



NWT Board Forum

DRAFT Summary Report

**Sixth Board Forum Meeting
May 2 – 3, 2007
Norman Wells, NT**

**Prepared by Terriplan Consultants
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**T e r r i p l a n
CONSULTANTS**

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1.0 Introduction

The sixth annual meeting of the NWT Board Forum was held in Norman Wells on May 2nd and 3rd, 2007. The meeting was organized by the Board Forum Working Group made up of the Executive Director of the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board (MVEIRB), the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board (MVLWB), the Inuvialuit Joint Secretariat (IJS), the Associate Deputy Minister, Department of Environmental and Natural Resources GNWT, and the Manager of the Board Relations Secretariat (BRS). The host of the Board Forum was Mr. Larry Wallace, Chair, Sahtu Land and Water Board (SLWB). The agenda for the meeting and a list of participants can be found in *Appendix A* and *Appendix B*, respectively.

1.1 Purpose and Objectives of the Board Forum Meeting

The purpose of the NWT Board Forum's 6th annual meeting was to report on and discuss the results of Working Group activities since the last forum meeting and the emerging priorities, challenges, and new initiatives of member boards of the Forum. This included reviewing progress on the current NWT Board Forum work plan, and recommending actions to implement and priorities for the next Forum meeting. This meeting also included technical briefings and update presentations on issue(s) identified as of interest to the members. This meeting included presentations from the Renewable Resources Boards who were being considered for membership in the Board Forum.

This report, prepared by Terriplan Consultants, summarizes the discussions that took place during the two day Board Forum, and the action items that emerged from the workshop.

1.2 Report Contents

This summary report is organized as follows:

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2.0 Member Updates

Following an opening prayer given by Walter Bayha and at the commencement of the meeting, the NWT Board Forum conducted a members' roundtable. Chairs and Executive Directors reported as follows:

2.1 Gwich'in Land and Water Board – Willard Hagen

The Beaufort Delta, and the GLWB has seen a slow down in development, and the Board has not been as busy as in past years. In 2006, there were ten applications for land use permits, and three applications for water licenses. Applications for water licenses included one for the Town of Inuvik and another for Dimondex. The issue of appointments is still an ongoing problem for the GWLB, as the board has a quorum of two plus the chair and that is all that is appointed and available at this time; meaning if even one member is unavailable for some reason, there is not a quorum to proceed. The GLWB is fortunate to have dedicated board members and staff who do their best to be available and keep on working. .

2.2 Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board – Willard Hagen

The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board welcomed their newly appointed executive director, Wanda Anderson. She is the longest serving staff member on the board, with ten years of experience, and is a long time northerner. The MVLWB has also hired some additional staff to take on new work that the board is facing; this includes James Boraski, whose work is largely focused upon how to permit and license the proposed MGP pipeline. As an example of the progress made under the NGPS led Regulatory Mapping Project, Mr. Hagen noted that between the 17 regulators in the NWT who will have responsibilities for the proposed pipeline, they originally started with over 1,000 terms and conditions, and that this has been significantly reduced. Mr. Hagen also stated that the MVLWB is pleased with the assistance provided by INAC on addressing the regulatory issues for the proposed MGP pipeline.

There has also been some resolution on the issue of consultation, and who is responsible for it. This has been a big stumbling block in the past. Finally, Mr. Hagen noted that the appointment process still remains a problem for the MVLWB.

2.3 Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board – Violet Camsell-Blondin

Since the last meeting of the Board Forum, the WLWB held a public hearing for renewal of the Diavik water license. This process was unlike other public hearings, as the public were invited to speak at a public hearing. The hearing was a huge undertaking for a new land and water board and prior to the hearing, the WLWB developed a work program. Ms. Camsell-Blondin recognized that it is due to the great staff and board members that the public hearing went so well. She stated that the WLWB will be providing the Minister of INAC with the renewed Diavik water license for his signature in August 2007. The board will also be doing a peer review of the Diavik water license on June 5th and 6th, 2007 so that there is an open, transparent and fair process.

Ms. Camsell-Blondin announced that the WLWB has a new office located in the Panda Centre, Yellowknife. She said that this new office is important for the board, as it gives them an identity outside the MVLWB. The board still maintains an office in Wekweti. The new Yellowknife office will be primarily used for the board's "big files," such as the Diavik water license renewal. Due to the nature of the applications that are received by the WLWB, they have regular board meetings 2 to 3 times a month. She also noted that the board recently had an open house in Wekweti to explain their mandate, relationship to the board forum, and also to explain the MVRMA. Participants of the open house were also treated to a slide show and feast. The open house was part of an education initiative that the board is providing to their members and to the people of the area.

Ms. Camsell-Blondin made the case that due to the nature of the large applications that the WLWB deals with, there is a need to increase the Board's budget. The board was pleased with the financial assistance that INAC provided before the Diavik water license renewal public hearing, as the board was in "crisis mode." She made the passionate point that the funds provided by the land claim are simply not enough to handle the size of the public hearings that the WLWB has held to date, and will continue to hold.

2.4 Sahtu Land and Water Board – George Govier

George Govier, the executive director of the SLWB was recognized for his 10 years of distinguished service on the board. He also presented the SLWB's priorities, challenges, initiatives, and issues. In terms of priorities and issues for the board, the delay in appointments still remains an issue. There is one board member vacancy waiting to be appointed by the INAC Minister. Another issue is under-funding. The participation of the board in the *Co-operation Plan for the Environmental Impact Assessment and Regulatory Review of a Northern Gas Pipeline Project through the Northwest Territories,* has been discretionary and limited because of budget restriction. One of the SLWB's priorities this past year was training and professional development. Board members and staff participated in the following courses:

- ArcGIS;
- Uranium Technical Workshop;
- EA Practitioners' Workshop;
- Decommissioning & Reclamation of Small Oil & Gas Sites;
- Mining for Non-Miners;
- Drill Waste Management;
- Introduction to Administrative Law; and,
- Sahtu Land & Water Board Annual Technical Training.

Mr. Govier was complimentary about the opportunities afforded to Board members and staff to take training in these important areas. He also noted that the enforcement workshop for inspectors, although a priority, did not happen. One of the challenges that the board faced over the past year was high staff turn-over which made it difficult to maintain production deadlines that are prescribed by legislation and regulation. Another challenge that faces the SLWB is maintaining the confidence of applicants, the public and beneficiaries. The confidence of these stakeholders in the regulatory process, and the implementation of the Sahtu land claim need to be maintained. This requires professionalism and

accountability on the part of the board and the board staff. It was noted that the board forum is a good venue for information exchange and that the SLWB is interested in meeting with other northern boards to discuss common issues, including technical and operational concerns, and working towards a consistent process for land use permit and water license applications.

In terms of workload, the SLWB has had 16 applications since November 2006. Of these, 11 were received since March 2nd, 2007, 10 of which are mineral exploration types of development. The next board meeting is scheduled for May 24-25, 2007 in Tulita where the first 2 of 11 applications will be dealt with.

2.5 Indian and Northern Affairs Canada – Kate Hearn

The acting Associate Regional Director General (A/RDG) of INAC, Kate Hearn provided the forum with an update. In the regional office, Bob Overvold, the Regional Director General, will be retiring in the next few weeks. The department is currently looking for a replacement and until that is done, Zoe Raemer will fill in as the Acting RDG. Stephen Van Dine, who is normally located at HQ in Ottawa, will take the place of Ms. Hearn working as the A/RDG over the summer months.

The department has worked closely with the boards since the last forum in November 2006 and has been very productive. One of the initiatives that the department has worked on has been training needs as described in the training needs document, found in the participant binders. Over the past year INAC also developed and hosted training workshops such as: miners for non-miners, and the uranium and the north regulatory workshop. Ms. Hearn concluded that the board forum is important for INAC, particularly as it guides the department's responsibility for co-management.

2.6 National Energy Board – Jann Atkinson

Jann Atkinson indicated that the Chair and Chief Operating Officer of the NEB (Ken Vollman and Jim Donihee respectively) both sent their regrets for not being able to attend. Since the last board forum, the NEB and JRP panels for the proposed MGP have been actively engaged in their review of the proposed MGP. Ms. Atkinson noted that it is really a time of transition and that the NEB has 5 new board members, and recently the chairman, Ken Vollman, has indicated that he will be retiring in early June - he has worked at the NEB for 33 years. Ms. Atkinson noted that with the exception of the ongoing NEB review of the MGP and a few seismic programs, the NEB has not received many applications for work in the north since the last meeting of the board forum.

2.7 Sahtu Land Use Planning Board – John T'Seleie

Since the last meeting of the board forum, the SLUPB has finished the first draft of its land use plan. He acknowledged that this draft is quite late. The work on the land use plan began in 1999 and it wasn't until 2003 that the SLUPB published a preliminary draft, which the board used as a basis for the first draft of the plan. In terms of the approach, this draft follows a format similar to that which the Gwich'in used for their land use plan. Mr. T'Seleie described the three types of land use zones:

- conservation zones;

- special management zones, and;
- multiple use zones.

The draft is available for review on the Sahtu land use planning board's web site: <http://209.146.197.178/> with a deadline of May 31st for submitting comments. Upon receiving comments and suggestions, the SLUP board will work on a second draft of the plan; this might include travelling back to the communities depending on the suggested changes. The plan will only be adopted if there is agreement between the three parties of Canada, the GNWT, and the Sahtu Secretariat Incorporated. Mr. T'Seleie noted that the SLUP board is hoping to get the three parties approval on the third draft of the plan by the end of 2007 or early in 2008.

Mr. T'Seleie noted that the term of one of the board member's ends in November 2007, and that another's term will end in December 2007. Further, he noted that two more board member's terms will expire in 2008. Thus, the issue of timely appointments is critical to the Sahtu Land Use Planning board. Funding is another issue facing the board. He stated that in earlier years the SLUP board had larger budgets but were unable to finish the plan, today the SLUP board works under smaller budgets but nonetheless needs to accomplish the same task. In past years the board has had to get increased funding from INAC to effectively go about their work and he suggested that this may again be the case this year.

2.8 Government of the Northwest Territories – Tom Beaulieu

Some of the key issues facing the department of environment and natural resources (ENR) of the GNWT include declining caribou numbers, environmental assessments, energy conservation, and environmental protection. In terms of caribou numbers, the GNWT has been actively working with the Renewable Resources Boards of the NWT to address this problem. The department has done a lot of work in the realm of environmental assessments. Mr. Beaulieu announced that whereas two years ago, there was one employee devoted to environmental assessment and monitoring, there are currently four employees. During the next fiscal year, this will be expanded to seven employees with one individual in each of the five regions to keep track of all of the new resource developments. One of the difficulties associated with environmental assessment and monitoring is community capacity, especially when they do not have adequate resources to participate in the EA process.

In three of the southern regions of the NWT, ENR has been dealing with bison issues. In the last year, twenty-eight bison were lost to anthrax exposure in the South Slave region. Cleaning up the carcasses and monitoring the situation was done successfully due to a previous plan that was developed exactly for that purpose. It was noted that in the fall of 2006, the Minister of ENR hosted the Canadian Council of Resource Development Ministers in Yellowknife. This meeting was part of the national work that the GNWT participates in, and it was a successful event.

With regards to energy conservation, there have been quite a few programs that have been announced in the NWT recently. The GNWT will be funding some of these programs, such as the Arctic Energy Alliance, which devotes its attention to issues dealing with energy conservation.

ENR has also been engaged with work in the area of environmental protection. For example, the department is working with the federal government on the Giant Mine cleanup process. The department also works on environmental monitoring for the diamond mines as it sits on various environmental monitoring boards. Mr. Beaulieu also predicted that the department will be active this summer fighting forest fires within the territory.

2.9 Environmental Impact Review Board – Elizabeth Snider

Ms. Snider announced proudly that the Environmental Impact Review Board (EIRB) now has a fully staffed board, the first in over four years. She also noted, however, that some of the terms for these board members will begin to expire next year. With regards to workload, it has been relatively slow for the EIRB over the past year. The Environmental Impact Screening Committee (EISC) has not referred anything to the EIRB lately. The board has taken advantage of this down time in workload to focus on in-house matters. She described, for example, how the EIRB has initiated a review of their procedures and policies which has included updating them, and also considering how environmental review has improved over the years. In March 2007, the EIRB completed a community tour of all six of the Inuvialuit communities; the purpose of which was to talk community members about the EIRB's mandate, and also to see if there were any particular issues with the EIRB or the government. This was a useful exchange. Ms. Snider also noted, with thanks, how the EIRB has taken advantage of the courses developed through the Board Forum. She noted how members of the EIRB attended the Miners for Non-Miners workshop, as well as the EA workshop.

The Board has had the responsibility for developing environmental criteria for development in the Huskey Lakes area, a part of the ISR which is unique and valued. Preliminary criteria have been developed in consultation with the Inuvialuit Hunters and Trappers Associations (HTAs) and public meetings will be held in the communities in the near future. The Board and its stakeholders continually try to find a happy medium between development and conservation. Sumps has been an issue that has recently been a concern for the Review Board and it is currently looking into how they might contribute to environmental studies being done on this issue.

2.10 Environmental Impact Screening Committee – Fred McFarland

The newly appointed Chair of the Environmental Impact Screening Committee (EISC), Mr. Fred McFarland, acknowledged that it was his first Board Forum and that he was only appointed as Chairman in April 2007. He noted that he is only the fourth Chair in the twenty-two year history of the committee. He noted that, like the EIRB, the EISC also has a full complement of screening committee members this year. The EISC is a part time Board, and it is thus difficult to get through all of its work in a timely manner. Mr. McFarland noted that there is only one staff person who is relatively new, and that there have been some changes to the support staff over recent years. He described how the committee meets about once every five weeks, and at each meeting they screen approximately six development proposals. These proposals could include developments such as offshore seismic work, mining, etc.

Mr. McFarland noted that the EISC is currently revising its operating procedures to reflect the amendments made to the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA). There has recently been a lot of discussion on how to improve the committee, especially their terms and conditions. Mr. McFarland expressed his

interest in talking with other Board Forum members at future forums about the use of technology, and how it could be used and improved.

2.11 Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board – Gabrielle Mackenzie-Scott

Gabrielle Mackenzie-Scott opened her talk by recognizing that a number of elders who had previously worked on Aboriginal land claims have recently passed away. Ms. Mackenzie-Scott felt it important to acknowledge the work of those who have gone before us.

Ms. Mackenzie-Scott noted that in terms of workload, the MVEIRB has been busy this past year with eight EA's. She also noted that during this past fiscal year, there were ninety-one preliminary screening applications received. There has also been an EIR for the De Beers's Gacho Kue diamond project. She noted that this will be one of the biggest projects for the MVEIRB in 2007. She drew attention to the fact that a press release had recently been put out describing who would be on the panel for this EIR.

The MVEIRB also released their socio-economic guidelines this past fiscal year. Work has been initiated on trans-boundary agreements, especially water related discussions with the province of Alberta. She noted that members of the Board had been in Ottawa at the CEA office recently to start work on a generic trans-boundary agreement. The Board has also finished the overview of its environmental impact assessment guidelines, which are now available in plain language.

In terms of ongoing issues, Ms. McKenzie-Scott stated that some of the reoccurring issues that the Board faces include appointments, and the fact that there isn't a Dehcho regional member on the Board. Recently, a letter was written from Ms. Mackenzie-Scott to Herb Norwegian to ask for a member from the Dehcho region, but there has been no response. Another issue is amount of funding for the Boards. The MVEIRB will be working with INAC on finding solutions to these funding issues, possibly to be discussed at the next Board Forum. She also noted that the board will be developing a consultation reference document this upcoming year.

Another initiative which the board is pursuing is a summer student internship program, wherein students who want to work in environmental assessment are hired to provide them with practical experience in their chosen field. A reference document has been prepared for this initiative. Ms. McKenzie-Scott noted that the Board continues to work with the GNWT on the species at risk program (SARA), and how it relates to environmental impact assessment.

3.0 Progress Report on NWT Board Forum Workplan

3.1 Briefing on May 2007 Board Forum Work Plan Task Tracking Report

This discussion was led by the Board Forum Working Group. It was started by Vern Christensen, Executive Director of the MVEIRB and he was supported by Wanda Anderson of MVLWB, Eric Yaxley of the Board Relations Secretariat (BRS) and others. The Working Group provided the Board Forum with an update as to the progress of the outstanding issues and they walked through the Progress Report on the NWT Board Forum Workplan as follows. A number of priority issues and action items were identified during the November 2006 meeting. The following table summarizes the discussion of selected items from the report of the Working Group on the priority tasks from the last meeting.

Legend for Table 1: Work Plan task tracking report discussion:

- INAC – Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
- MVLWB – Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
- MVEIRB – Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
- Board Relations Secretariat - BRS
- EY – Eric Yaxley (BRS)
- W/G – Forum Working Group
- WA – Wanda Anderson (MVLWB)
- VC – Vern Christensen (MVEIRB)
- NS – Norm Snow (IJS)
- TB – Tom Beaulieu (ENR, GNWT)

No.	Issue	Task Description	Lead	Status	Forum Action
					approach in the NWT. This may include the need for a workshop on valued component thresholds next year.
2.	Federal Consultation	2.1 INAC to provide updates on s.35 Consultation at Board Forums as appropriate 2.2 The Regional Engagement Initiative (REI) was presented at the April Board Forum. The focus of the REI, as it concerns the MVRMA Boards, has been the s.35 Crown consultation work. INAC plans on creating and implementing an action plan by March/April 2007	INAC & Boards - EY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eric Yaxley to contact INAC Policy and Planning in regards to an update for the November 2007 forum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update given by Julie Jackson, see section 5.3 of this report
3.	Inspection and Enforcement	3.1 MVLWB to report on its work to date with respect to inspection and enforcement issues. (Reference: April 2004, January & October 2005, April 2006 Forums). A number of Phases have been identified that include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase 1 = Review and 	MVLWB & INAC WA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MVLWB & INAC to provide progress update at Fall 2006 Board Forum The Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board and INAC staff have completed Phase 1 of their review of the Terms and 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actions are being initiated and are being addressed in the MGP Regulatory Working Groups The coordination of permits is on going. Land Use conditions are complete Wanda Anderson will update task late summer/early fall 2007 as developments occur Wanda Anderson is taking the 600 terms and conditions, and tweaking

No.	Issue	Task Description	Lead	Status	Forum Action
		<p>agreement on Terms and Conditions not requiring amendment - completed May 06</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase 2 = Review and amend Terms and Conditions which are effective, but unclear due to wording – (underway) • Phase 3 = Discuss Terms and Conditions which are viewed as unenforceable - next step (Jan/Feb 07) • Phase 4 = Develop TOR / Work Group to identify Terms and Conditions which could be considered effective with the development of standards/codes of practice - final step (Spring 07) (Review existing guidelines used by INAC). <p>3.2 INAC to bring other regulators together with MVRMA Forum representatives to learn and discuss issues related to Measures, Terms and Conditions, enforcement, monitoring and follow up (Reference: May 2007 and October 2005 Board Forum).</p>	<p>VC</p>	<p>Conditions, and have commenced Phase 2 of that project. Phase 2 should be complete by the end of November, 2006, and is moving towards Phases 3 and 4.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A “MVRMA EA and Regulatory Relationship Building Workshop” is being planned with Boards and other Regulators to be scheduled for the Fall of 2007. (Vern and Eric to Update Chairs and Executive Directors as required) 	<p>them. She is now working on water conditions. Two of Annette Hopkins’ inspectors are involved in this process. There will be further information on this process at the next board forum.</p>

No.	Issue	Task Description	Lead	Status	Forum Action
4.	Board Information and Networking	4.1 General update whereby each Board shares the information it is receiving with other Boards (Reference: April 2004, January & May 2007 Forums follow up for the GNWT).	All Boards W/G TB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda item: Board Round Table at November 2007 Forum • GNWT Caribou Management Strategy will be presented & discussed during the November 2007 forum • Seismic guidelines were discussed at the Board Forum in November 2006. A presentation and update will be provided during the November 2007 forum • An update on the international Polar Year will be provided to the November 2007 Board Forum • An update on the GNWT's Regulatory Effectiveness Review will be provided at the November 2007 Forum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A presentation on the Caribou Management Strategy could not be given because this issue is going before a judicial review because of a legal challenge by Caribou Outfitters. . • A briefing on the seismic guidelines could not be given as there were still consultations ongoing with respects to this issue.
		4.2 Identification of Board research priorities (May 2007 Board Forum)	VC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At the May 2007 Board Forum there was agreement that Boards may find it useful to identify research priorities and identify where areas of common interest may overlap and/or where research needs may be unique based on regional circumstance. Board Chairs endorsed this initiative to the Working Group • Vern Christensen agreed at the Working Group that MVEIRB would develop a short questionnaire and collate 	

No.	Issue	Task Description	Lead	Status	Forum Action
			NS	preliminary responses from Boards for discussion at the November 2007 Board Forum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ISR – Research Symposium planned for the Fall of 2007 in partnership with Aurora Research Institute • Research day within ISR (an annual event) is scheduled to be held in December 2007 • Note: Conoco-Phillips Offshore Conference Kananaskis Oct 14th – 19th and Best Management Practices Oct 23rd -25th in Inuvik. 	
		4.3 The OAG continues to be discussed under the Northern Regulatory Improvement Initiative umbrella	All members INAC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stephen Van Dine provided an update at the last two Board Forums. Nine of the ten OAG recommendations have been completed or considerably advanced 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If anyone is interested in one of the information sessions, they are to contact Alistair Macdonald at MVEIRB.
		4.4 Water Quality Standards (November 2006)	EY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • INAC Water Resources' has hired a consultant to review water standards and outline options. The consultant developed a report, which is being reviewed internally for accuracy and completeness. The draft report will be shared with appropriate boards in the Northwest Territories to seek their comments and suggestions. A presentation will be made by Kathleen Racher at the November 2007 Board Forum, including a discussion of next steps to identify a collective way 	

No.	Issue	Task Description	Lead	Status	Forum Action
				forward.	
5.	Addressing Industry Issues	5.1 Members to continue the dialogue with industry, NGO's and others on current non project specific issues from previous Forums (Reference: Previous Board Forums)	WG EY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Forum members to share update at the Board Forum at the Fall 2006 meeting as appropriate. <p>Suggested industry representative discussion topics could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an overview of what industry is doing to ensure consistent and meaningful consultation with communities 2. provide an overview and examples of effective permitting processes including terms and conditions, dealing with CE, social and economic mitigative measures and orphan measures. (INAC Minerals to discuss with Industry) MAC, PDAC and Chamber of Mines to be invited to November 2007 Forum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were talks with Mike Vaydick from NWT Chamber of Mines, pending agreement, he will present at the next board form. If members are interested, the Mining Association of Canada, Prospectors Association of Canada, and the Petroleum Association of Canada could be invited to speak at the next forum.
6.	Forecasting Workload	6.1 Provide a forecast of future developments and workload for each Board in relation to the MGP, secondary oil and gas activities, and other non-oil and gas activities. Note: Costs effected by Forced Growth (e.g. IPY & mining) (Reference April 2004 & January 2005 Forums)	INAC/WG: VC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing – templates are being developed for strategic and business planning. A working group has also been created Vern Christensen will provide an update at the November 2007 Board Forum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update given by Vern Christensen, see section 5.1 of this report
		6.2 INAC to develop a standard /defined and budget cycle that will assist in more timely funding approvals / confirmations for both	INAC/WG: EY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MVEIRB and other Boards in discussion with INAC regarding longer-term funding solutions Ongoing funding issue related to all 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update given by Stephen Van Dine, see section 5.2 of this report.

No.	Issue	Task Description	Lead	Status	Forum Action
		Claims and Non-Claims boards (Reference January 2005 Forum).		Boards. Need to create an opportunity to discuss issue with INAC and the NWT Board Forum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be coordinated with northern Regulatory Improvement Initiative and OAG Action Plan work Stephen Van Dine will update Board Forum members regarding the status and findings of the contract Examining and Improving the Relationship with Resource Management, Advisory and Environmental Assessment Boards at the November 2007 Forum. 	
7.	Community Capacity & Participant Funding	7.1 CIRL Report on Participant funding to be provided at the Fall Forum.	INAC & W/G:EY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CIRL Report was provided at the Fall 2006 Board Forum, as requested. Janice Traynor presented an update at the Fall Board Forum and a potential intervenor funding policy/program for the NWT. Next steps to the potential policy would be consulting with Boards, building policy options and business case and seeking support from INAC senior management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing – Janice Traynor to be invited to provide an update on intervenor/participant funding will be provided at next Board Forum.
8.	Northern Board Training (was 7.2)	8.1 Training Initiative Working Group (previously Steering Committee) submitted a proposal/business plan to the Department in March 2006. Ongoing training program.	W/G EY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Steering Committee submitted a proposal last year and the Department reviewed the proposal. It was determined that more training options should be developed and will be able to support some training courses identified by the Boards. Funding of \$200,000 was identified The Northern Board Training Steering Committee will be evaluating past courses and proposing new training initiatives for 2007/08. Chairs and Executive Directors can contact Casey Adlem or Wanda Anderson to discuss 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was noted that a proposal will be submitted again this year (2007/08) for a training program. Once the training program is developed it will be sent to the Boards to ratify

No.	Issue	Task Description	Lead	Status	Forum Action
				and recommend training plans <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gartner Lee is finalizing the work on the Training Business Plan and the Steering Committee will be reviewing the revisions and provide recommendations to Chairs. 	
9.	Public Education	9.1 Communications sub-Working Group to conduct further analysis and develop a work plan outlining what a communications program might consist of (Reference: October 2005 Forum).	W/G:VC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Communication Sub Working Group was created with a draft Terms of Reference approved by the Board Forum members. The proposal to develop a “mock up” website portal was approved by the Board Forum members in November 2006 and May 2007 Renita Jenkins, Rob Dobson and Jennifer Moores will work with the Working Group and Boards to give an expanded demonstration of the proposed internet site during the November 2007 Board Forum. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update given by Allison Blackduck and Jennifer Moores, see section 5.9 of this report.
10.	Board Appointments	10.1 INAC to address current appointment vacancies; including work with nominating organizations (Reference: January 2005 Forum).	INAC VC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ongoing – Board member vacancies continue to be filled but need significant lead time 	
		10.2 INAC to improve the appointment process (Reference: October 2005 Forum). An Overview of proposed Accountability Act and implications for Board Appointments was addressed at the Fall Forum.	INAC VC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stephen Van Dine provided an update at the Fall 2006 Board Forum. The Accountability Act established a Public Appointments Commission to deal with Governor in Council appointments and the standards and guidelines for consistent approach for appointments. Draft principles were noted. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Update given by Stephen Van Dine, see section 5.5 of this report.

No.	Issue	Task Description	Lead	Status	Forum Action
				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> INAC is in the process of drafting a procedures manual for appointments 	

Discussion

The Board Forum Working Group led the presentation and there was discussion on several issues, including the possibility of the Board Forum developing a statement of research priorities. It was noted that there is a need to focus funding and investment for research funding in the north. Agencies such as the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (NSERC), and other government funding sources could be approached. It was recognized by members that the Board Forum is well suited to provide an informed opinion about the focus for research priorities. In many cases, the purpose of the research is in response to Land and Water Boards who have identified gaps where research is required to fill these gaps. These Boards are uniquely positioned to view the state of knowledge in certain areas; they also often have the best sense of where more research is required. For instance, there is a lot of specific research required in the biophysical and cumulative effects spheres. The better quality of information that the Boards have available, the better decisions they will make in the future. Members generally agreed with this position although there was some reluctance expressed in terms of the Boards becoming too involved in this area. There was agreement that the role of the Boards in identifying research priorities be the subject of a future meeting.

Board Forum members also discussed the feasibility of having industry speak at all future Board Forums. It was decided that the Mining Association of Canada and the Canadian Aboriginal Mineral Association should be invited to the next Board Forum to speak

It was noted by a member, that the Waste Water Effluents Standards Strategy which is led by Environment Canada with assistance from GNWT-ENR is similar to the initiative that has been spearheaded by INAC Water Resources (see section 4.4 of NWT Board Forum Work Plan Task Tracking Report). There was agreement that the two efforts, both Environment Canada/GNWT-ENR and INAC's, should be coordinated (Tom Beaulieu).

Action Items

- Board Chairs and Executive Directors to meet and discuss the possibility of a statement of research priorities
- The Mining Association of Canada and the Canadian Aboriginal Mineral Association will be invited to speak at the next Board Forum, Working Group to follow up.

4.0 Renewable Resources Boards

As was decided at the November 2006 Board Forum, the NWT Renewable Resources Boards were invited to attend this meeting of the Board Forum to observe the nature of the meeting, and to discuss the mutual benefits of having the Renewable Resources Boards (RRB) join the NWT Board Forum as regular members. The Chair of the Sahtu Renewable Resources Board, Walter Bayha, and Alfonz Nitsiza, board member from the Wek'eezhii Renewable Resources Board both presented on their respective Board's mandate and roles and responsibilities. The Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board, although invited, expressed its regrets and was unable to attend.

After listening to their presentations, several existing members made short presentations to warmly welcome the Renewable Resources Board's as potential members to the Board Forum. Short summaries of the presentations given by the RRB's are as follows:

4.1 The Sahtu Renewable Resources Board

This was presented by Walter Bayha, Chair of the Sahtu Renewable Resources Board. The mandate for the Board (SRRB) is taken directly from the Sahtu Dene-Métis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement (the Agreement), which is publicly available. The SRRB is a co-management board created by the Agreement, in 1993. The Board is the main instrument for wildlife and forest management in the Sahtu region and its responsibilities are drawn directly from chapters 13-14 of the Land Claim Agreement. The SRRB is responsible for management under four main categories:

- wildlife research;
- wildlife management;
- conservation education; and,
- consultations with principal stakeholders.

The SRRB works closely with the Renewable Resource Councils (RRCs) who have an advisory relationship with the Board. There are five RRC's in the Sahtu. One of the biggest issues that the SRRB faces is caribou management. The Board has worked extensively with the Bluenose caribou advisory committee in the past couple of years. The SRRB tries to build relationships with other boards, especially when dealing with trans-boundary issues; for instance, the SRRB has worked with managers and Boards in Nunavut with respect to the Bluenose east calving area, a herd which is shared with the Sahtu, the Board also has many responsibilities in terms of forestry and management of plants in the Sahtu region.

Discussion

Board forum members wanted to learn more about the appointments process for the SRRB. The explanation was that the SRRB has Order In Council (OIC) appointments, and has had problems with the process in the past as it can take up to six months to get an appointment finalized. Alternate members for the SRRB are also OIC appointments; there are six alternates on the SRRB. The SRRB speaker noted that past wildlife research done by the Board is available to the public. It was also noted that the SRRB also has the power to hold public hearings if need be.

The SRRB was established in 1996. Our appointments are jointly made between OIC and the NWT Executive Council. The appointment process takes from six months to one year (and longer in some cases). In recent years, caribou management has been the SRRB's foremost concern but the Board is also responsible for all wildlife and forest concerns (including species at risk and protected areas). The presentation was made by me along with inputs from Walter.

4.2 The Wek'eezhii Renewable Resources Board

This presentation was made by Alfonz Nitsiza. He described how the WRRB was established under the Tlicho Agreement (TCA) in 2002, and outlined its role of managing wildlife in the Tlicho region. The board is set up on a co-management basis, with 50% of its members named by the Tlicho Government and 50% of members named by the governments of Canada and NWT; three members make a quorum. The four areas of management responsibility include:

- wildlife;
- plants;
- forestry; and,
- protected areas.

The TCA indicates that any federal or territorial wildlife management activities within Wek'eezhii must be submitted to the WRRB for review. The WRRB also makes a final determination regarding a total allowable harvest level for Wek'eezhii (except for fish). The WRRB has two offices; one in Yellowknife and the other is in Wekweeti. The permanent office will be in Wekweeti by 2008, when their new building is ready.

In terms of current activities, the WRRB are engaged with:

- drafting governance procedures for their Board;
- consulting with stakeholders and communities about wildlife issues;
- collecting reports, data, etc to develop an information database and GIS capability;
- drafting a strategic plan – to be completed by the summer of 2007.

The WRRB is also busy dealing with the caribou issue. There was a hearing in March dealing with the Bathurst caribou herd and the WRRB are waiting for the final submissions before they begin to prepare their recommendations. The WRRB will also be initiating consultation processes to facilitate stakeholder development of longer term caribou management plans that are required under the Tlicho Comprehensive Agreement. Mr. Nitsiza described how the WRRB will play an important role in the future management of the Bathurst caribou herd and will work collaboratively to ensure the future of the herd and protect the interests of all parties.

4.3 Renewable Resources Boards as Member of the NWT Board Forum

Following the presentations given by the RRB's, forum members had a discussion on the inclusion of the RRB's as permanent members of the NWT Board Forum. Both the SRRB and WRRB accepted the invitation to join the NWT Board Forum as permanent members. Forum members agreed that it would be beneficial to have the RRB's as permanent members of the Board Forum. Many felt that it would be advantageous to have the RRB's unique perspective as an added impetus to the discussions held at the

Board Forum, especially when dealing with the caribou issue in the NWT and there was a round of spontaneous applause welcoming the new members of the Board Forum.

Due to their absence, the Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board's inclusion in the Board Forum would be conditional upon their formal acceptance. (Note – the Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board has subsequently confirmed that they would like to be members of the NWT Board Forum. The Gwich'in Renewable Resources Board will be encouraged to make a presentation at the next Board Forum.)

5.0 Review of Board Forum Terms of Reference

As required by the Board Forum's Terms of Reference, the terms of reference are to be reviewed annually. As a result of discussion by the Board Forum, the following amendments to the terms of reference were approved:

Membership

The membership section of the terms of reference was to be amended to include the Chairs and Executive Directors of the Sahtu, Wek'eezhii, and Gwich'in (conditional to their confirmation) Renewable Resources Boards as full time members.

The paragraph within the revised Board Forum Terms of Reference explaining the inclusion of the RRB's will mention them by their respective land claims. This approach was agreed upon because it would read cleaner than listing the specific RRB's.

The revised terms of reference are presented in *Appendix D*.

6.0 Presentations and Updates

During the two days of the Board Forum, there were a number of presentations and updates on matters of interest to the Boards. The following presentations were provided:

- Strategic Planning/Business Planning Update – Vern Christensen
- Regional Regulatory Improvement Initiative – Stephen Van Dine
- Consultation Update/Status of Policy & Regional Engagement Initiative Julie Jackson
- Board Appointments Update – Stephen Van Dine
- Federal Accountability Act Update – Stephen Van Dine
- Valued Component Thresholds Project Update – Vern Christensen
- NWT Environmental Audit Update – Eric Yaxley
- International Polar Year Update – Tom Beaulieu

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|---|--|
| • Communications Activities Update – | Allison Blackduck &
Jennifer Moores |
| • Conflict of Interest Overview – | John Donihee |
| • Introduction to NEB: Roles, Responsibilities, & Regulatory Approaches | Jann Atkinson |
| • MGP Crown Consultation Update – | Chris Loewen |
| • MGP Regulatory Coordination Update – | Brian Chambers |

Each presentation is summarized below, along with a summary of key discussion points and action items determined by the Board Chairs. Copies of Power Point presentations which are available are found in *Appendix C*.

6.1 Strategic Planning/Business Update – Vern Christensen

Vern Christensen (MVEIRB Executive Director) provided an update on the strategic and business planning initiative. The Board Forum had directed the working group over a year ago to develop tools for members to use in their strategic and business planning. The working group consists of Elizabeth Snider, Wanda Anderson, Allison Blackduck, Vern Christensen and Eric Yaxley. The working group also worked directly with Elevate Consultants on this task. The impetus for developing these tools originated from the Office of the Auditor General (OAG) Report that was released in April 2005, which recommended that Boards needed to work on their strategic and business planning, as well as their results reporting. This initiative is one part of a two part plan. The second part is to develop a rational budget approval process. Planning and reporting is done in cycles, from strategic planning all the way to evaluation and annual reporting. Some of the tools that have been created include workbooks, templates, and examples for strategic planning, business planning, and annual reporting. Drafts of the strategic planning documents were given to Board Forum members. Once finalized (hopefully by August 2007) they will be periodically updated.

The Environmental Scan and Workload Analysis document for the NWT Board Planning Process was completed in November 2006, and is available to all Board Forum members. If any of the Boards require an explanation or assistance with this document, INAC has offered the services of Rhian Christie of INAC Communications.

Discussion

There was some concern expressed by some of the members with respect to the latest federal budget, and how money has been allocated for this kind of planning. There was anxiety on how the budget might change this process considerably. Members wanted to know what INAC's objective was for this initiative. INAC acknowledged the importance of the report from the OAG and hoped that all boards could reach a certain level of strategic planning.

6.2 Regional Regulatory Improvement Initiative – Stephen Van Dine

Stephen Van Dine of INAC HQ reminded Board Forum members of the OAG presentation he gave earlier at the April 2006 Board Forum. It was in this previous presentation that the Northern Regulatory Improvement Initiative was first mentioned to members. Mr. Van Dine noted how this Initiative had three themes and this framework was useful in securing some funding out of Ottawa. This was despite the fact that the current fiscal climate in Ottawa is one of constraint, with an expenditure review process which is ongoing.

He noted some of the deliverables from this initiative including: the strategic planning program, Board training needs assessment, Board training manuals, an assessment of how INAC provides its services to Boards and how the regional office and HQ is internally organized. Another part of this initiative looked at possible future funding models for the Boards. It has been recognized previously that the ten year funding models are static, and as such are not realistic or responsive and need to be reformed. Another of the limitations is that some Boards get their funding through contribution agreements, others under flexible transfer arrangements. These often do not take into account the annual workloads of the Boards. The Berger Report in Nunavut also identified that Boards in that territory have static funding arrangements, and suggested that this is a real problem. A report detailing the findings of possible funding arrangements, being undertaken by Terriplan Consultants, is just about finished, and INAC is looking forward to having a frank discussion with the Boards and their staff on how to deal with the recommendations coming out of this report.

In terms of the Joint Examination Project, the review was completed and submitted in December 2006. The project examined all of the Mackenzie Valley agreements and compared them to the MVRMA for duplication, ambiguity, and consistency. The Minister of INAC spoke of the need to assemble all of the signatories to the land claim agreements to discuss what should be done to advance some of the elements of the process. The finished report was sent to all claimants, industry, and unsettled areas.

Mr. Van Dine explained how he had been invited to speak at the Cordillera Exploration Conference, to provide industry with an overview of the OAG report and how INAC was proceeding. Two observations that he made at the conference were: first that there is a lot of misinformation in industry forums with respects to what the co-management process is all about and how ministerial appointments work; and secondly, there were reoccurring questions from industry on timeliness and standardization. He reported that industry wondered if there is a way that the regulatory system could become more performance based, and structured around timelines.

A new issue of the INAC publication *Plain Talk* will be distributed any day now. The publication is used to communicate to the general public with respects to land claims and the regulatory system. The issue will also detail what has been happening in regards to the OAG's recommendations and the Board Forum. It will also take the opportunity to remind the public where the institutions of public government came from.

Mr. Van Dine explained that in terms of emerging opportunities, the 2007 budget indicated that there would be \$60 million dollars invested in the creation of a Major Projects Management Office which will be established to streamline the review of large natural resource projects. With this investment the Government seeks to cut in half the average regulatory review period from approximately four years to about two years. The creation of the Major Projects Management Office would be spearheaded by NRCan. The concept of such an office has a south of 60 perspective, and is also in response to an

industry concern that government isn't organized for big projects. INAC has been working closely with NRCan on this project.

Mr. Van Dine noted that INAC also wants to bring some precision to the questions surrounding the "not so recent Schuler decision" and the potential loop between preliminary screening and environmental assessment and back again. With respect to the Canada Oil and Gas Act (COGOA), INAC is trying to put together some thoughts on how to deal with a number of specific regulatory questions that need to be addressed. Mr. Van Dine reminded members that the Board Forum members were invited to join the Privy Council on a regulation directive in October 2005; this has recently been issued by cabinet and is available on the Privy Council website. The directive is now guiding all federal initiatives on how the Government of Canada regulates. There is a long term implementation plan for this as well. The Canada School of Public Service is also working on curriculum for a modern approach to regulation; this will be made available to the Board Forum members when it is completed.

Another emerging opportunity is the International Polar Year (IPY). There is funding available for IPY work and it is important that Board Forum members anticipate the impact of it on Northern Boards. With more researchers in the field, including many from other countries, there will be impacts on Boards. Kathleen Fischer, Executive Director from the IPY federal office also indicated that there is an opportunity for scientists to talk to Northern Boards about the scientific work they have proposed or have been doing. Mr. Van Dine suggested that if Boards aren't aware of the work scientists are doing, they can't develop effective terms and conditions for them. There also is an opportunity for IPY 2007-2008 to create a legacy for co-management in terms of research.

The "relationships workshop" planned for the fall has not been scheduled yet, but Mr. Van Dine will be meeting with Vern Christensen in June to discuss. It was recognized that a talk about shared issues and interests is overdue and that it is time to devote more energy toward this.

Discussion

It was noted that the opportunities associated with IPY are good, however in one member's experience a lot of the burden associated with IPY lands on the shoulders of the Hunters and Trapper's Committees. He suggested that it should be the Boards, rather than HTC's, that deal with scientists.

A member noted that there was a similar "relationships workshop" facilitated by Gartner Lee Consultants in October 2005. One of its recommendations was that there should be an annual review with Regulatory Authorities (RA's) and Screening Committees. With respects to relationships, a member mentioned that the development of a higher forum for discussion, including the signatories of the MVRMA, should be developed.

There was a suggestion that the MVRMA needs a champion, someone who could ensure that the Act is accomplishing what it set out to do in the first place. He suggested that a mechanism be put into place to do this. INAC recognized the need to create a forum where the signatories of the land claim agreements could come together to have these important conversations, and noted that this had been identified through the Joint Examination Project. The relationship building report, prepared by Terriplan Consultants, is under final review, it is expected that there will be five or six recommendations for different funding arrangements that will come out of the report.

With respects to all the recent INAC regulatory initiatives in the north, a member asked what would happen if devolution were to happen. In responding it was noted that there are two schools thought for this answer, the first being that nothing would be done, and the northern governments would deal with the issues. The second is that if an agreement in principle (AIP) is reached, it would allow for milestones, and allow for some concentrated work between the AIP and final agreement. This would provide a window for collaborative efforts to take place so that operational kinks could be worked out. INAC suspected that there is such a window available between an AIP and final agreement; the question is how this time is used, who is involved, and what it costs.

There was concern expressed by some of the Board Forum members that they didn't understand what the drivers were for creating strategic and business plans. It was recommended that government do a better job in packaging where they will be moving in the future.

Members were pleased that INAC was talking to industry at the Cordillera Conference in Vancouver, but expressed some worry about some of the Minister's past comments about the regulatory system in the north. (e.g. regulatory "spider web"). It was suggested that the Minister should be told that progress is being made and the timing issues are not necessarily with the northern Boards, and that he should also look at the federal regulators. It was noted that the Minister has set a context for improvement in the northern regulatory system and that he is also interested in speaking with the signatories of the land claims.

6.3 Consultation Update / Status of Policy and Regional Engagement Initiative – Julie Jackson

An update was provided by Julie Jackson of INAC on section 35 Crown Consultation, and regional engagement initiative. Ms. Jackson explained that in terms of context, the Government of Canada continues to develop a national consultation policy, but in the interim there is a need for a proactive, coordinated approach in the NWT to deal with projects and non-pipeline related Crown Consultation issues. The goal is to provide clarity to government officials, Aboriginal people and interested third parties.

In April 2006, INAC responded to the Board Forum's request for clarification on roles and responsibilities in regards to section 35 Crown Consultation. There were concerns expressed from the Boards on who/what constitutes "the Crown." In the summer of 2006 INAC, the MVLWB, and the MVERIB met to discuss the issue, and to focus on ways to move forward. During the fall and winter of 2006/07 INAC and the MVLWB worked together to identify roles associated with INAC's "Interim Approach" and developed procedural guidelines for implementing this approach. This work continues. The goal of the Interim Approach is to meet the Crown's legal duty to consult with (and where appropriate, accommodate) Aboriginal groups, avoid duplication with existing consultation processes, and respect accommodations reached through negotiation processes.

Ms. Jackson described how the NWT Interim Approach framework will look at the procedural aspects of consultation that already occur, and do additional Crown consultation as required, encourage industry to engage early on in consultation, take into account industry engagement, and the Crown assesses

adequacy of S.35 consultation, taking into account the procedural aspects of consultation already done by the MVLWB and the MVEIRB if relevant.

Currently INAC, the MVLWB and the MVERIB are working together to determine roles and responsibilities; INAC and the Boards are also communicating regularly to look at permit applications on a case-by-case basis. INAC and the MVRMA Boards are seeking input from Aboriginal representatives, industry, GNWT and other federal departments through meetings or through direct contacts with INAC. Some of the products under development or planned for this fiscal year includes:

- procedural guidelines for INAC-NWT staff
- guidelines for communication about Crown Consultation (in collaboration with the MVLWB),
- the MVLWB revising and updating their guidelines for industry (in collaboration with INAC), and
- the production of an information brochure and information on the INAC website about Crown Consultation.

In terms of next steps, there will be continued work with the Boards to fine-tune the proposed policy and formalize the procedures as much as possible. Meetings will continue to be held with Aboriginal representatives and others for more input. Internal resources to support the increased demands for S.35 Crown Consultation will be identified, non-MVRMA consultation processes will be addressed, and there will be collaboration and coordination with other federal departments and the GNWT.

Discussion

One attendant asked why these consultation issues were occurring in unsettled areas. Ms. Jackson answered that the reason for this is the fact that they do not have a settled land claim. Settled areas usually have provisions in their land claims on how to undertake consultation.

A member noted that when industry submits their applications the Board expects them to keep a chronology of who they met with and consulted within the affected communities, stating that, "industry has to do their part in the consultation process".

Ms. Jackson was asked if she envisioned a day where there would be a section in future land or water applications that would have Aboriginal groups authorizing whether the Crown had done their duty to consult. She answered that although this would be beneficial to Aboriginal groups, the courts have also asserted that Aboriginal Groups do not have veto powers.

Members inquired on how this initiative lined up with the Government of Canada approach. It was noted that the federal Government of Canada consultation policy could take another year or more to be completed; the NWT approach is linked to this broader federal initiative but it is considerably more advanced.

It was noted that there are some consultation issues that come up which are not due to MVRMA processes, such as impact benefit agreements, and that these are negotiated between Aboriginal groups and private industry without necessarily any involvement of the regulator or government.

6.4 Board Appointments Update – Stephen Van Dine

Stephen Van Dine presented on the northern appointments management framework. He noted that appropriately, Board appointments are an ongoing Board Forum agenda item. After the November 2006 Board Forum, wherein there was considerable concern expressed by several Boards, INAC assembled together members of all of the different parts of the department who had a role with appointments. INAC officials were assembled from the Yukon, NWT, Nunavut, headquarters and the corporate secretariat. The assembled team then began to work on ways to put together a better management practice. Mr. Van Dine noted that this is a work in progress and will have to continue into the future.

The Federal Accountability Act provides new guidance on how appointments should be done. It was noted that the Treasury Board is responsible for the Accountability Act, and that a representative of Treasury Board will be invited to the next Board Forum.

Mr. Van Dine described how the northern appointments management framework is based on the Treasury Board of Canada's Management Accountability Framework, developed for deputy heads and all public service managers. In order to ensure timely appointments, INAC will use all the tools at its disposal. This could include: nomination protocols, advertising strategies, candidate pools, interim Board appointments, an appointments website, and standardized forms and documents. Mr. Van Dine noted that the website will be publicly available, and will advertise every appointment in a transparent manner. He also summarized the appointments process and criteria.

Discussion

It was noted that there could have been a mix up with appointments and nominations, as one Board Forum member indicated that although the statistic reads that 25% of all appointments are made from Canada, his full board of 5 were all appointed by the Government of Canada. There was clarification that 25% is the percentage of members nominated and appointed by Canada. There was concern from one attendee that the presentation was too MVRMA "centric." From INAC's perspective, it was noted that they had made an internal acknowledgement that their work on Board appointments could be improved. The Accountability Act also meant that the appointments process and names needed to be much more transparent.

Members recommended that because of the extreme problems caused by the lack of a quorum, INAC look into possibly having alternate Board members, as some of the Renewable Resources Boards do this.

There was discussion on the staggered appointment suggestion that Charlie Snowshoe had made at a past board forum. This idea was indeed taken back to INAC headquarters, but unfortunately for the Mackenzie Valley Boards, there are aspects in the legislation itself that describe specific terms, and in that respect INAC is handcuffed with respect to allowing for staggered appointments. Mr. Van Dine noted that if the MVRMA was ever opened for amendments then there could be specific amendments made to allow for this.

6.5 Federal Accountability Act Update – Stephen Van Dine

An update on the Federal Accountability Act was given by Stephen Van Dine. He described how the goal of the Act is to promote accountability and transparency, establish clear roles and responsibilities, reduce barriers that inhibit access to government, and provide balance between oversight and flexibility. The Act attempts to instil checks and balances of accountability, it promotes transparency, and the value of an “outside” view. He noted that implementation of the Act has the potential of impacting the Boards in ways which include: the Conflicts of Interests Act, a strengthened role of the Agent of Parliament, an expanded coverage of the Access to Information Act, an opening of the process for government appointments, financial costs to implement, and the establishment of a Public Appointments Commission.

The mandate of the Public Appointments Commission will be to establish guidelines to govern selection processes for Governor in Council appointments. It is designed to approve the selection processes proposed by Ministers to fill Board vacancies. The Commission will monitor, review and evaluate selection processes to ensure that they are implemented as approved. It will also submit an annual report to the Prime Minister on the Government’s, describing the performance in following the guidelines.

The draft guiding principles of the Public Appointments Commission are:

- managing vacancies on a timely basis;
- ensuring transparency;
- ensuring fairness;
- recruiting on the basis of competency/merit;
- reflecting representativeness and diversity;
- providing adequate orientation and learning;
- assessing performance; and,
- ensuring due diligence.

6.6 Valued Component Thresholds Project Update – Vern Christensen

An update on the valued component (VC) thresholds project was given by Vern Christensen. He described the needs of the resource management Boards for relevant and readily accessible cumulative effects (CE) information and sustainability thresholds. He suggested that this is essential to properly assess valued components that may be impacted by a proposed development. In spite of the investments being made by governments and industry to collect cumulative effects information for various valued components, relevant and readily accessible information is not always available to northern resource management Boards.

Mr. Christensen noted that better information means better decisions. There are a number of agencies who can help address this issue, including: industry, Aboriginal organizations, federal and territorial governments, the NWT Board Forum, academia, and the NWT CIMP and CEAMF working groups.

The project’s objectives are:

- to take stock of previous work done by others;
- review current VC thresholds and their use in the NWT;
- raise awareness of the need for VC thresholds and readily accessible CE information;

- identify VC thresholds that are of highest priority to resource management Boards;
- identify possible implementation strategies; and,
- facilitate stakeholder consensus on a collaborative implementation plan.

The Environmental Science Research Fund Management Committee, administered by the NEB, has approved a budget of \$70,000 to carry out this project in 2007/08. A further \$30,000 of funding is anticipated in 2008/09.

There are two phases of project deliverables. The first phase is a discussion paper to raise awareness of the issue with stakeholders, and to provide a “road map” to assist with a way forward. The second phase will be a facilitated stakeholder workshop to discuss the need for relevant thresholds and readily accessible CE information; it will also be used to develop a three year implementation plan targeted at priority VCs. The plan is that the workshop report will be ready by the fall of 2008.

Discussion

A spokesman for the Gwich'in Land Use Planning Board noted that they would have some valuable contributions to this process, and would be happy to participate in it.

A member recommended that funding should also come from the diamond mining companies for this type of initiative.

It was identified that the project doesn't make any mention of human contaminants and that this should be included in the initiative.

6.7 NWT Environmental Audit Update – Eric Yaxley

An update on the NWT Environmental Audit was given by Eric Yaxley. In December 2006, INAC's Environment and Conservation Division of the Renewable Resources and Environment Directorate resumed the lead role in the audit process. To date, an emphasis has been placed on consultation with the directly affected parties through the NWT CIMP and the Audit Working Group. The first step in the process was reaching consensus on which organization had the lead for each of the 50 audit recommendations. This resulted in INAC being the lead on 14 recommendations and a joint/multi party lead for 29 of the recommendations; the remaining recommendations were identified with “another agency” as the lead.

The next step in the process is for all parties to provide an audit recommendation analysis, including a list of the top 10 priority recommendations. The analysis responses will be compiled for discussion at the next working group meeting, tentatively scheduled for mid May or early June. Mr. Yaxley reported that David Livingstone or another member of the NWT audit team should be available at the fall 2007 Board Forum to provide a more comprehensive update.

6.8 International Polar Year Update – Tom Beaulieu

Tom Beaulieu, from GNWT ENR gave a brief update on the International Polar Year (IPY). In the fall of 2006, NSERC awarded funding to 11 IPY projects for a total of \$6 million dollars. On March 1, 2007 the federal government announced the approval of \$150 million dollars for IPY. Approximately \$80 million of this will be used to fund 44 IPY projects, with the balance directed at education, communication, outreach and capacity building, data management and logistics. Approximately 24 of these 44 projects will be conducted in whole or in part in the NWT. The NWT IPY Communications Planning Workshop was held in Inuvik on March 6-7, 2007. This workshop confirmed the location and operation of the IPY Northern Node as the Aurora Research Institute and also confirmed IPY communication needs, approaches, and implementation. GNWT IPY communication plans have been developed. These focus on communications for international and national scientists and researchers, and communities and Aboriginal organizations. There also has been an identification of GNWT science interests for IPY and beyond. Mr. Beaulieu suggested that the GNWT needs to ensure that IPY activities will, to the extent possible, address research and information needs within the GNWT.

The next steps in the process are to monitor projects which have field research teams in the NWT as well as play a role in community consultations. The GNWT will also consult with the Aurora Research Institute on requests for research licenses. As of April 12, 2007 two research teams have entered the NWT and these are entitled the Alaska-Canada Barren Lands Traverse, and the IPY Circumpolar Flaw Lead Systems Study.

Mr. Beaulieu concluded by promising that there will be a status report on the IPY presented at the next meeting of the Board Forum.

6.9 Communication Activities Update – Allison Blackduck & Jennifer Moores

Allison Blackduck and Jennifer Moores have both been working on the proposed Board Forum website. They gave an online demonstration of this website to Board Forum members. They described how the communications working group had met and discussed ways in which the Board Forum could have a better public profile. Developing a website became a priority to accomplish this increased public presence. The Board Forum website has been designed as a portal that would direct users to the individual web pages of the Boards that make up the forum. The home page of the website provides a background which describes the Board Forum and explains the genesis of the Boards and their co-management nature. The homepage also provides links to the specific Board websites. For example, it presents a 2 or 3 sentence summary of what the specific organization is and where they're located, such as the Inuvialuit Game Council or the Inuvialuit Joint Secretariat.

The website also demonstrates the settled and non-settled regions of the NWT. Information located on the web site is directed at the public that isn't familiar with the Board Forum, and thus is relatively generic in nature. The website would also have a "member's only area." This secure section could house resource documents for the benefit of Board Forum members. There are many possibilities for other interactive sections for the website, including: an upcoming events section, and a link to a website for the contact information for Aboriginal leadership in each NWT community.

A CD version of the website was given to all Board Forum members. Currently, the website itself is stored on Kellet Communication's in-house server. The presenters asked for feedback of Board Forum members on the website, a survey was passed around to facilitate this process.

Discussion

One member felt that the Website didn't look unique enough; whereas most others felt that it really stood out, had great northern pictures, flair and was quite effective. There was quite a bit of positive feedback to Ms. Blackduck and Ms. Moores. In terms of continued funding for this initiative, a spokesperson for the Board Relations Secretariat at INAC stated that they would have to look into this matter.

A member felt that it would be beneficial to have the website up and running by the time of the NWT Geosciences Fair. It was recommended that the site should be running for at least a month ahead of time so that it is working well before going public. Those involved in the website were also asked to focus on the long term including the issue of who would be running the site in the long term. The communications working group have looked into having the site hosted by Tamarack in Yellowknife. Members suggested that the working group should approach the IT person with the MVLWB, Rob Dobson, as his work might be very similar and could augment the task of the Working Group.

Action Items

- Board Members should have their comments on the website back to the communications working group by June 15th
- Once comments are received by the communications working group they should prepare a website proposal for the Board Forum working group.
- The website should have a link to the Northern Gas Project Secretariat (NGPS) website.

6.10 Conflict of Interest Overview – John Donihee

John Donihee provided a presentation on conflict of interest and apprehension of bias. He described Boards as part of the executive branch of the government, and as such they act in the public interest in various roles as both advisors and decision-makers. He emphasized that Boards that are making decisions on resource management which affect the rights and interests of a number of parties must run a fair process. Any decision made must be made in a manner that is neutral and unbiased, and also appears to be so.

In terms of legislation with respects to conflict of interest and bias, the MVRMA s.16 prohibits a board member from acting while in a "material conflict of interest." The GNWT has a *Conflict of Interest Act* which indicates that Boards need to avoid "conflict of interest." Mr. Donihee stated that it is inappropriate if not illegal for a decision maker to act while in a conflict of interest. The rules against bias require a great deal of caution. A decision maker must be free of real or direct bias but also free from any apprehension or appearance of bias. The dictionary defines bias as "a predisposition or prejudice." The apprehension of bias concept is much wider than that of a conflict of interest. The real question in a legal context is whether the circumstances point, both realistically and substantially, to either the real likelihood or a reasonable suspicion of bias. When a Board is dealing with an application which will lead to a hearing, the test applied to the Board is whether there likely to be reasonable apprehension of bias.

Mr. Donihee noted that if conflict of interest or bias is proven; the remedy is quashing the Board's decision. The decision then becomes void and the proceeding must be reinitiated from the beginning. This could mean significant delays and significant costs. The bylaws and code of conduct established for a particular Board must address this possibility. A difficult issue can arise if a Board member has a bias or conflict of interest but refuses to step aside, this problem is magnified in the co-management context as the requirement for a quorum also mandates that a certain number of government vs. Aboriginal nominees be part of the Board hearing the information, in order to make their decision a valid decision. Where a problem is evident but is not acknowledged, the Board must act to protect the integrity of its proceedings and reputation.

The rules of fairness and the rule against bias protect the integrity of the administrative decision-making system. Any concern about conflict of interest or bias can and should be discussed with legal counsel. Avoiding these problems requires vigilance and the establishment of an ethical framework for Board governance.

Discussion

There was discussion about the difficulty of avoiding bias due to the living conditions of the north, especially within the small communities that Board members live in. This difficulty can be managed; if it is difficult to avoid apprehension of bias, for example, there might be some value in not appointing a particular person to the panel. A member asked if there was a way to manage this through the Board's policies. Mr. Donihee responded that it can be managed through policies and careful adherence to those policies he suggested that in general disclosure is the best way to manage these things.

A member wanted to know more about the government side as an intervenor, and the considerations that they have to make when they participate in the Board's processes. Mr. Donihee responded that the government (both federal and territorial) will appear as an intervenor, Boards cannot do without them and their Minister makes the decision at the end of the day. The argument in the courts would be that the Minister's decision would be separate from the review itself, and that the Minister could get advice from whomever he or she wants.

One member asked if there had been any cases where individuals had been implicated for being biased in the NWT, and if so, who monitors and enforces it, and what is the punishment? The response was that it is every Board member's responsibility that the process runs smoothly. Under the MVRMA there is a condition to supervise these courts. In the NWT there is a process called judicial review, wherein the NWT court would review the whole decision process and make a ruling. He noted that a person, including a Board member, implicated for being biased would not face jail time.

6.11 Introduction to the NEB: Roles, Responsibilities, & Regulatory Approaches – Jann Atkinson

Jann Atkinson gave a presentation on the roles, responsibilities and regulatory approaches of the National Energy Board. She described how the NEB is an independent tribunal established in 1959 and that it reports to Parliament through the Minister of Natural Resources (NRCan). The head and only office is in Calgary, Alberta. The regulatory mandate of the NEB is for the construction and operation of

inter-provincial and international pipelines and international power lines, for transportation, tolls and tariffs, international trade in oil, gas and electricity, and frontier oil and gas exploration and production activities. Ms. Atkinson noted that the NEB regulates over 45,000 Km of pipeline. The purpose of the NEB is to promote safety, security, environmental protection and efficient energy infrastructure and markets.

In terms of Board appointments, there can be up to nine Board members appointed by the Governor in Council. There may be up to six temporary members as well, subject to terms and conditions set by Governor in Council. There are currently approximately 250 employees of the NEB.

She described regulations of the NEB Act as follows:

- onshore pipelines;
- processing plants;
- electricity;
- cost recovery;
- submerged pipeline; and,
- damage prevention.

She described four regulatory approaches: goal oriented regulations, SMART conditions, management systems, and a life cycle approach. Goal oriented regulations place the focus on results, instead of the 'how.' SMART conditions are: Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Trackable. A management system is a systematic, explicit and comprehensive process to manage risks that contains documented policies and procedures. This system is recognized as the most effective way to manage hazards and support a culture of continual improvement. The life cycle approach takes into account the various stages from planning to abandonment (end of life cycle).

Ms. Atkinson noted that the NEB does not have its own source of participant funding for hearings, although the Board is looking at amending the Acts to provide this authority. The NEB participates in a research fund program entitled the Environmental Studies Research Fund (ESRF). This fund finances environmental and socio-economic studies to support regulation of oil and gas activities on frontier lands (offshore East Coast, NWT, and Nunavut). The program has been in place since the mid-1980's, with 140 studies completed to date. The web link is: www.esrfunds.org. Some of the northern priorities for 2008 include: seismic issues, socio-economic concerns, exploration and production waste management, effects of new transportation infrastructure, oil and gas industry effects of protected species and places, and cumulative effects assessment in land-use planning. Some of the ongoing working issues for the NEB include: updating their regulations, small pipelines, air quality and greenhouse gas emissions, regulatory coordination, best practices, codes of practice, and monitoring.

Discussion

There was some discussion on the NEB's monitoring process with respect to the integrity of permafrost and the proposed move to a goal-based style of regulatory requirement. As a regulator, the NEB would ask a company to demonstrate how it has complied with the regulation, such as how they have ensured

the integrity of the permafrost. Casing design would be looked at during the application process and the NEB also has inspectors that check to make sure the company is complying.

6.12 MGP Crown Consultation Update – Chris Loewen

An overview of the MGP Crown Consultation Unit (CCU) was given by Chris Loewen. Canada has a legal duty to consult with respect to potential adverse impacts of the proposed MGP on existing and asserted Aboriginal and Treaty rights. The CCU was established to coordinate and facilitate consultations between federal government departments and Aboriginal groups who would like to express their concerns to Canada. The CCU listens and documents these concerns, and coordinates information related to consultation activities from other processes such as the Joint Review Panel and NEB hearings.

Mr. Loewen described the approach that the CCU takes as follows: to work with community leadership, attend community meetings, follow up and share information with the communities, use appropriate visual aides at meetings, ensure translation is provided, and most of all ensure flexibility. Some of the challenges that the CCU face include: coordinating meetings between communities and several federal departments, limited capacity particularly within Aboriginal groups and communities, misunderstandings with respect to consultation and mistrust. The information from consultations will be used to inform federal decision making on the MGP. Mr. Loewen described how the CCU has arranged and held consultation meetings in all the NWT regions.

Discussion

The presenter was reminded that the health and social impacts of the proposed MGP would be enormous. A forum member noticed that Health Canada was not mentioned in the presentation, and suggested that the department should be included in this work.

A member asked how large the consultation unit is, and how it provides funding. Mr. Loewen answered that the CCU is not a big department, there are only 5 employees, and that the CCU basically acts as a secretariat. Much of the work is done by representatives of the federal departments who work directly with the CCU, prepare or review documents and draft presentations and attend community meetings arranged by the CCU. In terms of funding, the CCU will provide funding to communities for consultations if need be, but the Pipeline Readiness Office at INAC usually handles this.

A member asked what will happen to the CCU after a decision is made on whether or not the pipeline will go ahead. Mr. Loewen responded that the CCU is focused on this aspect of the project, and cannot speculate on what will happen after a decision is made. The CCU will not be making any recommendations or proclamations; rather, they will continue to put all of the results of the consultations together into their reports to inform federal decision making on the MGP.

6.13 MGP Regulatory Coordination Update – Brian Chambers

Brian Chambers provided the Board Forum with an update on MGP regulatory coordination. As a background, Mr. Chambers recounted how the Cooperation Plan was released in 2002 and the Regulatory Agreement was finalized in 2004. The timelines for this plan have been extended, and the

parties to the plan still remain in cooperation. The principle of the plan was to bring together all of the northern regulators to prepare for the review of the MGP and to minimize duplication or redundancy. Mr. Chambers noted that although the timelines have changed, the principles remain.

Mr. Chambers provided a timeline for the public hearing phases of the MGP review. The public hearings started in January 2006. The NEB held 60 days of hearings in the NWT during 2006/07 and they now wait for the JRP hearing process to finish. The JRP have held 80 days of hearings in the NWT over this past year, including days in Whitehorse, Edmonton and High Level, Alberta as well as in the NWT.

The MGP Regulatory Steering Committee includes members from signatories to the Cooperation Plan as well as some others. The regulatory groups are looking to maximize their efficiencies and harmonize conditions for authorizations required by the MGP. This work is ongoing in preparation for review by the northern Boards themselves. The Steering Committee is also involved with the MGP Regulatory Agency Process Mapping Project, which provides information on how agencies will review the MGP, and how they will deal with processing permits. The mapping project is effectively a website, which includes a list of the signatories to the regulators agreement, a general overview of the process, and also provides an overview and details of the process maps. The website, although not public yet, will allow for industry and the public to look into milestones, steps and regulatory activities of the proposed MGP. It contains very detailed information. The user would also be able to determine, agency by agency, where particular permits would fit into the sequencing requirements. The goal of the website is to make information available to the regulators, intervenors, and the general public. It will also help ensure that the review is transparent.

Mr. Chambers speculated that the JRP hearings will probably end the fall of 2007, after the Panel completes hearings on cumulative effects, recommendations, and final remarks. The Joint Review Panel has already apparently received over 1,500 recommendations. Another important consideration is that the proponent will be submitting additional information this month (May 2007). He pointed out that the last time this occurred, it resulted in the postponement of a number of hearings. Following the JRP hearings, the JRP will draft its report and submit that report to the Government of Canada. Once the government response is provided, the NEB will reconvene its hearings. Following final argument, an NEB decision will be made on the issue of a Certificate of Public Convenience, which requires a Cabinet decision. According to the timeline outlined in the Cooperation Plan, there will be approximately a six month period where regulatory hearings and approvals are needed and some of these authorizations will require Ministerial approval.

Discussion

It was noted that the regulatory process mapping initiative has taken a lot of time and joint effort, and that there is a lot of value added to the initiative that is applicable to the review process, not just the MGP but for other development projects in the NWT. A participant noted that the regulatory mapping provides ways to maximize efficiency regardless of what the project might be.

A member wanted to know where the Land Use Planning Boards fit into this process. Mr. Chambers noted that there are other entities that are not signatories to the regulators agreement, but have a regulatory role to play in the process. The LUP's are referenced in the process maps, but are not mapped out in detail in terms of the internal processes of the Land Use Planning Boards. Another

example is Health Canada, who is referenced in the process maps, but their internal processes are not described in the regulatory maps. He concluded by noting that the website isn't public yet, but hopefully will be in the next few months, as it is being shown to each individual regulator first and is undergoing some last minute tweaking. There was a recommendation that the input of the Land Use Planning Boards be included in the process.

7.0 Priority Areas and Action Items

Over the course of the two-day Board Forum, participants raised issues and/or opportunities of common interest. These have been noted in this report in the respective sections under the heading Discussion. Members of the Board Forum identified a number of priority areas for immediate attention by the Board Forum Working Group made up of the Executive Directors of the MVLWB, MVEIRB, Inuvialuit Joint Secretariat, and representatives from the GNWT and the BRS. In addition, there were some action items identified for INAC. These priority action items are shown on the following table.

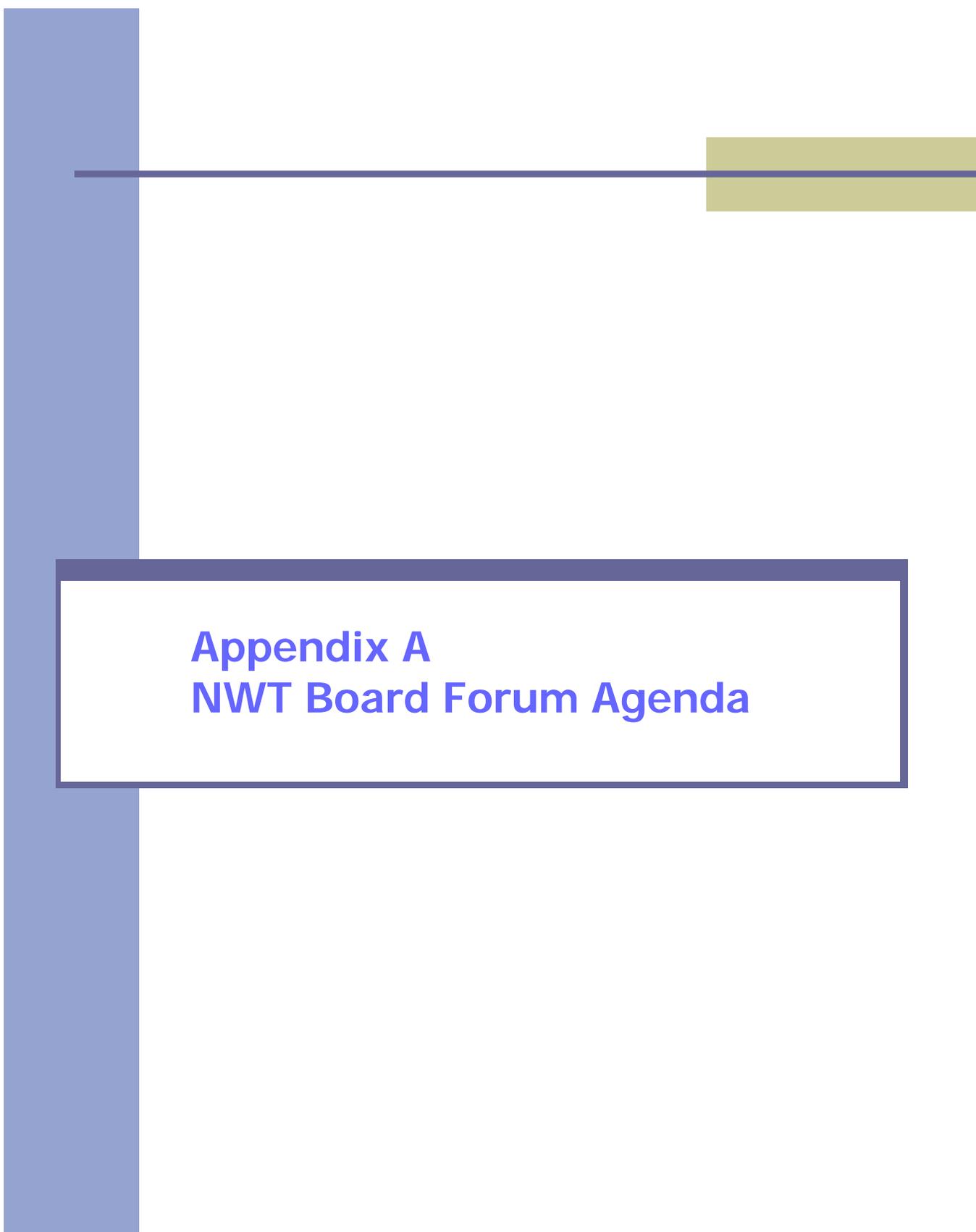
Table 2: Action Items

Agenda Item	Action Item
<i>Progress Report on NWT Board Forum Workplan</i>	Board Chairs and Executive Directors to meet and discuss the possibility of a joint statement of research priorities
	The Mining Association of Canada and the Canadian Aboriginal Mineral Association will be invited to speak at the next Board Forum, working group to follow-up
	Bob Bailey (GNWT) and/or Bernie Hughes (INAC) are to coordinate on getting details in regards to the November 24, 2006 Environment Canada / CCME / GNWT Municipal waste water consultation in Yellowknife and will distribute this information to Board Forum representatives.
<i>Board Forum Terms of Reference</i>	The membership section of the terms of reference will be amended to include the Chairs and Executive Directors of the Sahtu, Wek'eezhii, and Gwich'in (the latter conditional on its confirmation) Renewable Resources Boards as full time members.
	The paragraph explaining the inclusion of the RRB's will mention them by their land claims. This approach was agreed upon because it would read cleaner then listing the specific RRB's.
<i>Communication Activities Update</i>	Board Members should have their comments on the website back to the communications working group by June 15 th
	Once comments are received by the communications working group they should prepare a website proposal for the Board Forum working group.

Agenda Item	Action Item
	The website should have a link to the Northern Gas Project Secretariat (NGPS) website.
<i>Next Meeting</i>	To be hosted by the Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board, in Yellowknife and tentatively in the last week of September 2007.

8.0 Next Board Forum Meeting

The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board has offered to host the next NWT Board Forum Meeting in Yellowknife. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for the last week of September 2007. The Working Group will assist the MVEIRB in coordinating the meeting date and location.



Appendix A
NWT Board Forum Agenda

Final Version April 30, 2007

Board Forum Agenda

May 2 – 4, 2007

Royal Canadian Legion

Norman Wells, NT

DAY 1 – May 2

2:45 Introductions – Facilitator Ricki Hurst of Terriplan

Welcome – Larry Wallace, Host, Sahtu Land and Water Board

Opening Prayer

Opening Remarks, Round Table – Chairs (60 minutes)

Update from last Forum – Working Group (VC, EY, WA, NS, TB)

4:00 Health Break

Overview of Composition, Mandate and Activities - Renewable Resources Boards

Discussion - Renewable Resources Boards as members of the NWT Board Forum

Board Forum – review of Terms of Reference (Revised)

Strategic Planning/Business Planning Update – Vern Christensen

6:00 Dinner/Social Function – Royal Canadian Legion

DAY 2 – May 3

8:30 Highlights from previous day – Ricki Hurst

Consultation Update/Status of Policy & Regional Engagement Initiative – Julie Jackson

Board Appointments update – Stephen Van Dine

Valued Components Thresholds Project Update – Vern Christensen

10:15 Health Break

Regional Regulatory Improvement Initiative (i.e. follow up to OAG Report, and an update on Participant Funding) – Stephen Van Dine

NWT Environmental Audit update – Eric Yaxley

Caribou Management Strategy – Tom Beaulieu GNWT

Seismic Guidelines Update – Tom Beaulieu GNWT

IPY Update – Tom Beaulieu GNWT (Written handout)

12:00 Lunch (to be provided)

1:00 Communications Activities - A. Blackduck & J. Moores

- Forum Web Portal Presentation & Discussion
- Plain Talk Newsletter – OAG Update

Access to Information Act, Privacy Act & Accountability Act – Stephen Van Dine

Conflict of Interest Overview - John Donihee

3:00 Health Break

Mackenzie Gas Project – EIA & Regulatory Process

- Roles, Responsibilities and Regulatory Activities – Jann Atkinson NEB
- MGP Crown Consultation Update – Chris Loewen NRCan
- MGP Regulatory Coordination Update - Brian Chambers

5:30 Forum Wrap up

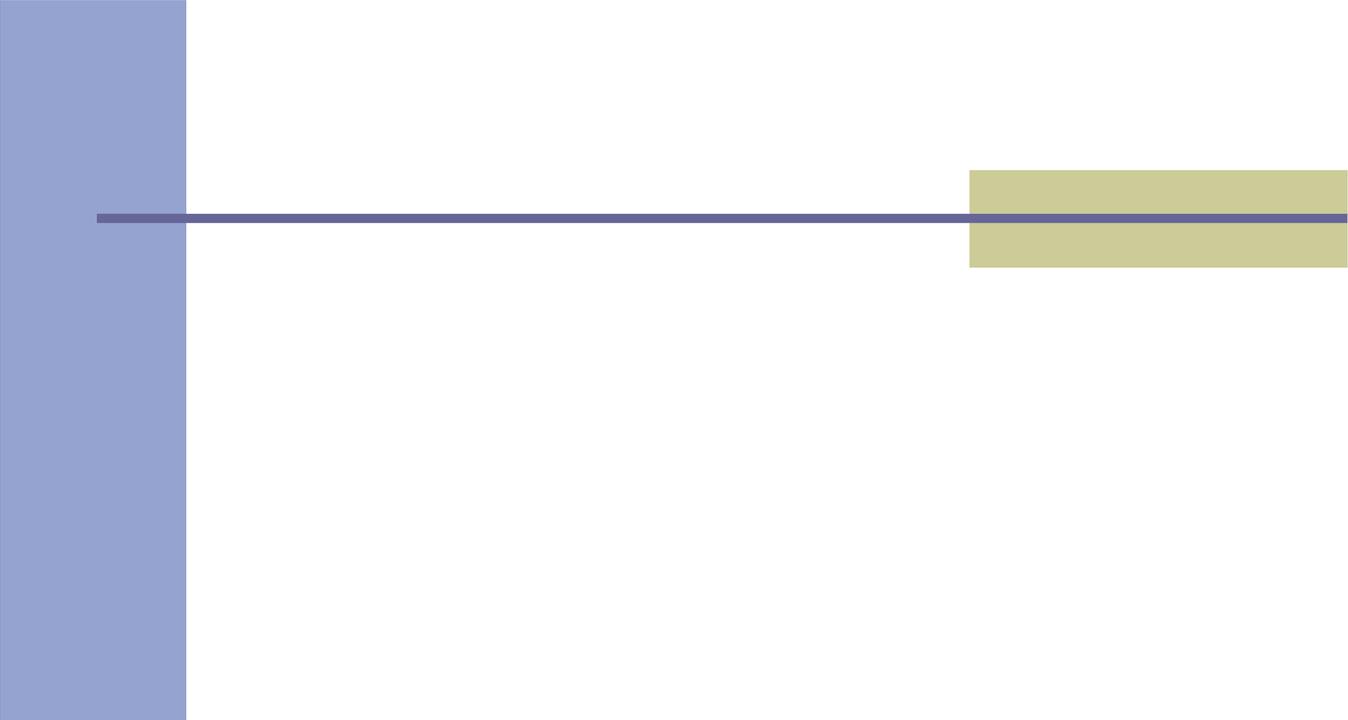
Day 3 – May 4

9:00 Post Forum Chairs Caucus

Museum Tour

11:00 Departure of Delegates to Inuvik & North

3:00 Departure from Norman Wells to Yellowknife



Appendix B
Participants List

NWT Board Forum

October 15 - 16, 2006

Edzo, NT: Cultural Classroom - Chief Jimmy Bruneau School

Participant List

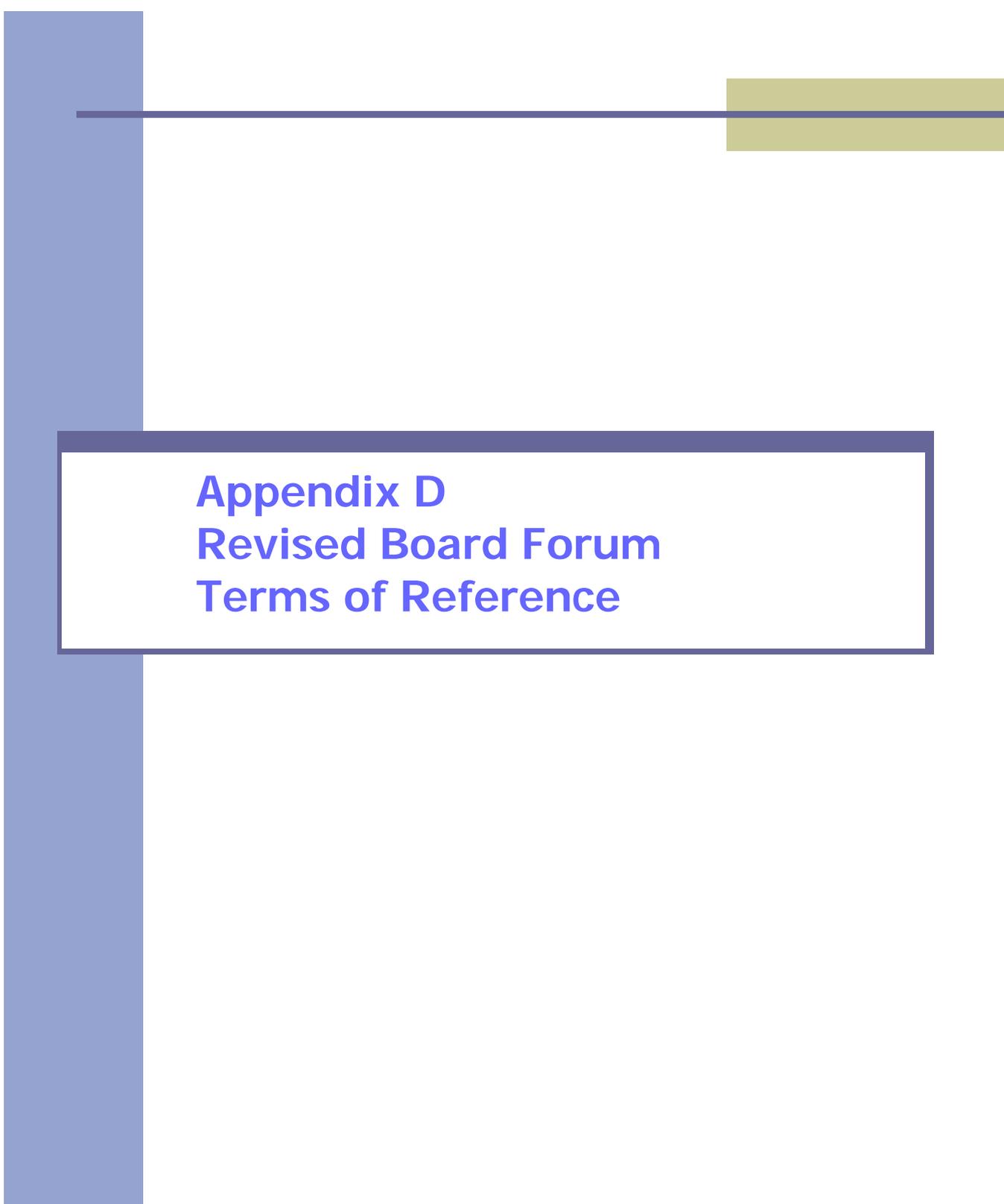
Name	Affiliation
Alfonz Nitsiza	Chair, WRRB
Allison Blackduck	MVEIRB
Bella T'Seleie	Director, SLUPB
Bob Simpson	Chair, GLUPB
Brian Chambers	Exec. Director, Northern Gas Project Secretariat
Chris Loewen	NRCan – Crown Consultation Unit
Elizabeth Snider	Chair, EIRB
Eric Yaxley	Manager, BRS, INAC
Fred McFarland	Chair, EISC
Gabrielle Mackenzie-Scott	Chair, MVEIRB
George Govier	Exec. Director, SLWB
Dr. Ian Gilchrist	Board Member, NWTWB
Jann Atkinson	Regulatory Development, NEB
Jennifer Moores	INAC – Communications
Jody Snortland	Exec. Director, SRRB
Joe Sterritt	Terriplan Consultants
John Donihee	Barrister & Solicitor
John T'Seleie	Exec. Director, SLUPB
Judith Wright-Bird	Chair, SLUPB
Julie Jackson	INAC – Policy and Planning
Kate Hearn	A/ARDG, INAC
Larry Wallace	Chair, SLWB
Norm Snow	Exec. Director, J.S./I.G.C.
Ricki Hurst	Terriplan Consultants
Stephen Van Dine	Director, Resource Policy And Programs , INAC, HQ

Name	Affiliation
Sue McKenzie	Exec. Director, GLUPB
Tom Beaulieu	A/DM, ENR, GNWT
Vern Christensen	Exec. Director, MVEIRB
Vicki Losier	A/EA, NWT Water Board
Violet Camsell-Blondin	Chair, WLWB - Host
Walter Bayha	Chair, SRRB
Wanda Anderson	Exec. Director, MVLWB
Willard Hagen	Chair, GLWB, Interim Chair, MVLWB
Yolande Chapman	A/Senior Analyst, BRS, INAC
Zabey Nevitt	Exec. Director, WLWB



Appendix C
Presentations by Speakers

NOTE – Due to the number and size of the PowerPoint presentations given at the November 2006 NWT Board Forum, CD's have been created in addition to the following appendices that house the presentations given at the Forum.



Appendix D
Revised Board Forum
Terms of Reference

Terms of Reference

NWT Board Forum

As

Revised December 11, 2006

1) Purpose

To establish a forum of NWT resource co-management/public boards to facilitate discussion on matters of common interest.

2) Objectives

- To increase mutual awareness by NWT resource co-management/public boards regarding their respective activities;
- To identify and develop collaborative approaches to resolve issues of common concern;
- To collaborate on strategic and operational planning initiatives where beneficial;
- To identify opportunities to share resources and expertise (e.g., cost sharing certain initiatives, sharing human resources and/or information technology, sharing “lessons learned” and “best practices”);
- To provided a forum for the NWT resource co-management/public boards to hear from industry, government and other interest groups on issues of common interest not specific to a development under active consideration by a co-management/public board; and
- To pursue collaborative training and development initiatives where beneficial.

3) Membership

Membership of the Board Forum comprises the Chairs, or designated alternates, of all resource co-management/public boards created under the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA), the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA), the NWT Waters Act (NWTWA), the Associate Regional Director General of INAC NT Region or designated alternate, a designate from the National Energy Board (NEB), and a designate of the Government of the Northwest Territories.

As land claims are settled, new co-management boards/institutions of public government are deemed to be added.

4) Organizational Responsibilities

Business Planning Agenda

The business agenda for the annual meeting of the Board Forum will be approved by the co-management/public board Chairs.

Meeting Host

The opportunity to host the annual meeting of the Board Forum will rotate from Board to Board.

Administration and Co-ordination Support

The Board Relations Secretariat of the NWT Regional Office, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development provides administrative and co-ordination support for the operations of the Board Forum.

Funding

Travel expenditures would be covered by board participants. The Board Relations Secretariat would support a share of common logistical costs.

5) Conduct Meetings

The Chair, or designated alternate, of the host Board shall Chair the annual meeting of the Board Forum.

The Executive Director of the Board hosting the next annual meeting of the Board Forum shall Chair the annual Executive Director's meeting.

If necessary, Robert's Rules of Order shall apply to the conduct of Executive Directors' and Board Forum meetings.

6) Meeting Schedules and Locations

A minimum of two meetings will be held each year, as follows:

1. **Executive Directors' Meeting:** To be held in April/May of each year. The purpose of this meeting is to take stock of progress that has been made on direction of Board

Chairs since the previous meeting of the Board Forum; to recommend to the Chair of the Host Board a business agenda for the next annual meeting of the Board Forum; and, to recommend a host Board for the subsequent annual meeting of the Board Forum.

The Executive Director's meeting is to be held in the community selected by the host Board to be the location of the next annual meeting of the Board Forum.

2. **Annual Meeting of the Board Forum:** To be held in September/October of each year. The purpose of this meeting is for the NWT co-management/public board Chairs to pursue the objectives set out for the Board Forum with the support of the co-management/public board Executive Directors.

At each annual meeting of the Board Forum, the host Board will be selected for the next annual meeting of the Board Forum. The host Board will select the community in which the next annual meeting of the Board Forum will be located.

7) Forum Secretariat – Working Group

Operational support for the NWT Board Forum will be provided by a Secretariat comprised of the following individuals:

1. Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
2. Executive Director, Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
3. Executive Director, Inuvialuit Joint Secretariat
4. Manager, Board Relations Secretariat – NWT Regional Office, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development
5. Associate Deputy Minister, Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Government of Northwest Territories

The Forum Secretariat is responsible to:

- Plan and organize the business agenda for the annual meetings of NWT co-management/public board Executive Directors, in consultation with (to the extent possible) NWT Board Forum members;
- Transmit the draft business agenda recommended by the board Executive Directors for review and approval of the host Chair of the annual meeting of the Board Forum;
- Maintain the records of the Board Forum;
- Facilitate day-to-day communication within the Board Forum; and
- Facilitate communication between the Board Forum and other interested individuals and organizations.

8) Review of Terms of Reference

The Board Forum will review its Terms of Reference as a standard agenda item at its annual meeting and make modifications as deemed necessary by the member co-management/public boards.