



The Chair noted the Committee's appreciation for the two-installment grant payment process that has been put in place. Mr. Croteau shared with the members that he had met with the general and financial management to optimize the payment in one annual installment in order to eliminate any possible delay and thus eliminate any administrative and financial stress for the Committee.

The discussion continued with an overview of the various issues that concern the JBACE within in the provincial's jurisdiction, such as the management of residual materials and the modernization of the deposit and selective collection systems, a subject of interest and concern to the communities. Mr. Croteau emphasized the relevant participation of the JBACE in the BAPE on the current status and management of final waste. Active in waste management issues for over 40 years, Mr. Croteau emphasized that the decisions made by the ministry over the past two years are extremely courageous. As for the adoption of the regulations for the modernization of the deposit and selective collection systems, it is important to identify the right players in the communities to facilitate its implementation. The JBACE is a key partner to help in this process.

With regard to forestry issues, the next PAFIT review should take place in November or December 2022 and the Analyst proposed to communicate the next report to Mr. Croteau. Mr. Croteau confirmed his interest in receiving the report in order to see how to work within the land use plan, while taking into account the issue of protected areas.

The discussion then turned to the REAFIE. The documents are in French and the question was raised as to whether some explanatory tools would be available in English to assist English speakers in the Territory. Mr. Croteau replied that, according to government policy, there will unfortunately be no translation of all the documentation, but translation on request is possible for certain identified and targeted documents.

The discussion continued on climate change. The Chair updated Mr. Croteau on the progress of the fact sheets. Mr. Croteau informed members that all revenues from carbon market auctions will be used to fund implementation measures under the 2030 Green Economy Plan, as well as ongoing commitments under the 2013-2020 Climate Change Action Plan.

The Analyst continued with the cumulative effects file. He informed Mr. Croteau that the JBACE had just completed a diagnostic document on the issues and problems affecting the consideration of cumulative effects, within the framework of development project assessment and at the level of land use planning and development (regional level). Mr. Croteau confirmed the importance of the cumulative effects issue in the context of land management planning in the Territory. The JBACE will communicate the diagnosis to the latter.

The meeting ended with thanks from the members and from Mr. Croteau and Ms. Rodrigue, and an invitation to meet again in the future

#### **MEETING WITH THE FEDERAL ADMINISTRATOR**

Members met with Mr. Terry Hubbard, Federal Administrator of Section 22 of the JBNQA and President of the Impact Assessment Agency of Canada (IAAC) and Mr. Benoit Dubreuil, Director of the Quebec Regional Office of the IAAC.

The members introduced themselves. The Chair then recalled the mandate of the CCEBJ and explained how the committee works, as well as the decision-making process for getting involved in a file or not. She added that in order to do its job well, it is essential for the committee to have good internal collaboration, but also collaboration with external partners. The JBACE works to create and maintain links in order to be effective in fulfilling its mandate. Mr. Hubbard mentioned that he is aware of the work of the JBACE and that he appreciates what the committee does. He added that he encourages his colleagues to learn about the role and mandate of the JBACE in order to include us in the consultations.

The Chair mentioned that it will soon be the beginning of a new fiscal year and that this also means a new budget envelope. She added that things have improved greatly in this area over the last few years, particularly with regard to the time frame for the grant. This allows the Secretariat staff to concentrate on the files and not on administrative delays. Mr. Hubbard mentioned that they have received the grant application and are working with the Quebec government to get the funds out without too much delay.

The Chair then gave a brief summary of the work of the JBACE on climate change. She mentioned that there have been several meetings at different levels, particularly with the Quebec government as part of the development of the Green Economy Plan, a meeting in which federal representatives also participated. She added that there have been several forums and opportunities for discussion, but that it is now time to act.

The Analyst then presented the cumulative effects file. He explained that this is an internal file on which the JBACE has been working for a long time. The committee has just completed a diagnostic for this file. Mr. Hubbard mentioned that this is a critical file and one of the biggest challenges for the implementation of the new *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA). He added that it will be essential to identify the right players and the right tools to find solutions. One member added that communities can play a larger role.

The discussion then turned to the interactions between the departments and the JBACE. The Analyst mentioned that the committee receives a lot of consultation requests and sometimes several at the same time. Another issue is timing (e.g., number of days to comment, time of year) as this can have an impact on the committee's ability to contribute adequately. However, the Analyst mentioned that things have improved over the last few years. The Chair added that the Secretariat has to triage the applications and that the time dedicated to this is time that cannot be used for other files. The Executive Director added that one way to remedy this is to have the right contacts who know the Committee and know who to consult and when. In addition, it would be interesting to have better feedback when comments are sent in. Mr. Hubbard said that he understood the issues.

The discussion then turned to the implementation of the *Impact Assessment Act* (IAA). The analyst mentioned that the JBACE has been involved in the file since the beginning and is waiting to see what happens next. Mr. Hubbard expressed his appreciation for the work of the JBACE. He added that the IAAC is still working on the implementation of the IAA. He is aware that engagement is an important aspect of the process. Unfortunately, the pandemic has changed the way things are done, and the situation does not reflect what can and will be done. Mr. Hubbard is also aware of the complexity of the different processes and adds that they are trying to find ways to coordinate them to eliminate duplication of effort. The implication of Indigenous communities and the knowledge integration are also important aspects to be considered.

The Analyst then presented the *Fisheries Act* file. He mentioned that this is the federal file on which the JBACE is currently the most active. It is a multi-faceted file, and the committee is putting forward actions at different levels depending on the component. The JBACE has been very active in the first phase and intends to be just as active in the second phase.

Finally, the Chair addressed the issue of the Indigenous Knowledge Policy Framework. She explained that the JBACE has been active on this file and that comments were sent during the consultation period. She asked Mr. Hubbard if he had any developments to share on the file. Mr. Hubbard replied that it was an ongoing process, involving several entities (Canadian Impact Assessment Agency, Transport Canada, Canadian Energy Board, Fisheries and Oceans Canada), in order to have a common approach. He thanked the JBACE for its participation and added that he anticipates the publication of the framework in the spring of 2022, along with a report on what they heard during the consultations. He added that it will not be final as they will continue to learn from experiences and improve the framework over time.

The meeting concluded with thanks from the members and from Mr. Hubbard and Mr. Dubreuil.

## **DEBRIEF ON THE MEETINGS WITH THE ADMINISTRATORS**

The members discussed the meetings with the Administrators. They agreed that these meetings are essential and beneficial for both the CCEBJ and the Administrators. They mentioned that such meetings should be held every year. One member suggested that the committee should prepare a note about this and add topics to it as they come to mind.

Members noted some items that would require follow-up.

The Executive Director mentioned that a thank you letter will be sent to each Administrator.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **Minutes of the 222<sup>nd</sup> meeting**

The Executive Director mentioned that a member sent some modifications to the French version of the minutes to correct grammar or syntax. Nothing in the content was changed.

On a motion by Suzie Boudreau, seconded by Vanessa Chalifour, the minutes of the 222<sup>nd</sup> meeting were adopted with the modifications.

A member asked for a follow-up on the meeting with Niskamoon and Hydro-Québec. The Executive Director responded that given the busy agenda for the meeting, it was decided that the meeting with them would be postponed to a later meeting.

### **Follow-up on the 2021-2022 finances and end of fiscal year**

The Executive Director reminded the members that the comparative statements are available each month on the cloud. The 2021-2022 fiscal year will be closed on March 31, 2022. The Executive Director mentioned that the final figures should be similar to the figures in the revised budget in November 2021.

### **New Chair and Vice-Chair**

The Executive Director reminded the meeting that on April 1, 2022, the chairmanship will change. The federal party will appoint the Chair and the provincial party will appoint the Vice-Chair.

Alexandre-Guy Côté will hold the position of Chair for the next year and Mélanie Savoie will hold the position of Vice-Chair.

### **Follow-up on internship in communication/marketing**

The Executive Director shared with the members the project to hire an intern to take evaluate the communication situation and help develop a communication plan. An internship offer was drawn up for this purpose and the Executive Director posted the offer in four Quebec universities. No applications were received from three of the four universities, and the applications received from the fourth university did not meet the desired criteria.

The Executive Director proposed to the members that the budget initially earmarked for the hiring of an intern be reallocated to the development of a communication plan by calling upon a communication firm. The members adopted this initiative and the Executive Director will contact the firm that made a submission to the CCEBJ in 2020, as well as others if necessary.

### **Members' access to the JBACE documents**

The Executive Director reminded members of the process of accessing documents online on the cloud and that the secretariat is trying to make as many documents as possible from previous years' archives available. The option of giving members access to the JBACE server is difficult to manage given the configuration and security issues involved. The possible option is therefore to transfer the desired documents to the cloud for consultation.

Members would like to have access to official communications sent and received in letter format (PDF format) for the last years and also access to email invitations to comment. The secretariat will therefore prepare a table to keep track of the invitations to comment received by email and the Executive Director will inquire about the possibility of improving the performance of the keyword search engine on the cloud.

## **FILES**

### **New project: Legislative and regulatory portrait**

The Executive Director gave a summary presentation of the project and mentioned that an estimate is available on the cloud. The main idea of the project is to draw up a legislative and regulatory portrait in order to identify the current situation and to feed the internal reflection of the JBACE, in order to identify the interactions and contradictions, the possible duplications, with the aim of promoting coherence in the application of the Section 22 environmental and social protection regime of the JBNQA. This will allow for a better understanding of the dynamics between the laws and regulations that apply on the territory and represents a tool to better determine the issues on the relevance or not of commenting on a future bill, regulations, policy, etc. This legislative and regulatory portrait will therefore ensure that the JBACE has a better position on the legislation in place. It could also serve as a basis for training on the legislative and regulatory bases in the territory.

The project is being developed in two phases. In the first phase, an exhaustive inventory of the environmental laws and regulations applicable in the territory will be drawn up and could be presented, for example, in the form of an online platform. In a second phase, a summary comparative analysis will be carried out and can be presented in the form of a report. Ideally, the report would be adopted in spring 2023. The budget for this project is still to be defined.

The Executive Director mentioned that a subcommittee, with Kelly LeBlanc, Vanessa Chalifour and Alexandre-Guy Côté, had been created to develop this project. She also described the various contacts made and the discussions that led to the preparation of the project specifications.

The members discussed the different avenues and perspectives for carrying out this project and gave approval to the sub-committee to continue the work. The sub-committee will explore other options to further develop the specifications and establish a timeline and budget.

### **Waste material management**

The Executive Director followed up on the modernization of the deposit and collective selection systems. She mentioned that the JBACE had sent its comments on March 10, 2022, and that the document was available for consultation on the cloud.

## **PAFIT**

The Analyst mentioned that the next workshop will take place on 13 and 14 April 2022. This workshop allows the sub-committee to review the parameters and prepare for the next PAFIT review expected in November 2022. Presentations will be made on 13 April followed by a day of discussion among members on 14 April. The agenda for the workshop is available on the cloud and the analyst has sent members an invitation to participate and a background document. Minutes of the presentations will be produced and sent to members. A firm will be selected by September 2022 for review in November. In light of the lifting of health restrictions, the analyst will evaluate options for a hybrid meeting for the workshop.

## **Bill 102**

The analyst reminded members that the JBACE is following the file closely and that there has been no movement since February 15, 2022 and that there is nothing planned on the calendar of the National Assembly

site. The analyst will keep members informed of developments. A member pointed out that the Committee on Transportation and the Environment resumed its work on March 17, 2022, after a two-week break, they are in block 6.4 and the mining law is in block 6.5 which should be over by the following Tuesday.

### **Omnibus Regulation**

The analyst mentioned that the JBACE received an email from Mr. Courtemanche, Director of the Bureau de stratégie législative et réglementaire of the MELCC, in mid-February explaining the project and the Ministry's intentions regarding the changes to be made via the omnibus regulation. The analyst had a meeting with the MELCC to obtain clarifications and to proceed with the analysis. He mentioned that since the changes made do not affect the Chapter 22 environmental and social environment protection regime of the JBNQA, it is not strategic for the JBACE to comment. The Secretariat will send an email response to Mr. Courtemanche thanking him for the invitation to comment and advising him that the JBACE will not comment at this time.

### **Cumulative impacts**

The analyst summarised the developments in this file. He mentioned that he had had informal discussions with some stakeholders before the holiday season, and that others were to come. The objective is to prepare the JBACE's regional policy strategy.

### **Fisheries Act**

The analyst explained that Phase 2 of the engagement is underway. He will be attending all DFO briefings on the Phase 2 discussion topics. He is currently drafting a briefing note to provide an overview and action plan for the sub-committee members. The action plan will be discussed at a future sub-committee meeting.

### **Northern Conservation Areas Designation Mechanism**

A member shared follow-up news regarding the tabling of the mechanism which was planned for winter 2022. Due to the upcoming elections the project is currently on hold. Short-term developments are therefore not expected and this item can be taken off the agenda for the time being.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The Executive Director reminded everyone that the next meeting would be held on 16 June 2022. Members discussed the possibility of holding it in person. This would be a good time to discuss the mission statement and the 2023-2028 strategic plan. A decision will be taken depending on the evolution of the health situation in the coming weeks.

### **ADJOURN**

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Reviewed by Graeme Morin, Environmental Analyst  
Adopted on September 15, 2022***

