

MUSKWA-KECHIKA ADVISORY BOARD

FINAL Meeting Minutes

Meeting Dates: March 28th and 29th 2012

Meeting Location: University of Northern British Columbia, Prince George

M-KAB Members Attending:

Stephanie Killam (Chair) Corrine Porter Bill Lux Wayne Sawchuk
 Barry Holland Johnny Mikes

Regrets: Peter Stone Jason Lee Roslyn Pokiak Leif Olsen

Recommended Board members Attending (appointments into Premier):

David Luff Gavin Dirom

Regrets: Juergen Puetter Reg Gardner Doug McKee

Guest Attendance:

<p>Butch Morningstar Executive Director, Regional Operations, North Central West Regions Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Victoria BC</p> <p>Rod Backmeyer Land & Resource Specialist Ministry of Forests Lands Natural Resource Operations Fort St John</p> <p>Chris Addison Director of Resource Management Ministry of Forests Lands Natural Resource Operations Fort St John</p>	<p>Brian Churchill Chair, Sulphur 8 Mile Stone's Sheep Science Committee</p> <p>Dr. Kathy Parker M-K Research Professor, UNBC</p> <p>Dr. Mike Gillingham Director of the Natural Resources & Environmental Studies Institute UNBC</p> <p>Peter Goetz Section Head, Protected Areas, BC Parks Prince George</p>
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9:00 am: M-KAB Chair Stephanie Killam welcomed all those attending and opened meeting.

- M-K Chair Stephanie Killam, invited Chief Councilor Dominic Frederick of the Lheidli T'enneh Band to open the meeting, however Chief Councilor Frederick was unable to attend due to other priorities.

- M-K Chair advised that email invites went out to Treaty 8 Tribal Association, Kaska Dena Council and Tsay Keh Dene to attend this meeting.
- Secretariat went through “house keeping” items for all regarding location of various UNBC facilities and a walk through of member binders provided for this meeting.
- Chair advised that she will be tabling motions at this meeting for actions and decisions. Board members will be required to move and second such motions, entertaining discussions and then carrying motions if adopted.

Introductions:

M-K Chair requested to have all members introduce themselves and speak to what was important to them being on the Advisory Board and for the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area.

March 29th agenda was tabled

Motion: to adopt March 28th and 29th agenda as presented:

Moved by: Wayne Sawchuk **Second by:** Barry Holland

Discussion/Call for additions to agenda: none brought forward

MOTION CARRIED

Government update and address to the M-KAB: Butch Morningstar

Updates:

- Butch advised that Karilyn Vince is on maternity leave and that he is now the main contact/liaison staff member of the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations for the M-KAB. Rod Backmeyer will assist Butch and be the Fort St John contact for day to day issues/project work etc.
- M-KAB Appointments: Butch advised that he was pleased that the Premier was able to make an appointment for the M-KAB Chair in time for this meeting, however the other appointments are with the Premier but he has not heard if she has signed them off at this time. He will advise Stephanie as soon as he is aware of these being signed off. These will be for a one year term.

Butch would like to establish a small working group between the Advisory Board and the Province. He would like to be part of this along with possibly one other government staff and a couple of Board members; this would help him to have a better understanding of the M-KAB and its role. It would also help so that the Advisory Board doesn't get ahead of Government as it advances the Business Case deliverables being presented at this meeting. He would like to be involved in both the planning and implementation stage of the future work of the M-KAB.

He further stated that the Advisory Board has to provide clarity around the outcomes. As for funding, government is extremely limited and he said they need to look at different models to operate with fewer dollars available. Government is willing to invest if what comes out is of benefit to them.

He looks forward to work closely with the Advisory Board over the next year.

M-KAB Business Case – Update and Status: David Luff (lead)

David provided a power point presentation to bring the Advisory Board members up to date with this working group that was established after the October 2011 Board meeting.

After presentation, David tabled the edited Business Case Briefing Note. A review was undertaken. Several of the comments put forth by members and government:

- Look for ways to collect information and put together for common use
- Board had initiatives to follow up on such as PRIP (planning research integration project) but failed to do so, what will happen with these projects etc.
- Government turnover of staff and vacancies, virtually no historical knowledge of the M-KMA
- Missing in the Business Case is a economic piece along with social values
- First Nations land use planning and traditional knowledge, how does this fit in to work that is going forward. Advisory Board needs to be aware of other processes out there.

David summarized that the current draft has the Board focusing on short and long term deliverable and these need to be finalized as to what they are. Time is of the essence and what is in the current draft of this Business Case is replicated in the UNBC partnership agreement.

Recommend that the working group continue to work on this and that the aspect of working groups and their role will be tabled for the Advisory Board at session tomorrow.

UNBC/M-KAB Collaborative Partnership Agreement David Luff (lead)

David provided a power point presentation to bring the Advisory Board members up to date with the progress of the draft agreement.

Dr. Kathy Parker and Dr. Mike Gillingham were in attendance to speak from UNBC if needed.

A page by page review of the draft agreement took place.

Dr Parker advised that UNBC was prepared to sign the current draft before the Advisory Board. She welcomes the opportunity that this new agreement will provide for the M-KMA.

David felt that there were some further edits based on the today's discussion and that the Board should deal with this at tomorrow's session for Board members only.

BC Parks: M-K Park Plans: Northern Rockies, Redfern Keily, Graham Laurier

Secretariat provided a timetable from BC Parks for the completion of these plans. Current drafts were provided to the Board back in October 2011.

Board made aware that Philip Clements, who was seconded to a planner position to advance these 3 plans was now at the end of his term for this temporary assignment. A new planner was to be in place for April 2nd

It was recommended that the new Parks Planner be invited to an Executive conference call to provide further details on how these plans will be finalized by August as outlined.

Cumulative Effects Management

- Chris Addison, Director, Resource Management FLNR

Chris introduced himself to the M-KAB members, background is a biologist and worked for the Guide Outfitters Association of BC and then has been in the Provincial government for about 5 years. Current position in the Ministry is in Fort St John and has assumed the role that Andy Ackerman and Maurice Lirette once filled in the Ministry of Environment. His role is now more than wildlife and encompasses all resource management issues in the North East Peace Region.

CEM: Chris wanted to brief the M-KAB on one of his current initiatives that being cumulative effects management. He spoke about the need for doing this which has two key outcomes:

- 1) this is to be used as a consultation tool
- 2) a decision support mechanism for statutory decision making.

This work is at the initial stage and has much more to work through. Chris went through a high level of the work to date and highlighted that much more work is required. Consideration of the Farrell Creek area for a pilot area to work through CEM once the initial work is completed for the “process” of this initiative.

The M-KAB members asked if Chris was familiar with the work the Board initiated on CEM some years ago. Chris was not and Secretariat was requested to provide the materials to Chris for his reference and use in advancing his work.

Chris will keep the M-KAB apprised of his work as it advances.

Sulphur 8 Mile Stone's Sheep Project:

- Brian Churchill, Chair S8M Stone's Sheep Science Committee

Brian Churchill reported out to the M-K Advisory Board on the Sulphur 8 Mile Stone's Sheep workshop that was held in Fort St John on March 27th. (He provided a power point presentation which will be posted on the M-KAB member's website).

As the work begins its final phase in developing management guidelines/policy for oil and gas activity, the process for the recommended guidelines/policy will be:

- Recommendations will be provided to the Stone's sheep Steering Committee for their review. Once they are satisfied with those recommendations:
- Initiate a review by the M-KAB, and once that review has taken place;
- Provide management policy and guidelines for the Province to approve and implement with these policy and guidelines being used in other M-K management zones where stone's sheep are located.

M-K Local Strategic Land Use Plans:

Board member Peter Stone, who was unable to attend this meeting, desired a discussion on the status of the 5 local strategic plans required to be completed under the M-K Act/Regulation.

It was brought forward to the government representatives at this meeting that these plans play an important role for the M-KAB as their role is to ensure that resource management activities are consistent with those approved plans. Without some of the plans being completed, the Board cannot fulfill its legislated mandate.

It was discussed further that it would be prudent to draft up all the required plans and determine which ones have been completed and which ones are required to be completed.

This would be one of the key initiatives to be worked through by a small working group (to be established) of government and M-KAB members.

M-KAB members would table this suggestion for discussion in tomorrow's session.

M-K Trust Fund: Final report out to Board on approved Expenditure Plan 2011-12

Secretariat walked the Board members through the Expenditure plan project by project and reported out on what was completed and what was outstanding.

- All projects and funding allocated were completed EXCEPT for the \$30,000 allocated for "Advancing a Monitoring Framework for the M-KMA". There was no ability for the M-KAB to set up in detail the work required under this project.

Secretariat advised the members that his discussions with Karilyn Vince indicated that she would NOT make any further recommendations to the Minister regarding the unused funds in the account. Though she was not clear on how government will deal with those remaining funds, she made it clear that she would not take anything further to the Minister as this was the 3rd extension given by the Province on the residual amount in the M-K trust fund.

Butch Morningstar provided the following to the Board members:

- Since this was his first time in dealing with this trust fund, he would be prepared to take something forward to the Minister for expenditure of the remaining funds IF the Board could provide something concrete as a deliverable that would benefit the province in its work in the M-KMA.
- He suggested that development of the Strategic Plan with clear and concise outcomes would be something he would be prepared to take forward.

- He advised that there is no guarantee in getting Minister Thomson's approval.

M-KAB was to take this discussion into tomorrow's session to determine how they would work with Butch's direction.

3:45 PM: this completed the day's agenda.

Chair Stephanie Killam thanked all for their participation and took a few minutes to set up tomorrow's meeting for Board members only.

March 28th session was closed.

March 29th M-K Members only meeting:

M-KAB Members Attending:

Stephanie Killam (Chair) Corrine Porter Bill Lux Wayne Sawchuk
Barry Holland Johnny Mikes

Regrets: Peter Stone Jason Lee Roslyn Pokiak Leif Olsen

Recommended Board members Attending (appointments into Premier):

David Luff Gavin Dirom

Regrets: Juergen Puetter Reg Gardner Doug McKee

8:00 am – 9:00 am M-KAB Breakfast “in camera” session.

- 1) From this session, members present see no conflict or perceived conflict regarding Stephanie Killam, M-KAB Chair and her role with Resources North Association (RNA).

RNA is the 3rd party who administers M-KAB operational funding.

Financial decisions of the M-KAB are not made by the Chair but by the Executive and/or the full Advisory Board.

- 2) Two of the five new members who are attending this meeting were welcomed to participate in the days discussion, however due to the fact that they have not yet been appointed by the Premier, will have to abstain when decisions are to be made.
- 3) M-KAB meeting minutes will be drafted and circulated to those attending the meeting and copied to those members unable to attend. Errors & omissions must

be tabled by the 2nd Executive meeting following the Board meeting. The Executive will have those draft minutes carried at that meeting.

9:00 am: M-KAB Administration:

1) **Motion:** to adopt the minutes presented from October 2010 meeting

Moved by: Johnny Mikes **Second:** Wayne Sawchuk

Discussion: none **Motion Carried**

2) **Motion:** to adopt the minutes presented from May 2011 meeting

Moved by: Johnny Mikes **Second:** Corrine Porter

Discussion: Bill Lux requested that his comments reflected in the discussion with John Cavanagh which made reference to First Nations should be struck from minutes. All agreed.

Motion Carried: May 2011 meeting minutes along with AME notes adopted and approved with one change noted in discussion.

3) **Motion:** to adopt the minutes presented from the October 2011 meeting

Moved by: Johnny Mikes **Second:** Wayne Sawchuk

Discussion: none **Motion Carried**

M-KAB Operational Funds:

Secretariat advised that the January to March quarter report from Resources North Association will not be available until mid to late April as required under the agreement.

Projecting the remaining funds based on this meeting it is estimated that there will be approximately \$45,000 remaining in the RNA account

Board requests Secretariat to provide the remaining amount (4th quarter report) to the next Executive (April 26th) with a projected use of those remaining funds to March 31, 2013. Executive will review those projections in determining expenditures for the year.

M-K Trust Fund:

Based on the discussion with Butch Morningstar yesterday, members agreed that a letter is required to go to Butch along with an Expenditure Plan for the remaining funds. (est \$30,000).

Suggestions for the use of these funds include: developing the Strategic/Business plan identified in the Business Case briefing note and completing a Recreation Management Plan for the M-KMA.

This is to be referred to the Business Case working group (a requirement to confirm this working group later in the meeting). This working group will develop details quickly and present to Executive for approval and advancing to Butch Morningstar.

M-KAB Structure and Operations:

Chair Stephanie Killam tabled a discussion on the operational structure of the Advisory Board. Are changes required? She requested members to focus on what the Board needs to accomplish in a very short time period and the structure required to make this happen.

She envisions that all members need to “roll up their sleeves” and help the Advisory Board can deliver on what is being presented in the UNBC partnership agreement, the Business Case deliverables and working closely with Provincial Government. Current Board operations and making decisions and follow through of those decisions needs to be addressed.

After much round table discussion, the following motion was put forward:

MOTION: That the current Board operational structure be changed to:

1. Under the new Premier appointed Chair, move to 1 Vice Chair from 2 co Vice Chairs
2. M-K Executive would include: Chair, Vice Chair and 3 members (other than M-K Chair, all other members to be appointed within Board membership)
3. M-K Committee structure with Chairs be changed and;
4. Ad hoc working groups will be created to address priority Advisory Board issues or tasks and that the working group will disband once the task is completed.
5. This operational structure of the M-K Advisory Board would be reviewed annually at the spring meeting.

MOVED: Johnny Mikes **SECOND:** Barry Holland

DISCUSSION: Board members discussed this motion in detail and all came to agreement that a new operating structure would help the Board deliver on its commitments over the coming year. It was felt that this new structure put forward will help to do this.

As this was a significant change to the structure of the Executive, it was recommended that this motion be put forward to all members to ensure that those NOT in attendance today would have the opportunity to have a discussion on this.

The motion was accepted with the provision that a conference call be set up for all members to understand and entertain a discussion on this change. Once structure is changed, then a process is to be set up for establishing members for the Executive.

M-KAB member's conference call was set for April 11th and 10 am PDT time,

An email to invite all members along with this motion regarding the proposed structure be sent out after this meeting and ensure all have an opportunity to have a discussion on this proposed change. Once the proposed change is accepted, the process for confirming Executive members will be tabled for all.

Motion with above provision is carried

Establishing M-KAB priorities for next 6-12 months

Business Case Briefing Note: David Luff led the members through further details on the draft business case.

Motion: That the current working group members continue with David Luff to lead up to the April 11th conference call for all Board members. At that conference call, a confirmation of the working group members will be made.

Moved: Johnny Mikes **Second:** Wayne Sawchuk

Discussion:

- 1) Review and recommendations on the short and long term deliverables were made to the draft Briefing Note.
- 2) There is now a requirement to establish deliverables and firm timelines to complete those deliverables.
- 3) David Luff will make these recommended changes to the Business Case Briefing Note and update after this meeting.
- 4) Current working group members will continue until the April 11th conference call for all Board members. On that call, the working group members will be confirmed for the year.

Motion Carried

Collaborative Partnership Agreement with UNBC

Motion:

- That the M-KAB move the draft agreement to a final agreement to be signed after this meeting with UNBC and the M-KAB Chair, and;
- That the M-KAB working group to implement this agreement be 3 Board members
- David Luff, Juergen Puetter and Stephanie Killam are the 3 members assigned to this working group to allow continuity and the positive working relationship they have established with UNBC faculty.

Moved: Wayne Sawchuk **Second:** Barry Holland

Discussion:

Several edits were discussed to the draft agreement. Wording regarding “mining leases” should be corrected to “mineral tenures” David Luff recorded those recommended edits to be made and would go through the document one further time to ensure wording was accurate and correct and would include a termination clause.

If the Board ceased to exist, what would happen to this agreement? Discussion concluded that the agreement would end. The endowment funds would continue to be held by UNBC and the original intent of the endowment would be followed by UNBC.

All present agreed for David to make those minor edits and provide to UNBC in preparation for sign off. David will have document prepared for signing and a meeting will be set up with Gail Fondahl and Stephanie for signing.

Motion Carried

Motion: That the M-KAB establish an ad hoc working group with the Province of BC with Butch Morningstar as the lead for the Province.

Moved: Wayne Sawchuk **Second:** Barry Holland

Discussion: That the M-K working group for this be the M-K Executive when established under the new operating structure.

Carried

Old Business:

Three (3) outstanding pieces of business were brought forward by members to this meeting:

- 1) Kaska workshop discussed at the October 2011 Board meeting. Bill Lux addressed this and advised that the timelines and work required to undertake such a workshop was not feasible in the timeframe provided.

Motion: That the workshop that was proposed be taken off the M-K business plan

Moved: Bill Lux **Second:** Corrine Porter

Discussion: All members agreed to bring this to a close.

Carried

- 2) November 2011 M-KAB letter to Minister Thomson. T8TA representative and M-K Board Jason Lee, emailed (January 12, 2012) that stated the letter “misrepresented what Tribal Chief Logan stated in her opening comments”

Board members present felt that this should be followed up on so that there is clarity and understanding between the Advisory Board and T8TA on this issue.

Motion: M-KAB Chair, Stephanie Killam write letter to Jason Lee requesting details on what was misrepresented in the letter to Minister Thomson.

Moved: Wayne Sawchuk **Second:** Corrine Porter

Discussion: all agreed to letter to be sent
Carried

- 3) Ministry of Environment Regional Manager, Maurice Lirette was to follow up with the M-KAB on monitoring/enforcements of boats and aircraft activity in the M-KMA. (Maurice had provided a river boat count on the Kechika River at one time).

From October 2010 minutes: "*Maurice brought forward: How do we manage access boats and airplanes which are outside provincial jurisdiction? How to do this etc, what kind of limits do we look at in terms of how much is too much ---- MoE would like to engage the Board on these discussions*".

The members discussion did not result in a motion or any follow up action being required. It was noted that Ministry of Environment should be reporting out on boat and aircraft activity in government's annual report on the M-KMA.

Next M-K Advisory Board meeting dates:

Target October 3rd and 4th. confirm these dates and location at a later date with the Executive.

Chair Stephanie Killam thanked those attending this meeting for their time, commitment, and participation at this meeting.

She looks forward to having all the appointments in place within days and welcomes the opportunity to work with all members over the next year.

Motion: To close the spring 2012 M-KAB meeting

Moved: Johnny Mikes **Second** Wayne Sawchuk

Carried