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Comité consultatif de l'environnement Kativik  
Kativik Environmental Advisory Committee

## MINUTES OF THE 152<sup>ND</sup> MEETING OF THE KEAC (ADOPTED)

**DATES:** June 13 and 14, 2017

**LOCATION:** Interpretation Centre, Parc national des Pingualuit, Kangiqsujuaq

### **PRESENT:**

#### **Appointed by the Kativik Regional Government (KRG)**

Michael Barret (Chairperson)  
Laina Emma Grey (Vice-Chairperson)  
Mary Pilurttut

#### **Appointed by the Government of Canada**

Alexandre-Guy Côté  
Jean-Yves Savaria  
Catherine Lapeyrie

#### **Appointed by the Gouvernement du Québec**

Paule Halley  
Sylvie Létourneau  
Julie Samson

#### **Executive Secretary**

Benjamin Patenaude

#### **Environmental Analyst**

Nancy Dea

### **OBSERVER:**

Pierre Philie, Visitor Experience Officer, Parc national des Pingualuit

## **1. Call to order and adoption of the agenda**

The 152<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Kativik Environmental Advisory Committee (KEAC) began at 9 a.m. on June 13, 2017, at the interpretation centre for Parc national des Pingualuit in Kangiqsujuaq. The chairperson opened the meeting and invited the members to propose modifications to the agenda. Modifications were made and the 152<sup>nd</sup> meeting took place in accordance with the agenda below:

### **1. Call to order and adoption of the agenda**

### **2. Adoption of the minutes of the 149<sup>th</sup>, 150<sup>th</sup> and 151<sup>st</sup> meetings as well as the conference call on May 3, 2017**

### **3. Business arising from the 151<sup>st</sup> meeting and correspondence**

- a) Aboriginal community consultation policy specific to the mining sector, MERN
- b) Request from the Naskapi Nation of Kawawachikamach
- c) Consultations on *Bill 132, An Act respecting the Conservation of Wetlands and Bodies of Water*
- d) Draft consultation policy for sustainable forest development and forest management orientations, MFFP
- e) Mid-Canada line clean-up project

### **4. Budget, secretariat and members**

- a) Budget
- b) Request for a meeting with the provincial and federal administrators
- c) Secretariat
  - i) Human resources management
  - ii) Archival management
- d) Members
- e) Communications
- f) Priority files
- g) Annual report, 2016–2017
- h) Website

### **5. Revision of the *Environment Quality Act***

### **6. Environmental assessment in Nunavik**

- a) Environmental assessment procedures guide
- b) KEQC secretariat
- c) IAIA 2017 conference
- d) Revision of the schedules in Section 23 of the JBNQA
- e) Review of the federal environmental assessment and authorization procedure under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (2012)*

### **7. Mining activities**

- a) Raglan mine (phases II and III), Glencore
- b) Asbestos Hill mine site, update
- c) 2017 mining development workshop, Kuujuaq
- d) Hopes Advance iron mining project, Oceanic Iron Ore Corporation

## **8. Residual materials management**

- a) *Regulation respecting the Landfilling and Incineration of Residual Materials*
- b) Residual materials management techniques adapted for northern environments, UQAC
- c) Funding for the implementation of the *Nunavik Residual Materials Management Plan*
- d) Request from the Northern Village of Kuujjuaq
- e) Greenhouse project in Kuujjuaq, Société du Plan Nord

## **9. Hydrocarbons**

- a) Handling and temporary storage of hydrocarbons

## **10. Climate change**

- a) Update on gap analysis of knowledge regarding Nunavik, Ouranos
- b) Renewable energy development in Nunavik

## **11. Miscellaneous**

- a) Green Corner, *Makivik Magazine*

## **12. Dates and locations of the next meetings**

### **2. Adoption of the minutes of the 149<sup>th</sup>, 150<sup>th</sup> and 151<sup>st</sup> meetings as well as the conference call on May 3, 2017**

The minutes of the 149<sup>th</sup>, 150<sup>th</sup> and 151<sup>st</sup> meetings as well as the conference call on May 3, 2017, were reviewed and adopted following modifications.

### **3. Business arising from the 151<sup>st</sup> meeting and correspondence**

- a) Aboriginal community consultation policy specific to the mining sector, MERN

On April 27, 2017, the executive secretary contacted a representative of the Ministère de l'Énergie et des Ressources naturelles (energy and natural resources, MERN) concerning the development of an Aboriginal community consultation policy specific to the mining sector. The MERN is planning to hold a series of consultations with Aboriginal communities in the near future. The KEAC will be contacted once a schedule has been confirmed.

- b) Request from the Naskapi Nation of Kawawachikamach

The members discussed the request made by the Naskapi Nation of Kawawachikamach (NNK) concerning its participation in KEAC activities. It was decided to invite NNK representatives to attend the 153<sup>rd</sup> meeting in order to understand and properly assess the request. The members also proposed to prepare a presentation on the role and mandate of the KEAC to be presented to the NNK representatives.

- c) Consultations on *Bill 132, An Act respecting the Conservation of Wetlands and Bodies of Water*

During the conference call on May 3, 2017, the members decided to submit observations on *Bill 132, An Act respecting the Conservation of Wetlands and Bodies of Water*. A letter to this effect was transmitted on May 15 to the Committee on Transportation and the Environment of the National Assembly. A copy of this letter was also transmitted to Jean-Pierre Laniel from of the Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques (sustainable development, the environment and the fight against climate change, MDDELCC). In the letter, the members made recommendations regarding the compensation and consultation

measures contained in the Bill and enquired about the role of the KRG in implementing the legislation. It was decided the Act would be studied following its adoption to determine its impacts on Nunavik.

d) Draft consultation policy for sustainable forest development and forest management orientations, MFFP

During the conference call on May 3, 2017, the members decided to submit observations on the draft consultation policy for sustainable forest development and forest management orientations prepared by the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (forests, wildlife and parks, MFFP). A letter to this effect was transmitted on May 26 to the Minister of the MFFP. In the letter, the members reiterated certain recommendations contained in the brief submitted by the KEAC in 2004 to the Commission for the Study of Public Forest Management in Québec regarding the development of a forestry management plan for Nunavik as well as consultations with the region's Aboriginal residents.

e) Mid-Canada line clean-up project

On May 27, 2017, the KEAC received a letter from the MDDELCC announcing the preparation of environmental characterization studies (phase II) for all former Mid-Canada line radar station sites.

#### **4. Budget, secretariat and members**

a) Budget

On May 8, 2017, the KEAC received an email from the provincial administrator regarding its annual funding request, including an increased budget. The provincial administrator explained that, for the current fiscal year, the MDDELCC is unable to meet the KEAC's request. However, the provincial administrator intends to review the possibility of an increase with the federal administrator before the end of the current fiscal year. As well, the members reviewed the expense report for February to April 2017 and discussed possible improvement of the current accounts management system.

b) Request for a meeting with the provincial and federal administrators

The members discussed a possible meeting with the provincial and federal administrators to address matters related to the KEAC's operations and mandate. To this effect, two draft invitation letters were presented. Following feedback provided by the members, it was decided the letters would be transmitted as soon as the required changes had been made.

c) Secretariat

i) Human resources management

The members continued to discuss the performance evaluation process for KEAC employees. The administration subcommittee presented a new version of the documents prepared for the executive secretary position. The members agreed that employee evaluations should take place in March or April every fiscal year, about the time when the chairperson changes. As well, the members discussed possible access for KEAC employees to training sessions for KRG staff.

## ii) Archival management

Following the last meeting, a work description for reorganizing the KEAC's archives was prepared and transmitted to Marie-Josée Allard, associate director of undergraduate programs in archival science at Université Laval. The KEAC plans to communicate again with Ms. Allard to finalize the implementation of the project.

## d) Members

The members welcomed Catherine Lapeyrie, as the new federal-government appointee replacing Caroline Girard, and Mary Pilurttut, as the new KRG appointee replacing Anthony Ittoshat. The use of member proxies was also discussed.

## e) Communications

The members discussed new methods for improving the review procedure for documents produced by the KEAC.

## f) Priority files

The members reviewed the summary of KEAC files, which had been updated following the last meeting. It was decided the table would be modified to better highlight file status, i.e. active, on standby or inactive.

## g) Annual report, 2016–2017

An initial draft of the 2016–2017 annual report was presented to the members.

## h) Website

The members were informed that the review of the Inuktitut version of the website is nearly complete and will be put online when done. The members also requested statistics on use of the website.

## **5. Revision of the *Environment Quality Act***

The members reviewed various elements of *Bill 102, An Act to amend the Environment Quality Act to Modernize the Environmental Authorization Scheme and to amend Other Legislative Provisions, in particular to reform the Governance of the Green Fund*, adopted on March 23, 2017. It was pointed out that certain amendments made to the *Environment Quality Act* under the Bill, such as the public register of projects subject to environmental impact assessment and review, are not applicable in Nunavik, while strategic environmental assessment and the new regulation lists exempting or subjecting certain activities to the new declaration of compliance regime will apply in Nunavik. As the KEAC would like to be consulted on the draft regulations to be adopted to implement the amendments to the *Environment Quality Act*, it was decided to transmit to the Minister of the MDDELCC the concerns of the KEAC regarding the application in Nunavik of some of the amendments to the Act, along with a request to be consulted on the draft regulations.

## **6. Environmental assessment in Nunavik**

### a) Environmental assessment procedures guide

The members were updated on the status of the review of the Inuktitut version of the guide regarding the environmental assessment procedures applicable in Nunavik. It was decided that the visual presentation should be improved and that a final version should be ready by the next meeting.

b) KEQC secretariat

The members were informed that the secretariat of the Kativik Environmental Quality Commission (KEQC) had returned to Nunavik. Its office is located in Kuujjuaraapik.

c) IAIA 2017 conference

The members were informed that, in parallel with the 2017 conference of the International Association for Impact Assessment (IAIA) organized in Montreal from April 4 to 7, 2017, representatives of the Minister of Environment and Climate Change Canada held a meeting with Aboriginal organizations, including the KEAC, to discuss approaches, problems and best practices to be taken into account for the revision of federal environmental assessment procedures.

d) Revision of the schedules in Section 23 of the JBNQA

The members were informed that the parties on the committee mandated to initiate the revision of the schedules of Section 23 of the *James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement (JBNQA)*, i.e. the MDDELCC and the Makivik Corporation, have indicated their desire to resume work on this file, which has been inactive for a few years. It was decided that a letter would be transmitted to the provincial administrator and the president of the Makivik Corporation to clarify the intentions of the parties in this respect and to underscore the importance of this revision which is prescribed under the JBNQA. A copy of the letter should also be transmitted to the federal administrator.

e) Review of the federal environmental assessment and authorization procedure under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (2012)*

The executive secretary provided a summary of a meeting held on May 25, 2017, in Kuujjuaq involving representatives of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency, the Makivik Corporation, the KRG and the Nunavik Marine Region Impact Review Board. The purpose of the meeting was to obtain feedback from Indigenous organizations on the report of the expert panel on consultations concerning the amendment of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (2012)*. The members were informed that, in parallel with this revision, the Standing Committee on Fisheries and Oceans recently made public its report on the consultations held concerning the amendment of the *Fisheries Act*. Feedback on the report will be receivable for a 120-day period. A separate feedback period for indigenous organizations is scheduled.

## 7. Mining activities

a) Raglan mine (phases II and III), Glencore

The environmental analyst provided a summary of the public consultations conducted from April 3 to 6, 2017, in Kangiqsujuaq and Salluit concerning the proposed second and third phases of the Raglan mine project. The members discussed different aspects of the project, its review and concerns raised by the two communities. It was pointed out to the members that the KEQC does not plan to produce a report on the hearings.

b) Asbestos Hill mine site, update

The members discussed the current status of the file concerning the Asbestos Hill mine site. It was decided that a letter would be addressed to the mayors of Kangiqsujuaq and Salluit, as well as to the president of the Makivik Corporation and the chairperson of the KRG, to inform them of developments in this file.

c) 2017 mining development workshop, Kuujjuaq

The executive secretary provided a summary of the 2017 mining development workshop organized from April 24 to 27, 2017, in Kuujjuaq by the Nunavik Mineral Exploration Fund. The purpose of the workshop was to bring together representatives of government, the mining sector and regional organizations to encourage open dialogue on mining development in Nunavik, to provide Nunavik residents with an opportunity to learn more about the legal framework and the current state of mining development in the region, and to generate business opportunities for local businesses. The mining workshop also served as an opportunity for Nunavik residents to reaffirm their role as key stakeholders in the region.

d) Hopes Advance iron mining project, Oceanic Iron Ore Corporation

The members continued their discussion on the current status of the iron mining project of Oceanic Iron Ore Corporation. It was decided that the KEAC would contact the Makivik Corporation to enquire about possible next steps in this file and to offer technical support if required.

## **8. Residual materials management**

a) *Regulation respecting the Landfilling and Incineration of Residual Materials*

The members discussed the *Regulation respecting the Landfilling and Incineration of Residual Materials* and restrictions it places on related new methods and technologies. In the past, the KEAC was part of a working group mandated to make recommendations to the responsible organizations concerning necessary amendments to policies and regulations to permit the implementation and funding of residual materials management programs in Nunavik. On the approval of the *Nunavik Residual Materials Management Plan*, the working group was dissolved. Notwithstanding, the Regulation currently remains unchanged and limits the implementation of alternative residual materials processing methods, such as the incinerator pilot project contained in the Management Plan. It was decided that a letter would be transmitted to the Minister of the MDDELCC to make him aware of this situation.

b) Residual materials management techniques adapted for northern environments, UQAC

A summary was provided to the members on the webinar delivered on May 4, 2017, by the eco-advisory research chair at the Université du Québec à Chicoutimi (UQAC). The purpose of the webinar was to obtain feedback on the study by the research chair on residual materials management techniques adapted for northern environments. The members were informed that a preliminary report had been submitted to the MDDELCC and that, following its approval, it would be transmitted to the KRG and the KEAC.

c) Funding for the implementation of the *Nunavik Residual Materials Management Plan*

The members were informed that the *Nunavik Residual Materials Management Plan* has been in place for nearly two years, but that a lack of funding has delayed its implementation. The members discussed the possibility of exploring other funding sources and organizing a meeting to discuss this matter with the concerned parties.

d) Request from the Northern Village of Kuujjuaq

The members were informed of developments regarding the search for funding sources to assist the Northern Village of Kuujjuaq to rehabilitate a contaminated site in the community.

- e) Greenhouse project in Kuujjuaq, Société du Plan Nord

The members were informed that the Société du Plan Nord received funding from the Québec government to launch a pilot project to build a commercial greenhouse in Kuujjuaq. The greenhouse is to be heated through the incineration of residual materials. The members discussed the current objectives of the Société du Plan Nord and decided that the organization should be contacted to deliver a presentation on this project and on the organization's other activities since the KEAC has not received any new information for a few years.

## **9. Hydrocarbons**

- a) Handling and temporary storage of hydrocarbons

At the last KEAC meeting, it was decided that the regulations concerning the handling and temporary storage of hydrocarbons as well as their application in Nunavik should be reviewed. The members were informed that these regulations fall under a broader series of regulations concerning hazardous materials and that this series is currently under revision. The hazardous materials management guides prepared by the KEAC in April 2016 contain the most up-to-date procedures for the handling and storage of hydrocarbons, and this information should be distributed to regional and municipal bodies as well as KRG wildlife protection assistants (Uumajuit wardens).

## **10. Climate change**

- a) Update on gap analysis of knowledge regarding Nunavik, Ouranos

The members were updated on the gap analysis work by Ouranos regarding Nunavik.

- b) Renewable energy development in Nunavik

The members were informed that Hydro-Québec has issued a call for proposals to develop renewable energy programs in Nunavik communities, as an alternative to diesel which is currently used to generate electricity in the region.

## **11. Miscellaneous**

- a) Green Corner, *Makivik Magazine*

It was decided that the next article for the Green Corner in *Makivik Magazine* would cover the proper handling and storage of hydrocarbons.

## **12. Dates and locations of next meetings**

It was decided that the 153<sup>rd</sup> meeting would take place on September 26 and 27, 2017, in Quebec City. The dates and locations of the 154<sup>th</sup> and 155<sup>th</sup> meetings would be confirmed at a later date.



Benjamin Patenaude  
Executive secretary  
December 5, 2017