



## MINUTES OF THE 220<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE JAMES BAY ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

### DATE

June 9, 2021

### LOCATION

Videoconference

### PRESENT

Melissa Saganash, Cree Nation Government  
Chantal Tétreault, Cree Nation Government  
Kelly LeBlanc, Cree Nation Government  
Caroline Chabot, Québec  
Manon Cyr, Québec  
Brigitte Goulet, Québec

Suzie Boudreau, Canada  
Elisabeth Gill, Canada  
Madeleine Green, Canada

Michèle Leduc-Lapierre, Executive Director  
Graeme Morin, Environmental Analyst

### ABSENT

Marc Dunn, Cree Nation Government  
Mélanie Chabot, Québec  
Alexandre-Guy Côté, Canada

### WELCOME AND ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

On a motion by Chantal Tétreault, seconded by Manon Cyr, the agenda (see appendix 1) was adopted with the addition of a point in the item 'Files' (Mid-Canada Line).

The Chair welcomed the new members and a roundtable ensued.

### MINUTES OF THE 219<sup>TH</sup> MEETING

No modification was suggested.

On a motion by Kelly LeBlanc, seconded by Madeleine Green, minutes of the 219<sup>th</sup> meeting was adopted.

### MISSION AND LIST OF ISSUES

#### **Mission statement**

The Executive Director presented the short version of the mission statement prepared by the subcommittee. The members agree to make a minor modification. On a motion by Caroline Chabot, seconded by Elisabeth Gill, the short mission statement was adopted with a small modification.

More work is needed on the long version. The members will have the opportunity to discuss it at a later meeting.

#### **List of issues**

The Executive Director and the Analyst drafted a list of issues and files for the JBACE as an internal tool to assist in the drafting of the next Strategic Plan. It will also be used as a tool to better identify the files on which more emphasis should be placed and those on which the committee needs more information or updates.

A member mentioned that the priorities and needed updates should be better identified. An item on post-authorization environmental monitoring and compliance should be added.

The members decided to do a second review of the document in order to gather comments and talk about it at the next meeting.

## **Communications**

The Executive Director mentioned that the subcommittee discussed the possibility to work with an external firm to develop a communication plan that would take into account the JBACE mission statement and objectives. It will be used to update the website and develop other tools to increase the visibility of the committee. The Executive Director reminded the members that funds are dedicated to this in this year's budget. After discussion, the members decided to contact a communication firm to develop the communication plan. The subcommittee will meet to discuss it.

## **FILES**

### **National urban and land use plan strategy**

An information note is available on the cloud. The Executive Director mentioned that the JBACE was invited to participate in the development of the National Urban and Land Use Plan Strategy (Strategy). She explained that it will be a global intergovernmental strategy, but led by the ministère des Affaires municipales et de l'Habitation (MAMH). She also described the four main objectives of the Strategy.

On April 30, 2021, the JBACE participated in an engagement session for Indigenous nations and organizations in order to define the main orientations for the Strategy. The MAMH will circulate the summary of this meeting to the participants.

A second round of consultation is scheduled for August and the JBACE will have until September 10, 2021 to produce comments on the orientations. The Strategy will be developed in late 2021 and early 2022, and published in April 2022.

The Executive Director suggested the creation of a subcommittee to reflect on the matter and to prepare for the drafting of comments. External experts could participate in the work of the subcommittee if needed. Two parties appointed member on the subcommittee, the third party will communicate the name of the member to the Executive Director. A meeting will be scheduled thereafter.

### **Development of a MFFP policy on relations with Aboriginal nations and communities**

The Executive Director mentioned that the JBACE received an invitation to participate in the development of MFFP'S policy on relations with Indigenous nations and communities. This policy is part of the 2019-2023 MFFP's Strategic Plan. The policy should be completed by the spring of 2023.

The MFFP shared a consultation document that describes the main orientations with questions to stimulate the reflections on existing elements and to determine what can be improved, modified or replaced. The JBACE has until June 18, 2021 to provide initial comments. The members discussed the possibility to ask for an extension and the Executive Director will communicate with the appropriate person at the ministry.

A subcommittee was created, and already held two meetings. An info note with suggested comments was produced and reviewed by the subcommittee. Another draft of the comments should be produced in the coming weeks. The members of the subcommittee decided to approach the matter from the perspective of Section 22 of the JBNQA. Another meeting of the subcommittee will be held next week to continue the discussion on the draft comments.

### **Cumulative impacts**

The Analyst mentioned that he is working on four action plans focusing on data, directive, regional planning and regional policy. The DFO's initiative on cumulative effects under the *Fisheries Act* is also included in this reflection.

The AQEI annual conference was held in late May-early June and the main theme was cumulative effects. The Analyst made a presentation on the main steps and work undertaken by the JBACE since 2016. The members congratulated him on the quality of the presentation. A member highlighted several presentations that were made during the conference, including that of a doctoral student at the Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue, and invited members to attend her presentation to the CNG scheduled for June 16. The member will send the link for the presentation to the Executive Director who will share it with the members.

### **BAPE Commission**

The Chair summarized the situation concerning the BAPE Commission on the inventory and management of final waste (Commission) in the Territory. The JBACE is waiting on the resolution of bilateral discussions between the CNG and the MELCC, which should be concluded shortly. Discussions with the Commission can then resume. A meeting of the subcommittee should be scheduled soon.

### **Deposit and selective collection**

The Executive Director mentioned that the work of working group # 4 for selective collection (legislative and regulatory provisions) and of the working group on deposits has been completed. She will prepare an info note and share it on the cloud to keep members informed of the file's evolution.

### **“Rights coordinating office”**

An info note is available on the cloud for consultation.

The Analyst explained that the MERN held an information meeting regarding the Rights Coordination Office ('Bureau de coordination des droits,' in French – BCD). It should help project proponents in their regulatory and consultation processes as part of the authorization of their mining projects and the issuance of their permits. At this time, the initiative only concerns the mining sector, but the initiative is expected to be expanded to other sectors over time, depending on results. The Analyst added that, after the information meeting, more details were necessary to have a good understanding of the BCD. On June 1, a meeting was held with the MERN to obtain a number of clarifications.

The initiative is not open for comments, and the Secretariat will stay informed in order to keep the members up to date regarding the progress of the BCD.

### **Fisheries Act**

The Analyst mentioned that all the JBACE members are invited to participate in the next two meetings between the subcommittee and the DFO, scheduled for June 22 and 23, 2021. One external person is invited, the Analyst of the HFTCC. The Analyst will share the links to the meetings with all the members.

The discussion on June 22 will focus on cumulative effects and on the Offsetting and Habitat Banking policies will be discussed on June 23.

The documents for the meetings are available on the cloud.

### **PAFIT**

The Analyst mentioned that the subcommittee met recently. The Analyst is reviewing the PAFITs and is now beginning to work on the planning of a preparatory workshop that should be held in the winter of 2022 to start preparing for the next review. He will prepare a discussion document that will be presented to the subcommittee to start planning the workshop.

### **Climate change**

The Executive Director explained that the JBACE is waiting for the next draft of the info sheet.

## **Mid-Canada Line**

The Analyst mentioned that he tried to reach the project leader at the MELCC to plan an update presentation. A member offered to contact him to follow-up on the request.

## **JBNQA simulation**

The Analyst described the event organized by the Gordon Foundation with the Cree Nation Youth Council that was held in May 2021. It was a simulation related to the JBNQA for emerging leaders from Cree communities. He underlined the relevance of such initiatives that contribute to a better understanding of the JBNQA for youth, as well as the relevance of JBACE participation therein. He suggested the JBACE participate in the next similar event and that the committee should be involved in its development if possible.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **Follow-up on finance and Annual report**

The Executive Director mentioned that the JBACE is waiting for the first payment of the 2021-2022 grant.

The Annual Report is complete and will be sent shortly. The Executive Director thanked the members for their active participation. She pointed out that the closing of the fiscal year was accomplished very quickly by the Secretariat Officer, which allowed the JBACE to complete the report earlier this year.

### **Next meeting**

The Executive Director and the members discussed the next meeting scheduled in September. They agreed that it will likely not be held in the Territory given the pandemic. A hybrid format might be possible. The situation will be reassessed in the coming months in light of application health measures.

### **Performance reviews**

The Executive Director suggested to discuss the Secretariat employees performance reviews at the next meeting in September. The members agreed.

## **DEPARTURE FROM THE JBACE**

Caroline Chabot and Chantal Tétreault announced their departure from the JBACE. The other members thanked them for their involvement and wished them good luck with their future projects.

## **ADJOURN**

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

*Reviewed by Graeme Morin, Environmental Analyst*

*Adopted on September 15, 2021*



**220<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the JBACE**  
**Videoconference, June 9, 2021, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

To join the videoconference, click here: <https://zoom.us/j/97830963773>

1. 9:00 Welcome, presentations and adoption of the agenda
2. 9:05 Adoption of the minutes from meeting 219
3. 9:10 Mission and list of issues
  - a) Short version of the mission statement (discussion and adoption)
  - b) Long version of the mission statement (discussion)
  - c) List of issues (update)
  - d) Communications (discussion)
4. 9:45 Files (*a break will be held at an opportune time*)
  - National urban and land use plan strategy – MAMH (discussion and creation of a subcommittee)
  - Development of a MFFP policy on relations with Aboriginal nations and communities (discussion)
  - Cumulative impacts – work plan (update)
  - BAPE Commission (update and/or discussion)
  - Deposit and selective collection (update)
  - “Rights coordinating office” (information/update)
  - *Fisheries Act* (update)
  - PAFIT (update)
  - Climate change – info sheet (update)
  - JBNQA simulation (debrief from Graeme)
5. 11:00 Administration
  - Follow-up on finances
  - Next meeting
  - Performance reviews
6. 12:00 Adjourn