

MUSKWA-KECHIKA ADVISORY BOARD

FINAL Meeting Minutes

Meeting Dates: November 21st and 22nd

Meeting Location: Lakeview Inn and Suites, Fort St John B.C.

M-KAB Members Attending:

Stephanie Killam (Chair)	Barry Holland	Corrine Porter
David Luff	Reg Gardner	Doug McKee
Gavin Dirom	Wayne Sawchuk	Johnny Mikes
Shawna Case Kwadacha (Danny Case waiting to be appointed by Province)		
REGRETS:		
Bill Lux (Vice Chair)	Leif Olsen	Juergen Puetter
Jason Lee	Peter Stone	Roslyn Pokiak

GUESTS:

Kevin Kriese ADM for NE MFLNR Smithers	Butch Morningstar Executive Director MFLNR Victoria	Rod Backmeyer Land Resource Specialist FLNR Fort St John
Dani Money BC Parks Planner	Mayor Lori Ackerman City of Fort St John	Bruce Christianson Councilor, City of Fort St John
Nick Baccante F&W Section Head MFLNR Fort St John	Joelle Scheck Ecosystem Section Head MFLNR Fort St John	Chris Addison Regional Director MFLNR Fort St John

November 21st:

10:30 Opening Welcome, Stephanie Killam M-KAB Chair

- Stephanie advised that T8 Tribal Chief Liz Logan had to cancel attending and providing a welcome. She acknowledged that this meeting was being held in Treaty 8 territory.
- ❖ Mayor Lori Ackerman, welcoming remarks from City of Fort St John

- 10:40 Introductions and Meeting objectives
 Motion to adoption of agenda for November 21st:
 ➤ Moved: David Luff Second: Wayne Sawchuk
 ▪ Adopted
- 10:45 Province of BC/M-KAB Direction:
 ❖ Kevin Kriese & Butch Morningstar
- Power point presentation and discussion (power point put on M-K members website for reference)
- Members were provided an opportunity to ask questions and any clarifications on Minister and government direction to the Advisory Board.
- Key points discussed:
- 1) M-K Regulation and legislation require updating and regulation will be focused on first as this can be done with Order in Council. Butch wants this to be undertaken with Board support, need to review what was last done and have something for Government by fall 2013. Legislation would be done for longer term, 18 month time frame and after regulation updated.
 - 2) Board member Gavin Dirom asked if Advisory Board was constrained with the out of date legislation and regulations – government advice NO.
 - 3) Board needs to align itself with Government direction, and a need to refine the model – may consider a monitoring role – to consider the Babine Watershed Monitoring Trust (a brief of this model was provided in member meeting package for review) Kevin Kriese added that the Province does not have full suite for monitoring, need for partnerships. Advisory Board should consider the Babine model which is a successful one.
 - 4) Requirement for Board to complete a Strategic Operating plan based on the above and provide to Province by end of fiscal year.
 - 5) Advisory Board needs to move to more partnerships like UNBC- partnerships have potential to undertake important work for M-KMA and mitigate resource development and help offset funding required.
- David Luff summarized the key points government is providing direction on, that being completing a Strategic Operating Plan, consider new partnerships, follow up on Cumulative Effects management and climate change.
- 11:50 am Butch Morningstar provided a clarification on the Province's position relating Government to Government relationships with First Nations:
- *Province has responsibility to consult with FN on decisions or actions that may affect their aboriginal rights.*
 - *Province is willing to engage with First Nations on a G2G basis regarding M-KMA and currently has agreements that allow those discussions to happen*

- *Province views the Advisory Board continuing to provide a “multiple interest” role for advice to Government for the M-KMA.*
- *Province will work with the Advisory Board and FN to determine how best to share decisions or results of discussions with the Advisory Board*

12:15

Sulphur 8 Mile Stone's Sheep Recommendations

❖ Chris Addison, Regional Director MFLNR:

Based on letter provided to M-KAB and the Province, the key points tabled:

- 1) The key surprise in the research on Stone's sheep for Sulphur 8 Mile was the fact that there was really no surprises – results were what was expected.
- 2) Stone's sheep have a 5% harvest rate, usual is around 3% but the stone's sheep populations are stable.
- 3) Ministry has suite of tools to use to not allow oil and gas tenures in the areas recommended to be off limits. He requested the Board to allow the Ministry determine the best tool to put in force.
- 4) There is no indication that oil and gas sector is knocking down the door to get into the Sulphur 8 Mile zone.
- 5) Chris recommended that the Advisory Board focus on the outcomes desired in providing their advice and not specifically the details to make those outcomes

M-KAB will table this at tomorrow's session with Board members only to formulate their advice to the Province.

2:00 pm

Caribou Management/Research Presentation

❖ Dale Seip, Ministry of Environment

- Dale provided a power point presentation on current issues and management strategies for caribou in NE Peace. Noted declining populations with about 8 herds, seems like the Graham herd (see MKMA) is in the best shape.
- Power point presentation will be posted on M-K members web site for future referencing.
- Butch Morningstar followed up from this presentation with a brief overview of Management strategies being discussed with First Nations and land users.

3:15 pm

M-K Park Plans: Northern Rockies and Redfern Keily
Danielle Money, Parks Planner Fort St John

Danielle provided an update to the Advisory Board on her previous timing for completion of the 2 plans. She advised:

- The Victoria internal review took more time than anticipated and as such the timing has to be shifted. There were more edits and more qualitative statements put into the drafts.

- T8 has provided a lot of input, she is working with Corrine Porter and Kaska for their input into drafts.
- Public will be invited to provide comments now (November instead of October)
- Would like to fully engage the Board in review now set for February
- Dani also requested that even though staff resources are limited to take on more plans (she is the only planner for NE parks and protected areas) that she would appreciate a priority list for her consideration on the other M-KMA parks and PA.s

3:30 pm No Net Loss - Concept for Advisory Board consideration
 ❖ Gavin Dirom

Gavin presented a two page document outlining a no net loss concept.

After presenting this document, the Board had a discussion and if it could be applied in the M-KMA.

After a round table discussion, the a number of members felt they could not spend time on this with all the other work set before them.

Members appreciated Gavin presenting this and felt they could come back to this at a later date.

4:10 pm Davie Trail update: Corrine Porter was referred to discuss Clive Webber's request to the Advisory Board on the possibility of the David Trail becoming part of the Trans Canada Trail.

Corrine reported out that she and Clive have yet to make contact, she will report back to Executive after Kaska has reviewed the request and had a discussion and make a recommendation on this initiative.

4:30pm Stephanie wrapped up today's session and set up the agenda and timing for tomorrow's meeting.

November 22nd

M-KAB Members Attending:

Stephanie Killam (Chair)	Barry Holland	Corrine Porter
David Luff	Reg Gardner	Doug McKee
Gavin Dirom	Wayne Sawchuk	Johnny Mikes
Shawna Case Kwadacha		
REGRETS:		
Bill Lux (Vice Chair)	Leif Olsen	Juergen Puetter
Jason Lee	Peter Stone	Roslyn Pokiak

8:30 am Stephanie Killam opened today's session for Board members and reviewed agenda. Call for addition agenda topics: None tabled

Stephanie requested each member present to discuss briefly their interest and their ties to the Management Area.

From 8:30 to 2:30 pm, the Advisory Board members went through the following:

Confirming Working Groups and initiatives for each:

BCM-KAB working Group

- ✓ Confirmed Executive members are the assigned members
 1. Working with the direction and deliverables outlined by Butch Morningstar previous day.
 2. Will include the review and update of the M-KMA Regulation

UNBC/M-KAB Working Group

- ✓ Confirmed David Luff, Juergen Puetter and Stephanie Killam as assigned members
 1. Wayne Sawchuk will participate in the DVD distribution with the working group
 2. David provided an update (handout in materials) on the postdoctoral fellow and work that will be undertaken
 3. David advsed that the next meeting due to a busy fall session at UNBC would be targeted for early February

Park Plan Review Working Group

- ✓ Confirmed members, Bill Lux, Leif Olsen, Wayne Sawchuk, Johnny Mikes

1. Will follow up with Danielle Money on the current plans, Board review in late January/early February
2. WG will also prepare a priority list of Parks and PA's in the M-KMA for management plans and provide to Danielle.

M-K Trust Fund Expenditure Plan Projects

1. M-KAB Strategic and Operation Plan for 2013-14
 - This project was to be lead by the members in the BC/M-KAB working group (Executive)
 - David provided a scoping paper which was reviewed by members and to be worked through with Secretariat for obtaining 3 quotes leading to a contract – target a contract in place by end of December.
 - Will work with Butch on development of this plan to ensure it will be on track with Provinces expectations
 - Timing will be critical to get this completed by middle of March and present a recommended draft to the Advisory Board
2. Eco Tourism Project
 - Johnny Mikes, Corrine Porter Barry Holland Doug McKee will be assigned working group
 - Scoping paper tabled by Johnny was discussed and comments and edits to be made as discussed.
 - Johnny will work with Secretariat to get this out for contract, it is believe a direct offer can be made with a one time invoice for the total project amount.
 - Corrine Porter provided a contact for consultant that she recommends to take on this project
3. Web site development
 - Stephanie Killam, Corrine Porter, Shawna Case will be members on this working group with support from Secretariat
 - A number of members were to provide web site developers to Secretariat for consideration
 - Recommend to get at least 3 quotes before determining a contractor/developer.
 - Secretariat to set up con call with WG and outline process to get this moving.
4. Mineral Claims project
 - Gavin Dirom, Doug McKee , Reg Gardner, Johnny Mikes and Bill Lux/Corrine Porter working group members
 - A review of the scoping paper tabled by Gavin for this meeting was supported by members

- Next steps to confirm process for this project in getting to a contract and work underway
- Secretariat to set up details and short con call with WG to get approval to get out to quotes and establish timing for this work.

Stone's Sheep and Sulphur 8 Mile recommendation letter

After receiving the letter and recommendations from Bill Oppen, Chair of the Stone's Sheep Steering committee back in July of this year, the Executive followed up with both the Science Committee and a member of the Steering committee to obtain some further details on how the recommendations were arrived at and how the Steering committee came to agreement on the recommendations in the letter.

Further, Chris Addison attended yesterday's session to provide the Advisory Board on the Province's current position on the letter and the recommendations. He is desiring to have the Advisory Board's advice on the recommendations prior to making any final decision and implementation.

The Advisory Board had a thorough discussion on this matter in working to develop advice to the Province of BC.

Key points coming forward:

1. The members support the recommendations as provided for oil and gas activity in the Sulphur 8 Mile resource management zone and will provide this as advice to the Province.
2. In desire to provide certainty, clarity and predictability for not only oil and gas but other resource and or commercial development, the members came to consensus on the following wording that will go in the advice letter to Minister Thomson as trustee for the M-KMA and the M-KAB:

"The Advisory Board recognizes that other commercial and or industrial activities could have an impact on sheep habitat and populations. Adverse impacts are not acceptable given that this is a provincially significant area for Stone's sheep, and that habitat in this zone is fully utilized.

Prior to a decision being made on the acceptability of any other commercial and or industrial activities in this area, including the potential disposition of tenures, a full assessment of environmental risks (similar to that required by oil and gas pre tenure plans) must be conducted for each proposed activity, with the condition of maintaining habitat and populations of Stone's Sheep."

After coming to consensus on the advice to be provided, it was determined that the letter would go to Minister Thomson as trustee, with a cc to Ministers of Environment, Mining, (and any other resource Ministries) Stone's sheep Science and Steering committee Chairs, Butch Morningstar, Kevin Kriese, Chris Addison and the First Nations who have traditional territory in the Management Area.

2:15: Members recommend the next M-KAB meeting to be held in Prince George March 18th and 19th 2013.

Secretariat will send out note on this to full Board and work to confirm with those members unable to attend quickly and set venue early for next meeting. Recommend meeting room in hotel where members stay is preferred.

M-KAB Chair Stephanie Killam closed the November meeting thanking all those attending for their participation in the meeting and working together to advance the Board's role and the direction being set by the Province of BC.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30.