



EYYOU MARINE REGION IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

Regular Meeting

Held at James Norris Room at Holiday Inn & Suites
Montreal, Quebec
February 4-5, 2020

Day 1 – Tuesday, February 4, 2020

Present: Isaac Masty, Chairperson
Brian Craik, Vice Chairperson
Fred L. Tomatuk, Member
Lucassie Arragutainaq, Member
Brendan O'Donnell, Member

Païlin Chua-Oon Rinfret, Director
Susan Esau, Accounting Administrator
Priscillia Wesley, Administrative Assistant

1. WELCOME & QUORUM

Members present constituting a quorum, the Eeyou Marine Region Impact Review Board meeting was called to order at 9:21 am.

2. OPENING PRAYER

Fred L. Tomatuk provided the opening prayer.

3. CHAIRPERSON AND RECORDING SECRETARY

Mr. Isaac Masty chaired the meeting and Priscillia Wesley was the recording secretary.

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Impact Review Board reviewed the proposed agenda. The following items were added to the agenda:

- Long Island Project and Beluga update
- The agenda will be open as items may arise

After review of the proposed meeting agenda, it was motioned to adopt and approve the agenda as amended; Brian Craik proposed, and Brendan O'Donnell seconded. The motion carried and the Eeyou Marine Region Impact Review Board adopted **Resolution IRB2020-10**

5. CORPORATE MATTERS

5.1 Updates

a. Review of August 29-30, 2019 meeting minutes

Païlin Chua-Oon Rinfret presented the draft meeting minutes of August 29-30, 2019 for the Board to review. The Board reviewed the draft meeting minutes.

After review of the draft meeting minutes, it was motioned to adopt and approve the minutes of August 29-30, 2019 as amended; Lucassie Arragutainaq proposed and Fred L. Tomatuk seconded. The motion carried and the Eeyou Marine Region Impact Review Board adopted **Resolution IRB2020-11**

b. Board Appointments

Païlin Chua-Oon Rinfret informed the Impact Review Board that Fred L. Tomatuk's membership has expired January 18, 2020. Brian Craik appointment ends February 15, 2021. Isaac Masty appointment ends September 2021, Lucassie Arragutainaq appointment ends August 2022. Brendan O'Donnell appointment ends August 23, 2022.

c. Research

Païlin Chua-Oon Rinfret updated the Impact Review Board of her program regarding her University Research on Cultural Impact Assessment.

- *Content analysis of Cultural Impact Assessment reports from New Zealand in the past 10 years.*
- *What kinds of strategies are being used, and what kinds of outcomes are they leading to?*
- *What can be improved? What works?*

She will have an Impact assessment course next semester. The Board discussed environmental and cultural impacts.

d. Arctic Net

Brendan O'Donnell participated at Arctic Net's 2019 Annual Scientific Meeting in Halifax, NS. The EMRIRB and EMRWB shared a booth at the event. The event name has now been changed to North to North. Northerners to do more of their own research. Few presentations on Nunavik and EMR on Eelgrass.

e. Screening Flowchart

Païlin Chua-Oon Rinfret presented a draft screening flowchart to the Board. The flowchart was made by Gowling and will be used internally to guide Screening procedures. EMRPC must review whether projects are exempt before IRB Screens a project.

Discussions with Gowlings are undergoing to develop a software to script these different scenarios in the flowchart.

Break 10:25 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

f. Long Island Project

Païlin Chua-Oon Rinfret updated the Board of the Long Island Project proposal received December 2019. The proponent was to consult and receive authorization from the tallyman. The Tallyman has not approved the project. The letter states an additional authorization is required from the Cree Nation Government and Makivik. It is the Cree Nation Government's discretion to grant an access permit. The EMRIRB issued a revised Screening Decision Report to remove the requirement for the Proponent to obtain approval from the Tallyman and issued letters to the CNG, Makivik, and the Proponent.

g. Beluga

Isaac Masty gave an update on the Beluga Management Hearings in Kuujjuarapik, Quebec to consider modifying the Total Allowable Take and Non-Quota Limitation decisions regarding beluga in the Nunavik Marine Region, including the Inuit and Joint Zones within the Cree / Inuit Offshore Overlapping Area.

The Southern Hudson Bay beluga and an Inuit hunting cabin located in the Cree / Inuit joint marine area. Chisasibi concerned about butchering and attract Polar Bears. If a permit is issued by CNG and we should be provided to the IRB. The harvesters are already there. The families should be informed and consulted.

The owners of Long Island are Makivik and CNG. FT foxes, seals, polar bears. Snowboy family. IM Buildings to protect migratory birds on Twin Islands, transferred to Crees this past summer.

The Board discussed the proposed dam project by Land Holding in Inukjuak.

Païlin Chua-Oon Rinfret to contact the Nunavik Impact Review Board to receive more information on a potential project in the Joint Zone.

h. EMRLCA Renewal

Païlin Chua-Oon Rinfret provided an update from Eric True from CIRNAC. They are working on NILCA. New form of reporting to show if Core funding is enough.

A formal letter will be drafted for the EMRIRB to be involved in the EMRLCA Renewal Process.

Concern was expressed by Board members in whether the processes in Nunavik would be replicated in the EMR without the EMRIRB's input.

Our Board must be consulted by the CNG and the Federal Government on the renewal process of the Eeyou Marine Region Land Claims Agreement.

The Board discussed the structure, reporting and consultation regarding the renewal.

Lunch Break 11:50 a.m. – 1:28 p.m.

6. CORE FUNDING

a. Review Budget

Païlin Chua-Oon Rinfret presented draft 2020-2021 FY Budget. The funding amount went up from 289k to 294k. The Director's salary to be discussed going from part-time to a full-time director. The Board will send a letter to CIRNAC regarding the Director's salary.

Items discussed: Board fees, staff salary costs, office expenses, draft renewal letter for Director in writing for April 1, 2020,

Discussion on treasury board rates.

Option to include office rental cost in Montreal from July-March at approximately \$1,400 k a month or work from an office at home.

Break 2:38 p.m. – 2:53 p.m.

7. WORK PLAN REVIEW

a. Review

Païlin Chua-Oon Rinfret presented the proposed 2020-2021 FY Work Plan. The Impact Review Board reviewed the following sections of the draft Work Plan:

- *Board Meetings*
- *Organizational Planning: Human Resources, Administrative and Finance Policies*
- *Board and Staff Insurance*
- *Financial Reporting*
- *Activity Reports*
- *Membership, Conferences, Events and Board business*
- *Impact Assessment*
- *Traditional Knowledge on Impact Assessment: Documents on Traditional Knowledge*
- *Overlap Zone Protocol: Possibility to meet other Impact Review Boards to collaborate project screening according to MOU signed in December 2016.*

Meeting convened for the day at 3:50 pm



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Day 2 – Wednesday, February 5, 2020

The Eeyou Marine Region Impact Review Board meeting resumed at 9:11 a.m.

- GROUP PHOTO SESSION

8. PROJECT UPDATE

a. Wiinipaakw Tours Solidarity Cooperative Ecotours Project

Pailin Chua-Oon Rinfret presented the Project proposal received last week. The Chairperson of the EMRIRB is also member of COTA – he will see notes but will not vote in any matter. The Director presented the EMRIRB public registry, commenting period and documents providing details of the project proposal. Sent flyers to EMR-CTA officers to post in each coastal community.

The Director placed an EMRIRB ad to the Nation magazine's February 14, 2020 issue.

The Board viewed the application and summary of the project screening proposal. The Board asked if the coming years, islands and shorelines near Eastmain and Wemindji potential to host groups. A screening be required for these islands in the future. Director to require an annual report. Discussion regarding the Polar Bear and safety standards. Inform other IRB Boards regarding Polar Bear. DFO and Transport Canada to issue permits. CNG, TC, CGSS, SS, EDC, CG.

Winter activities and skidoos near coastal communities. Concerns regarding winter tourism in the marine area. List types of waste. Community Involvement.

Break 10:26 a.m. – 10:42 a.m.

The Board resumed to review the proposal. The deadline for the report is March 9, 2019. Last day for commenting is the last week of February 2020. A resolution to be passed.

9. FINANCE

a. 2019-2020 FY Q3 Financial Update

Susan Esau presented the third quarter of Financial report 2019-2020. The Board reviewed each section of the financial statement. Discussion regarding Core Funding and Carryover expenses.

- Board costs 65% - *Code meeting expenses appropriately*
- Operating expenses 36%
- Staff Costs 71% - *Group Administrative Assistant benefits together and move Accounting Administrator housing expense to carryover.*
- Office costs 74% - *The EMR Directors will discuss auditor appointment at next meeting. The Director asked the Accounting Administrator to move the Annual Audit expense to the Carryover budget.*
- Operational travel 134%
- Total Operating Expenses 61%
- Actual expenses 181,072.00

The financial report will be available at the end of February 2020 to have the most accurate reports. Perform activities from carryover amount. Director's training to be added at next year's budget.

b. Carry Over Funds – Review estimated budget

Susan Esau presented the Carry Forward report.

- Revenue
- Operating expenses – Translations costs to be moved next FY. Which is why underbudget. Check community visits, prof development for Director and Administrative Assistant.

LUNCH 11:55 a.m. to 1:37 p.m.

10. PARKS CANADA

a. Parks Canada Presentation

The Board welcomed Ms. Chantal Ouimet, Project Manager of Marine Area Establishment, Parks Canada. Parks Canada is consulting with the Cree Nation Government as to the feasibility of establishing a National Marine Conservation Area (NMCA) in the Eeyou Marine Region. Ms. Ouimet was reminded that under the obligations of Chapter 18 of the EMRLCA, any project proposal in the EMR undertaken by a federal department or agency must be submitted to the EMRPC to determine if it conforms to the approved EMR Land Use Plan. If no such Land Use Plan has been approved, the project proposal must be forwarded to the EMRIRB for screening. To date, no such Land Use Plan has been approved for the EMR.

Ms.Ouimet indicated that the NMCA feasibility discussions with the CNG are in the early stages. It may be several years before the feasibility study is concluded and a determination is made by CNG and Parks Canada as to whether an NMCA in the EMR is acceptable to both parties. She

presented a slide talk on Parks Canada's process of establishing an NMCA, including outlining the approval process, the legislative process by Parliament, and the co-management arrangement with the Cree if the protected area is established.

Ms. Ouiment indicated she would forward a copy of her presentation to Païlin.

Break 3:22 p.m. – 3:54 p.m.

11. CARRY OVER WORKPLAN

The Director presented the carry-over estimates. What can we remove from the proposed carry over budget? Director's visits to Waskaganish. Cut down costs and request PC stay at lodge. Implement Communication strategy. The Board reviewed the proposed Carry Over Work Plan and budget notes in each category.

- A. Communication strategy: Cut federal agencies. Push translations another year. Cut \$5000 total.
- B. Accounting fees: Offsite charges around 500/month total 6000 per year.
- C. NIRB training: In August 2020
- D. Website maintenance and IT services:
- E. Legal fees: Funds set aside for project proposals
- F. Audit: discussion with other boards
- G. Waskaganish visits: diminish visits i.e. December, goose break, January
- H. Consultant fees: technical project screening, cut
- I. IA software
- J. Other costs: office costs

The proposed budget and Workplan will be revisited once a more updated

12. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be July 22 and 23, 2020.

Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the Impact Review Board motioned to adjourn the meeting; it was proposed by Brendan O'Donnell and seconded by Brian Craik. The motion carried and the Eeyou Marine Region Impact Review Board adopted **Resolution IRB2020-12**

The Eeyou Marine Region Impact Review Board meeting concluded at 4:24 p.m. with a closing prayer by Fred L. Tomatuk.