file. The members were also informed that the MERN plans to propose amendments to the *Mining Act* near the end of March 2015. A comment was made regarding the MERN's new Aboriginal community consultation policy and the guide for project proponents. The members requested that a MERN representative be contacted about the status of the following files: the Aboriginal community consultation policy, the guide for project proponents, and the publication of the new regulations in the *Gazette officielle du Québec*.

b) Environmental assessment procedure applicable to the Hopes Advance Iron Mining Project

The members were informed that the Cape Hopes Advance iron mining project has been suspended. Notwithstanding, the members would still like to meet with representatives of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) to discuss possible improvements to the federal environmental assessment procedure for future projects. As well, the members agreed to prepare a letter addressed to the federal administrator asking why a review board was not set up pursuant to the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*. Various aspects of the Cape Hopes Advance project as well as the application of a multitude of assessment procedures were discussed. The members also discussed the possibility of drafting a letter to the provincial administrator to suggest that she request the use of the substitution and equivalency mechanisms under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* to promote the application of the federal review procedure under Section 23 of the JBNQA.

c) Comments on CEAA authorization of the Nunavik Nickel marine infrastructure project

At the 141st meeting of the KEAC, the members expressed their concerns regarding the form and contents of the authorizations prepared by the CEAA to approve the Nunavik Nickel marine infrastructure project at Deception Bay. It was decided that a letter addressed to the federal administrator would be prepared to communicate the KEAC's observations on this matter. A draft letter was presented and the members agreed to provide their comments at a later date.

d) Phase II of the Raglan mine project

The members were informed that the Glencore mining company is currently examining the possibility of implementing a second phase of the Raglan mine project. Phase II would involve three new sites in the same sector as the existing mine. Glencore recently contacted Salluit and Kangiqsujaq as well as the KRG and the Makivik Corporation about how community consultations should be undertaken as the company intends to hold consultations in the spring of 2015. The members discussed possible infrastructure development under phase II and recommended that an environmental monitoring committee be established.

7. Uranium industry consultations conducted by the BAPE and the KEAC

After the 141st meeting of the KEAC, the members of the KEAC special commission prepared a document on the issues needing to be addressed in the report concerning the public consultations on the uranium industry conducted in Nunavik. The KEAC special commission intends to discuss these issues with the commission of the Bureau d'audiences publiques sur l'environnement (environmental public hearings, BAPE) following the third phase of the

public consultations on the uranium industry in Québec. The members discussed the different concerns raised during the consultations which were predominantly related to social acceptability and potential environmental impacts. The BAPE plans to prepare a first draft of its report by the end of January 2015.

The members discussed the third phase of the public consultations which are scheduled to be held from December 1 to 3, 2014, in Kawawachikamach, Kuujuaq and Kangiqsualujuaq. A final public consultation is scheduled to be held on December 15, 2014, in Montreal with two sessions. The first session would focus on the concerns of Aboriginal peoples in southern Québec and the second session would focus on Nunavik and the James Bay region. The sessions would be chaired by the three commissions involved in the consultations, i.e. the BAPE, the KEAC and the JBACE.

8. Residual materials management

a) Extended producer responsibility – KRG

Véronique Gilbert, KRG environmental specialist, gave a presentation on two residual materials recycling pilot projects in Nunavik under the *Regulation respecting the Recovery and Reclamation of Products by Enterprises*. Ms. Gilbert was accompanied by Sylvia Jonas, KRG environmental technician.

Ms. Gilbert explained that, in July 2011, the Québec government adopted the *Regulation respecting the Recovery and Reclamation of Products by Enterprises* with a view to reducing the quantities of residual materials requiring disposal by assigning to enterprises responsibility for the recovery and reclamation of the products that they market in the province, including in Nunavik. Ms. Gilbert next described the different types of consumer products covered under the Regulation, including fluorescent tubes, fluo-compact lamps, batteries, electronics, paint, as well as vehicle fluids and oils. She mentioned that, in February 2013, the KRG presented a draft regional residual materials management plan to its Executive Committee, which includes a description of the Regulation. Notwithstanding, there still does not exist in Nunavik a collection and recycling program for these products. Ms. Gilbert described the fees paid by consumers to enterprises for the recovery and reclamation (including the management, storage, transportation and sorting of these products, and the management of their packaging) of potentially hazardous materials and for the dissemination of necessary information and access to drop-off sites and collection services.

Ms. Gilbert continued her presentation with a description of two current pilot projects involving the collection and recycling in Nunavik of products identified in the Regulation. The first pilot project was begun in the summer of 2013 when the Electronic Products Recycling Association (EPRA) contacted the KRG regarding the establishment of collection points for waste electronics in Nunavik communities. With the assistance of a consultant, the KRG and EPRA-Québec developed a pilot project for the recycling of electronics in the communities of Kuujuarapik, Salluit, and Kuujuaq. These communities were selected due to their comparatively large populations which would permit assessment of the program's effectiveness. The implementation of the pilot project is scheduled to begin in the fall of 2014 with the dissemination of information to community residents and the training of local personnel at collection points. In the spring of 2015, the collected waste electronics will be prepared for shipment to southern Québec.

A second pilot project was launched in October 2014 further to discussions between the KRG and responsible organizations regarding the creation of a single point in each Nunavik community for the collection and recycling of fluorescent tubes, fluo-compact lamps, batteries, paint, as well as vehicle fluids and oils. The pilot project is scheduled to begin in the summer of 2015 in Kuujuarapik, Salluit, Kuujuaq, Inukjuak, Kangirsuk and Puvirnituq. An action plan was developed for the set-up under KRG supervision of collection points in the remaining Nunavik communities over the next five years. Ms. Gilbert indicated that, with regards to used oils, two Nunavik communities, i.e. Inukjuak and Puvirnituq, already operate furnaces that can burn used oils. Plans to install this type of furnace in Salluit (two projects) are under development. As well, Quaqtaq and Kangiqsujuaq have expressed interest in installing used-oil furnaces.

Ms. Gilbert concluded her presentation by stating that these pilot projects should provide data on the program's effectiveness and annual volumes of waste accumulation in each community. The members noted the significance of these pilot projects and their potential benefits for Nunavik.

9. Plan Nord

On October 29, 2014, the JBACE sent a letter to Robert Sauvé, Associate Secretary General of the Secrétariat au développement nordique (northern development) to invite him to an upcoming meeting. A copy of this letter was also sent to the KEAC chairperson. The members asked to receive a copy of the minutes of the meeting between the JBACE and the Secrétariat as soon as they become available.

10. Miscellaneous

a) Green Corner article, *Makivik Magazine*

It was recalled that, at the 141st meeting of the KEAC, the members decided that the next article to be published in *Makivik Magazine* would deal with the electronics recycling pilot project in Nunavik and the article after that would deal with the second phase of the pilot project planned for the summer of 2015.

b) KEAC website

The members discussed various aspects of the work on the KEAC website including the possibility of delegating this file to the new environmental analyst. The members requested that a list of the tasks in this file be prepared.

c) KEQC website

Jacques Lacroix, Executive Secretary of the Kativik Environmental Quality Commission (KEQC), gave a presentation on the recently re-designed KEQC website. Mr. Lacroix began with a summary of the work performed and a description of the site's three main sections. The first section is a registry of projects for which decisions have recently been completed and projects currently under review. The registry includes project descriptions, impact studies as well as information on the status of the review of each project. The registry also identifies grey zone projects and those subject to environmental and social impact assessment procedures. The second section covers public participation and includes a schedule for public consultations, information sessions and a discussion forum to permit the general public to express their opinions on projects. The website's third section provides general information on the KEQC as well as an archive of the KEQC's minutes, reports and past decisions. As well, directives concerning the review and consultation procedure under Section 23 of the JBNQA may be consulted on the KEQC website. The general public may also subscribe to the KEQC newsletter or consult the What's New column. The members acknowledged the website redevelopment work of the KEQC which will provide Nunavik and Québec residents with better access to information.

d) Québec-government water management strategy

The members were informed that the MDDELCC is preparing a new Québec-wide strategy on water resources to replace the *Québec Water Policy* adopted in 2002. The MDDELCC plans to conduct public consultations with non-governmental agencies, including northern committees. The members were informed that these public consultations could take place in the spring of 2015. It was decided that the KEAC would wait to receive an invitation to participate in the consultations.

e) Anchoring zones near Quaqtq

The members were informed about a land use conflict in the north-western part of Ungava Bay: a large fuel-delivery vessel anchored in an area used by the residents of Quaqtq for their subsistence activities. It was suggested that more information could be prepared for the next meeting of the KEAC.

11. Dates and location of the next meeting

The dates and location for the 143rd meeting of the KEAC were discussed and it was decided to postpone the decision to a later date.



Benjamin Patenaude
Executive Secretary
June 3, 2015