



Agreement to Resolve the Baril-Moses Forestry Dispute between the Cree Nation of Eeyou Istchee and the Government of Québec. In accordance with this section, the proposed lands are areas of great ecological, environmental or cultural importance to the Cree. Many of these lands also significantly contribute to landscape-level connectivity of woodland caribou habitats, a caribou ecotype designated as “vulnerable” under Québec’s Act respecting threatened or vulnerable species.

The protection of the lands that are the subject of this proposal also aligns with La Grande Alliance. It is envisioned that La Grande Alliance will make it possible to reconcile different uses in terms of economic and social development, environmental protection and harmonious cohabitation, guaranteeing the long-term protection of the region through conservation measures. This includes the creation and management of protected areas, taking into account wildlife and environmental imperatives as well as the need to coordinate these measures with the development of infrastructure and resources.

### **Cumulative impacts**

The Analyst said that the subcommittee held eight meetings in the past months, and finalized a reference document in which the issues and challenges for taking cumulative impacts in consideration have been hashed out. The document is available on the cloud in English and French.

The Analyst explained that there are four areas of actions that the subcommittee recommends considering. He suggested a special meeting with all the members in December to discuss the different areas of action.

The Analyst mentioned that the subcommittee also discussed the possibility to work with an external expert. The members shared their opinion on the relevance of such an initiative. It was mentioned that the screening of issues, solutions and future actions is an internal exercise, but that the subcommittee has reached its limits on the topic and that an external opinion could help. Given the complexity of the file, the members discussed the value of developing an action plan identifying concrete actions to be taken. The members decided to begin by holding the special meeting internally. After that, if needed, the JBACE could request the help of an external expert.

### **Climate change**

The Executive Director informed the members that the contract has been signed with Québec’ERE for the preparation of a fact sheet. A first draft of the content and design will be submitted soon.

The Executive Director also mentioned that she has discussed with the project manager at CTA about the mobile application which will allow users to enter information on climate change, among other things. She mentioned that it would be interesting to organize a presentation with the project manager.

The Plan for a Green Economy (PEV), in which the JBACE was involved during the consultations, was published on November 16, 2020. The Executive Director invited members to read the plan and the implementation plan online and she highlighted a few interesting aspects. She mentioned that the plan references existing issues in the northern regions, a desire to include the notion of fair transition, and collaboration with Indigenous people. The five-year implementation plan will be updated annually. Members discussed the JBACE’s involvement and agreed that the committee has reached its limit in terms of action at this time and that other entities are more suited for the next steps. However, they would be interested in having a presentation of the MELCC. The Executive Director will contact MELCC to inquire about the possibility of having a presentation in the coming months.

### **Critical and strategic minerals (CSM)**

The Executive Director reminded members of the meeting in 2019 between the JBACE and the MERN as part of the initiative on the development of CSM, as well as the meeting in February 2020 in Oujé-Bougoumou. She added that the JBACE produced comments following the consultations in the summer of 2020 on the draft plan for the development of CSM on public land. The Quebec Plan for the Development of CSM was published at the end of October 2020. Several elements mentioned in the JBACE’s letter can be found in the plan, such as the harmonization of uses and the reference to the Grand Alliance. A more detailed analysis of the plan could be

undertaken if necessary. The Executive Director mentioned that the JBACE received a thank you letter from the MERN for our participation which elaborates on future actions. The members discussed the matter and came to the conclusion that the JBACE has accomplished its role and that no further action need be taken at this time.

The Executive Director reminded the members that the committee needs to prepare itself for a revision of the *Mining Act*.

### **Development of public land**

The Analyst explained that the MERN's consultation does not request the JBACE participation in the file for now.

### **Deposit and selective collection**

The Executive Director prepared an information note available on the cloud. It summarizes the work of the MELCC and the JBACE on the file. She confirmed that the JBACE received a letter at the end of August to comment on the changes to the deposit and selective collection systems proposed in Bill 65. An ad hoc sub-committee was created during the September meeting. Following the subcommittee meeting, it was decided not to comment on Bill-65 at that time, but that the JBACE would participate as an observer in one of the working groups in order to gather as much relevant information as possible. The JBACE may then assess its implication when the draft regulations are published and intervene if required.

### **PAFIT and forestry**

The revised PAFITs for 2018-2023 are available online. The Analyst will review the comments we provided to see how they were taken into consideration. For the review of the next generation of PAFITs, the Analyst suggested to plan an in-person workshop sometimes in 2021 with the members to review the parameters and criteria of analysis. The next generation is scheduled to be made available for the summer of 2022, which should give the committee a year to prepare for the review. The Analyst will work with the members to find a date for the workshop, when we may start meeting in person again.

The Analyst mentioned that the Government of Québec announced a revision to the forestry regime in November. This exercise does not appear to be a revision of laws or regulations, but a rather a revision of procedural mechanisms for marketing and awarding timber contracts. These changes will not directly affect PAFIT reviews, but a degree of familiarization with them will prove useful to the subcommittee if implication is warranted. The Analyst is currently drafting an information note following his participation in an information session in November.

### **Fisheries Act**

The revised Fisheries Act was adopted in 2019. A special meeting with the subcommittee is being scheduled to assess the role and level of intervention of the JBACE in the file. The members will be informed. At the national level, informational webinars on the latest details are planned for early 2021.

### **Wetlands and bodies of water**

The JBACE received an invitation for the consultations on updating the regulation on compensation for the restoration of wetlands and bodies of water. This exercise applies only for southern Quebec. The Executive Director suggested that members should decline the consultation offer but highlight the interest of the JBACE in participating in this same type of reflection exercise for the North. She and the Chair will prepare a letter in response to the invitation declining the offer and indicating our interest in being involved when a reflection for the North begins.

### **Information items**

#### *Cree Nation of Mistissini's request*

The comments were sent on November 10. The Cree Nation of Mistissini shared its satisfaction of the work. The bill should be adopted in January 2021.

## *RESAEU*

The Analyst informed the members that an information note on the file is available on the cloud. The JBACE's role in the file is not defined yet. The Secretariat is gathering information for the time being.

## *Aquaculture*

The Analyst explained that the federal government is considering a bill on commercial aquaculture and that it has filed a briefing note on the cloud to inform members of the progress of the file. The members discussed the file and said that it is premature to make a decision on the committee's involvement, but that the Secretariat should stay informed.

## **Meeting with other committees**

The Executive Director suggested to remove this item from the agenda of future meetings for now. If necessary, the point will be added if a meeting must be planned.

## **Letter approval process**

The members agreed that the subcommittee will decide if letters must be reviewed by all the members or not before being sent to the Chairperson.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **Revenu Québec**

The option to process GST and QST refund requests and receive refunds by direct deposit requires access to the clicSÉQR online portal. The most efficient way is to appoint the Executive Director as an authorized representative. The committee must pass a resolution to that effect in order to start the process.

On a motion by Marc Dunn, seconded by Caroline Chabot, the resolution 2020-26-11-01 (see appendix 2) was adopted.

### **Finances**

The Executive Director first presented an update on the budget for the current year. Members discussed forecasts for the remainder of the year, which will be presented with the budget request. They decided to update computing equipment in order to improve the efficiency of the secretariat employees given that teleworking may continue for a certain time.

The Executive Director then presented the forecasts for 2021-2022. The members discuss the forecasts and suggest some modifications. They instruct the Administrative Committee (AC) to review certain items before finalizing the budget and other documents that will be sent with the funding request.

On a motion by Alexandre-Guy Côté, seconded by Kelly Leblanc, the provisional budget is adopted and will be finalized by the AC.

## **MOTION OF THANKS**

The members wished to thank Maud Ablain for her work at the JBACE as she will have to step down as a member because of her new position at the MELCC.

On a motion by Kelly Leblanc, seconded by Alexandre-Guy Côté, the motion was adopted.

## **ADJOURN**

***Prepared by Eva Wolf, Secretariat Officer and Michèle Leduc-Lapierre, Executive Director***

***Reviewed by Graeme Morin, Environmental Analyst***

***Adopted on March 11, 2021***



## **218<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the JBACE**

**Videoconference, November 26, 2020, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.**

To join the webinar, click here: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/549737445>

For audio, follow the instructions on the webinar or call 1-647-497-9391, access code 153-528-613

1. 9:00 Welcome, presentations and adoption of the agenda
2. 9:05 Adoption of the minutes from meeting 217
3. 9:10 Mission
  - Summary of the work of the subcommittee
  - Discussion on the mission statement and other related items
  - Adoption of the mission statement
  - Follow-up on the 2018-2023 Strategic Plan
4. 10:00 Files
  - Protected areas: presentation from Mélanie and discussion (45 minutes)
  - Cumulative impacts: work plan (update)
  - Climate change: fact sheets and PEV (update and discussion)
5. 11:30 Executive Director performance review (*in camera*)
6. 12:00 Lunch
7. 1:00 Files (continued)
  - Critical and strategic minerals (update or discussion per the evolution of the file)
  - Development of public land (update or discussion per the evolution of the file)
  - Deposit and selective collection (update and discussion)
  - PAFIT (update)
  - *Fisheries Act* (update or discussion per the evolution of the file)
  - Wetlands and bodies of water
  - Information: Request from the Cree Nation of Mistissini, RESAEU, aquaculture
  - Meeting with other committees (discussion)
  - Letter adoption process (discussion)
8. 2:30 Administration
  - Revenu Québec
9. 2:40 Finances
  - Update on the 2020-2021 budget
  - Actions for 2021-2022
  - Adoption of the 2021-2022 budget
10. 4:00 Adjourn

## **Resolution 2020-26-11-01**

### **Designation of an authorized representative**

Resolution 2020-26-11-01 designating an authorized representative for the JBACE.

WHEREAS the former Executive Secretary is still designated as the authorized representative for the clicSÉQUR electronic file of the JBACE;

WHEREAS the JBACE must appoint a new person to act as authorized representative;

WHEREAS the administrative management of the secretariat is under the responsibility of the Executive Director;

WHEREAS there is a need to ensure continuity year after year as the Presidency changes;

*On the proposal of Marc Dunn, seconded by Caroline Chabot:*

It is unanimously resolved to designate Michèle Leduc-Lapierre, Executive Director of the JBACE, as the authorized representative for the JBACE at Revenu Québec and for clicSÉQUR.