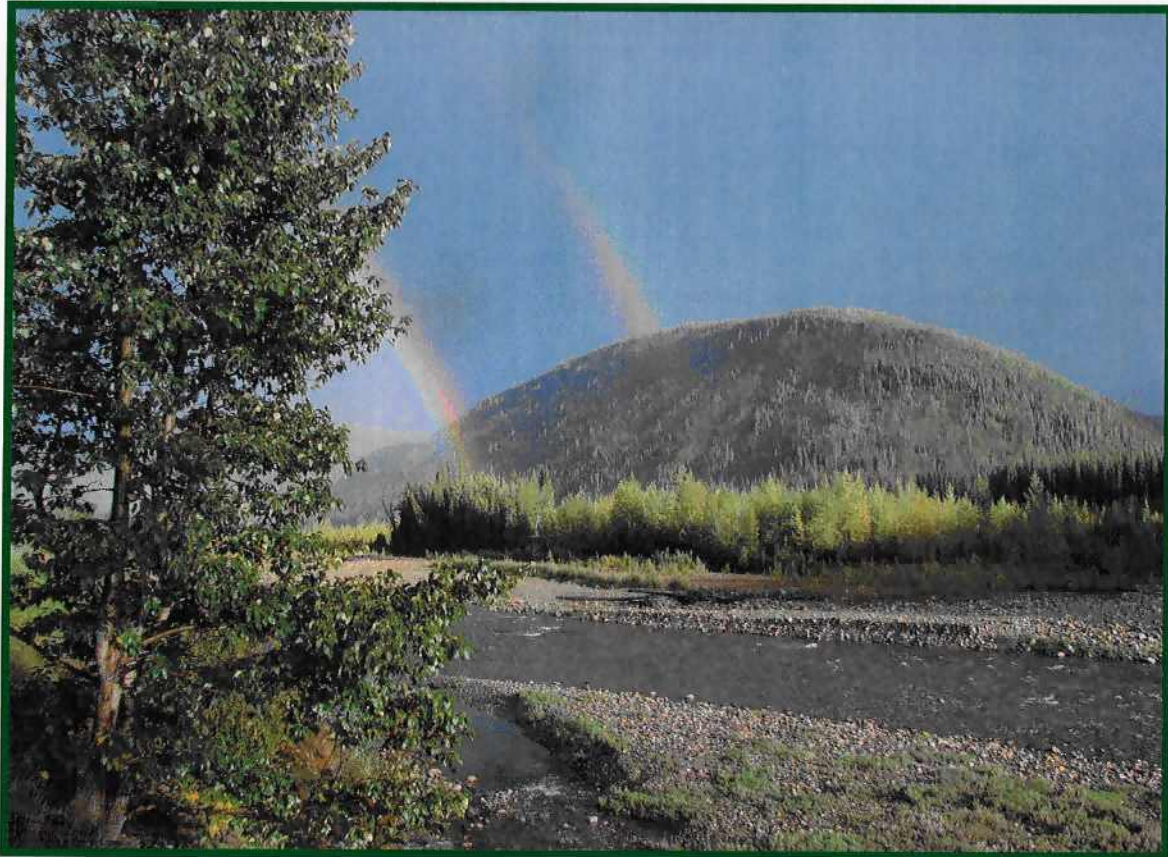


Northern Inter-Agency Management Committee  
**Annual Report 2006-2007**  
on the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area



MUSKWA-KECHIKA  
MANAGEMENT AREA



Integrated Land  
Management Bureau

## Table of Contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| 1 Introduction   |    |
| a. Origins of the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area           | 2  |
| b. Goals of Land Resource Management Planning in the M-KMA | 2  |
| c. About the IAMC  | 3  |
| 2 Report Highlights  |    |
| a. Report Highlights                                       | 4  |
| 3 IAMC Membership  |    |
| a. Terms of Reference for the IAMC                         | 4  |
| b. IAMC Agency Contacts                                    | 8  |
| c. Peace Managers  | 11 |
| d. Peace Managers Committee Members                        | 12 |
| 4 Performance Measures and Evaluations                     | 12 |
| 5 IAMC Member Reports                                      |    |
| a. Ministry of Energy, Mines & Petroleum Resources         | 13 |
| b. Ministry of Forests and Range                           |    |
| b1. Fort Nelson Forest District                            | 14 |
| b2. Mackenzie Forest District                              | 15 |
| b3. Peace Forest District                                  | 16 |
| c. Ministry of Agriculture and Lands                       | 16 |
| d. Oil and Gas Commission                                  | 21 |
| e. Public Works and Government Services Canada             | 26 |
| f. Ministry of Environment                                 | 27 |
| g. Ministry of Tourism, Sports & Arts                      | 30 |
| h. Ministry of Aboriginal Relations & Reconciliation       | 31 |
| 6 Appendices   |    |
| a. References  | 32 |
| b. Maps and Illustrations                                  | 33 |
| c. Notes   | 33 |
| d. Acronyms and Abbreviations                              | 34 |

## 1a. The Origins of the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area

In 1997 the provincial government accepted the multi-stakeholder Land and Resource Management Plans (LRMP) for Fort St. John and Fort Nelson which specified special management of the Muskwa-Kechika area. The Muskwa-Kechika Management Plan Regulation was adopted through Order-in-Council (1367/97) in October of that year. The management plan is to be implemented by all relevant government agencies through agency-specific management activities, local strategic plans, resource development permits as well as Crown land and natural resource dispositions. In 2000, the Mackenzie addition was added to the Muskwa-Kechika Management area upon completion of the Mackenzie LRMP.



Old Trapper Cabin on the Liard River

In June 1998, the *Muskwa-Kechika Management Area Act* was passed. The

legislation included the creation on an advisory board tasked to advise government on management of the 6.4 million ha, Muskwa-Kechika Management Area (M-KMA) and the Muskwa-Kechika Trust Fund. In April 2002, matching funding for the Muskwa-Kechika Trust Fund was increased to \$1 million, for a potential public-private funding of \$2 million. Direct ministry funding to the Muskwa-Kechika Trust Fund was set at \$1 million.

As of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2006 the requirement for the provincial government to match contributions expired. Funding for the Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board is now directed through government voted funds, through the Ministry of Agriculture and Lands (Integrated Land Management Bureau) at \$500,000 for fiscal 2006-2007.

One of the primary responsibilities of the Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board is to ensure that activities within the area are consistent with the objectives of the Muskwa-Kechika Management Plan. The Plan directs the Advisory Board to review the issuance of tenures and approval of operational activities to facilitate carrying out this oversight role. The Northern Region Interagency Management Committee has agreed to assist the Advisory Board in this task by preparing an annual detailed written report.

## 1b. Goals of Land Resource Management Planning in the M-KMA

The management goal for the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area is to ensure that wilderness characteristics, wildlife and its habitat, and cultural values are maintained over time, while allowing resource development and use, including: recreation, hunting, trapping, timber harvesting, mineral exploration and mining, oil and gas exploration and development. The integration of management activities, especially related to the planning, development and management of road

access within the M-KMA, is central to achieving this intent. The long-term objective is to return lands to their natural state, as much as possible, as development activities are completed.

Land and Resource Management Planning is the sub-regional integrated resource planning process for British Columbia. Land and Resource Management Planning considers all resource values and requires public participation, interagency co-



ordination and consensus based land and resource management decisions.

Objectives for the M-KMA were developed as part of the Fort Nelson, Fort St. John, and Mackenzie LRMP's. Participants in these processes recommended that the objectives for the M-KMA be formally designated, thus establishing a separate jurisdiction to be known as the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area. The Muskwa-Kechika Management Plan identifies objectives for the management of the M-KMA and

specifies an integrated and co-ordinated planning structure to meet those objectives.

Provincial government agencies are responsible for implementing the objectives and strategies contained in the Muskwa-Kechika Management Plan as detailed in the LRMP's. The role of the agencies is to implement projects, issue tenures, approve operational activities that are within their mandate and carry out compliance measures in accordance with their legislated responsibilities.

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## 1c. About the IAMC

### Inter-Agency Management Committee

The responsibilities of the Inter-Agency Management Committee (M-KMA, 1997) are as follows:

- (a) to assist in resolving conflicts between agencies and resource users;
- (b) to maintain a registry of plan documents and plan amendments, including the Muskwa-Kechika Management Plan and local strategic plans, available to the public and any interested parties;
- (c) to review and provide recommendations to the Environment and Land Use Committee on any proposed amendments;
- (d) in partnership with the Advisory Board, provide for and coordinate public review and consultation as necessary;
- (e) in consultation with the Advisory Board, prepare an annual inter-agency workplan to facilitate the implementation of the Muskwa-Kechika Management Plan; and
- (f) to work in partnership with the Advisory Board to prepare an annual monitoring

report on plan implementation, amendments and expenditures.

### Annual Monitoring Report

By November 1, 1998, and annually thereafter, the Advisory Board, in partnership with the Inter-Agency Management Committee, will prepare a monitoring report.

***The report will assess the degree to which the objectives outlined in the Management Plan are being met through management activities, local strategic planning and development plans and permits.***

The report will include all proposed updates and amendments to the Management Plan or any other recommendations made by the Advisory Board.

All proposed amendments to the Muskwa-Kechika Management Plan will be included in the annual monitoring report.

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## 2. Report Highlights

Activities in the M-KMA continued to remain low during the 2006-2007 fiscal. Gas tenure sales were up from the previous fiscal, but no new on-the-ground development has occurred.

Government restructuring occurred in fiscal year 2005-2006, but did not appear to have any effects on the management of the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area. Small changes have occurred since then such as commercial recreation (formally with the Ministry of Tourism, Sports and the Arts) moving to the Integrated Land Management Bureau.

Front Counter BC (FCBC) has been considered to be a success and there are

discussion regarding potential expansion to smaller centres.

Ministry of Forests & Range worked with range tenure holders to develop range use plans that were all completed in December 2007. The plans will include range readiness criteria, stubble heights and resource issues.

ILMB continues to move forward on planning projects in the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area, of note are three Pre-Tenure Plan monitoring projects (funded by the Ministry of Energy, Mines and Petroleum Resources), completion is expected in March 2008.

## 3 IAMC MEMBERSHIP

### 3a. Terms of Reference for IAMC

#### PROVINCIAL TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR INTER-AGENCY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES

March 2006

#### INTRODUCTION

Since their inception in 1992, Inter-Agency Management Committees (IAMCs) have coordinated the actions of resource agencies at the regional level in the delivery of the provincial land use planning program. The existing IAMC terms of reference was approved in 1995 and first revised in 2004 to reflect a renewed emphasis on integrated Crown land management and resource certainty to promote investment opportunities and economic growth while protecting the environment. The 2004 revision also increased focus on First Nations consultation and accommodation; and, reflected the restructuring of government in recent years. The October 2005 version of the terms of reference was revised to reflect government's

reorganization in the summer of 2005 and increased emphasis on integrated resource management.

This March 2006 version of the IAMC Terms of Reference is revised to reflect the new governance structure of ILMB.

The Associate Deputy Minister, Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB) is responsible for approving revisions to this terms-of-reference as necessary and in consultation with the Assistant Deputy Ministers' Committee on Integrated Land Management (ADMCILM).

#### The Rationale for IAMCs

The successful implementation of government's strategic directions and priorities for resource management requires a collaborative and coordinated approach within a cross-ministry structure. This collaboration and coordination is occurring at the political level through the Cabinet Committee on Natural Resources and the

Economy (CCNRE) and at the executive level through the Deputy Minister's Committee on Natural Resources and the Economy (DMCNRE) and Assistant Deputy Ministers' Committee on Integrated Land Management (ADMCILM).

To effect the delivery of strategic direction from CCNRE, DMCNRE and DMCILM, it is essential that a supporting collaborative and coordinating effort occur where government's programs are implemented and delivered – in the province's regions. The IAMCs provide this regional level forum for agencies to consult, cooperative and integrate to deliver government's resource management programs.

### Principle Role

The principal role of the IAMCs will be to ensure effective and efficient integration and communication of government's resource management initiatives at a regional level.

### Core Functions

The integration, communication and coordinating responsibilities of each IAMC will be primarily focused on the following resource management activities:

- e. Sustainable use of Crown land and resources;
- ii. Coordination of First Nations initiatives; and
- iii. Information management and decision support.

### Sustainable Use of Crown Land and Resources:

The sustainable use Crown land and resources stimulated and maintains economic development and is a prime strategic direction of government. The IAMCs will contribute to the achievement of this strategic direction by accomplishing the following:

- Coordinating the implementation and delivery of provincial land and resource management policy and programs which require support from or affect other IAMC agencies, for example:
  - Environmental stewardship initiatives (e.g. corporate,

cross-ministry response to broad-ranging Species at Risk);

- Setting priorities for economic development opportunities on Crown Land;
  - Resolving land use and land disposition issues among agencies;
  - Setting priorities and ensuring consistency in the development of legal objectives under the *Forest and Range Practices Act* and *Land Amendment Act*; and,
  - Response to provincially significant natural resource catastrophic events.
- Providing a regional level of governance for corporate external client service initiatives (e.g. transition to Front Counter BC – Natural Resource Opportunity Centres);
  - Coordinating provincial agency service plans at the regional level to better align priorities of agencies within the regions;
  - Providing advice to assist in the development of proposed land policies and programs;
  - Ensuring that land use plans or revisions to plans provide appropriate and clearly defined direction on where economic development and other activities can occur on Crown land;
  - Ensuring that resource agencies are clear on their responsibilities for land use plan implementation including the requirement to issue tenures that are consistent with plan direction;
  - Delivering efficient, coordinated and cost effective technical support from member agencies for land use planning and local plan implementation committees including the submission of regular implementation progress reports;
  - Working within provincial policies to define a local land use planning and issue resolution decision process

- and process to resolve land use conflicts during the plan revision process that cannot be resolved by plan implementation committees; and
- Assisting the Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB) to establish priorities for both Land and Resource Management Plans (LRMPs) revision targets and the development of Sustainable Resource Management Plans (SRMPs).

### **Coordination of First Nations Initiatives**

The Province and First Nations are engaged in the New Relationship initiative, which is expected to provide new direction for provincial government engagement with First Nations. The goals of the New Relationship initiative include:

- Developing new institutions or structures to negotiate government to government agreements for shared decision making regarding land use planning, management, tenuring and resource revenue sharing and benefit sharing;
- Identifying institutional, legislative and policy changes to implement this vision and these action items; and
- Establishing effective procedures for consultation and accommodation.

IAMCs will contribute to these goals at the regional level through responsibility for:

- Corporate initiatives that are based on priorities established by DMCNRE and the Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation (MARR) and that involve the coordination and delivery by cross agency teams at the regional level (e.g.; St'at'imc protocol);
- The identification of issues and initiatives and opportunities for multi-agency approaches for consideration by DMCRNE, ADMCILM and MARR;
- Working with First Nations to identify economic development opportunities; and

- Coordination of First Nations consultation on land and resource use and disposition.

### **Resource Information Management and Decision Support**

The ILMB is committed to providing meaningful resource information and decision support analysis services necessary for internal and external clients to meet their business needs. Input from client agencies through the IAMC is necessary to foster:

- The provision of relevant land and resource information and analysis services to effectively support client needs;
- Identification of common information and service requirements, leading to greater efficiencies; and
- An enhanced understanding of client business requirements, so that the Bureau can appropriately respond with information and services that better support client needs.

To achieve this input, IAMC will:

- Serve as the Regional Client Advisory Committee to the Client Service Delivery Division of the Integrated Land Management Bureau (ILMB).
- With respect to the provision of Resource Information and Decision Support services, provide a forum for client ministries to communicate their on-going service requirements and to resolve any local or regional decision support prioritisation issues.

### **Delivery of Core Functions**

The IAMC will deliver its core functions through the following activities:

- Regular meetings (see 9.);
- Pooling resources to gain efficiencies in meeting government's objectives;
- Establishing sub-committees;
- Annual service plan alignment between agencies with regular reviews throughout the year;

- Annual IAMC business planning; and
- Strategic planning (3 year timeframe).

### Membership

IAMC membership may be comprised of the following agencies:

Provincial Government Agencies (Core members – all IAMCs)

- Integrated Land Management Bureau
  - Regional Executive Director (Chair)
- Ministry of Environment
- Ministry of Energy, Mines, Petroleum Resources
- Ministry of Forests and Range
- Ministry of Aboriginal Relations and Reconciliation
- Ministry of Tourism, Sport and the Arts
- Ministry of Agriculture and Lands

Provincial Government Agencies (Regional members – region specific or as issues dictate)

- Ministry of Community Services
- Ministry of Agriculture and Lands (Agriculture)
- Ministry of Transportation
- Other Crown Agency
- Representatives including:
  - Oil and Gas Commission
- Ministry of Economic Development
- Regional Health Authorities
- Provincial Emergency Program

Regional IAMCs may invite regular or occasional participation at IAMC meetings from other regional agencies (e.g. Fraser Basin Council, Department of Fisheries and Oceans). Each IAMC will determine who should be invited to attend and the nature of their participation (permanent, or issue or topic specific)

### Structure

IAMCs will be located at each ILMB regional service centre:

- Coast (Nanaimo)
- Southern Interior (Kamloops)

- Northern Interior (Prince George)

IAMC may establish regional or sub-regional Manager's Committees to work on behalf of the IAMC in one or more areas of the regions.

Manager's Committees may be assigned any or all of the core functions outlined in this terms of reference. The IAMC will coordinate activities and issue management that may affect Manager's Committees across the region. Manager's Committees may be established in the following areas:

- Skeena
- Kootenays
- Cariboo
- Thompson-Okanagan
- Peace
- Lower Mainland

Each agency will assign the most senior agency regional representative available (usually a Director for IAMC or a manager for the Manager's Committee) to represent their agency.

Where core member agencies do not have permanent senior regional representation, the agency will assign a representative from Victoria or another region to attend. Regional members and core member agency representatives from outside the region may attend via conference call, with the concurrence of the chairperson and may attend only those meetings that deal with specified agenda items. The chairperson may defer these specified agenda items to another meeting date if it facilitates attendance.

Each IAMC will be chaired by the Regional Executive Director, ILMB. The IAMC Chair will appoint the chairperson of the Manager's Committees, usually the local ILMB Manager.

The ILMB IAMC Manager will provide support to the IAMC, the Manager's Committees and the chairpersons.

The IAMC reports to ADMCILM through the Associate Deputy Minister, ILMB. Manager's Committees report to the regional IAMC. The Chair of the IAMC will



communicate with ADMCILM, as necessary, on the proceedings of the IAMC and managers committees.

Each IAMC may develop more specific terms of reference, consistent with this document.

#### **Relationship with Elected Officials**

The chairperson of the IAMC will maintain contact and communicate regularly with provincially and locally elected officials from the region to brief them on issues being dealt with the IAMC. The Chairperson of the Managers' Committees will maintain contact and communicate regularly with locally elected official from their area to brief them on issues being dealt with the Manager's Committee.

#### **Meetings**

IAMCs and Managers' Committees will meet regularly – usually monthly.

The chairperson must ensure that an agenda and supporting information is provided to IAMC and Managers' Committees in advance of the meeting. All action items from the meeting must be

recorded and circulated to members in a timely manner soon after the meeting.

The IAMC, through the chairperson, may invite guests to attend meetings to present information, participate in discussions on specified issues or to be informed on a particular topic.

#### **Decision Making and Dispute Resolution**

Regional issues should be resolved regionally as much as possible. Decisions will be made by consensus of the committee members. In the case of disputes, the chairperson will attempt to resolve the dispute locally. If the issue can not be resolved locally, the IAMC chairperson may request the Associate Deputy Minister, ILMB to table the dispute with the ADMILM for resolution.

#### **IAMC Work Plan and Reporting**

Each IAMC will develop an annual work plan that specifies delivery targets that will be tabled with ADMCILM in April. Each IAMC will report annually to DMCILM on the achievement of their work plan performance deliverables at the end of each fiscal year.

### **3b. IAMC Agency Contacts**

#### **PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT IAMC MEMBERS**

| <b>Name</b>      | <b>Title</b>                       | <b>Ministry/Agency</b>            | <b>E-mail Address</b>  |
|------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Normand Bilodeau | Regional Manager                   | Environment - WSD                 | <a href="mailto:Norman.Bilodeau@gov.bc.ca">Norman.Bilodeau@gov.bc.ca</a> |
| Don Cadden       | Regional Manager (Omineca)         | Environment - ESD                 | <a href="mailto:Don.Cadden@gov.bc.ca">Don.Cadden@gov.bc.ca</a>           |
| Heather Cullen   | Regional Staff Manager (alternate) | Forests and Range                 | <a href="mailto:Heather.Cullen@gov.bc.ca">Heather.Cullen@gov.bc.ca</a>   |
| Dave Duncan      | Regional Director                  | Transportation                    | <a href="mailto:Dave.Duncan@gov.bc.ca">Dave.Duncan@gov.bc.ca</a>         |
| Bill Huot        | Senior Planner                     | Community Services                | <a href="mailto:Bill.Huot@gov.bc.ca">Bill.Huot@gov.bc.ca</a>             |
| Marc Imus        | IAMC Manager                       | Integrated Land Management Bureau | <a href="mailto:Marc.Imus@gov.bc.ca">Marc.Imus@gov.bc.ca</a>             |

|                   |  |                                       |  |
|-------------------|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| Tom Kearns        | (Chair) Regional Executive Director    | Integrated Land Management Bureau     | <a href="mailto:Tom.Kearns@gov.bc.ca">Tom.Kearns@gov.bc.ca</a>               |
| Leslie Lax        | Regional Project Manager               | Economic Development                  | <a href="mailto:Leslie.Lax@gov.bc.ca">Leslie.Lax@gov.bc.ca</a>               |
| Maurice Lirette   | Regional Manager (Peace)               | Environment - ESD                     | <a href="mailto:Maurice.Lirette@gov.bc.ca">Maurice.Lirette@gov.bc.ca</a>     |
| Howard Madill     | Chair, Omenica Managers Cte            | Integrated Land Management Bureau     | <a href="mailto:Howard.Madill@gov.bc.ca">Howard.Madill@gov.bc.ca</a>         |
| Eamon O'Donoghue  | Chair, Skeena Managers Cte             | Integrated Land Management Bureau     | <a href="mailto:Eamon.ODonoghue@gov.bc.ca">Eamon.ODonoghue@gov.bc.ca</a>     |
| Tom Ouellette     | Strategic Director                     | Oil and Gas Commission                | <a href="mailto:Tom.Ouellette@gov.bc.ca">Tom.Ouellette@gov.bc.ca</a>         |
| Glenn Ricketts    | Chief Negotiator                       | Aboriginal Relations & Reconciliation | <a href="mailto:Glenn.Ricketts@gov.bc.ca">Glenn.Ricketts@gov.bc.ca</a>       |
| Peter Scharf      | Regional Director                      | Energy, Mines & Petroleum Resources   | <a href="mailto:Peter.Scharf@gov.bc.ca">Peter.Scharf@gov.bc.ca</a>           |
| Sean Sharpe       | Regional Manager                       | Environment - EPD                     | <a href="mailto:Sean.Sharpe@gov.bc.ca">Sean.Sharpe@gov.bc.ca</a>             |
| Carol Ann Shearer | Negotiator (alternate)                 | Aboriginal Relations & Reconciliation | <a href="mailto:Carol.Ann.Shearer@gov.bc.ca">Carol.Ann.Shearer@gov.bc.ca</a> |
| Vera Vukelich     | Adventure Tourism Manager              | Tourism, Sport and the Arts           | <a href="mailto:Vera.Vukelich@gov.bc.ca">Vera.Vukelich@gov.bc.ca</a>         |
| Bill Warner       | Regional Executive Director            | Forests and Range                     | <a href="mailto:Bill.Warner@gov.bc.ca">Bill.Warner@gov.bc.ca</a>             |
| Gary Westfall     | Regional Recreation Manager            | Tourism, Sports & the Arts            | <a href="mailto:Gary.Westfall@gov.bc.ca">Gary.Westfall@gov.bc.ca</a>         |
| Greg Woollacott   | Reg. Mgr, Planning Partnerships (alt.) | Transportation                        | <a href="mailto:Greg.Woollacott@gov.bc.ca">Greg.Woollacott@gov.bc.ca</a>     |
| Mark Yawney       | Regional Manager                       | Agriculture & Lands                   | <a href="mailto:Mark.Yawney@gov.bc.ca">Mark.Yawney@gov.bc.ca</a>             |
| Al Zackodnik      | Chair, Peace Managers Cte.             | Integrated Land Management Bureau     | <a href="mailto:Al.Zackodnik@gov.bc.ca">Al.Zackodnik@gov.bc.ca</a>           |

### ASSOCIATE IAMC MEMBERS

|                 |                                   |                                   |  |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
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| Charlotte Bell  | Manager, Aboriginal Relations     | Agriculture & Lands               | <a href="mailto:Charlotte.Bell@gov.bc.ca">Charlotte.Bell@gov.bc.ca</a>     |
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| Veronica Cadden | Regional Project Officer (IAMC)   | Integrated Land Management        | <a href="mailto:Veronica.Cadden@gov.bc.ca">Veronica.Cadden@gov.bc.ca</a>   |