



Summary of the Indigenous Advisory Committee Meeting

June 23, 2020

2 hour Video-Conference

Meeting Objectives

For IAC (Indigenous Advisory Committee) to discuss the proposed principles to inform Draft Indigenous Knowledge Policy Framework.

Agenda item: Introduction & opening remarks

The meeting began with an opening prayer from IAC (Indigenous Advisory Committee) member Melody Lepine. The Agency introduced other government departments and agencies in attendance and provided a brief review of the January presentation to the Committee on the work to develop an interdepartmental Indigenous Knowledge Framework for project Reviews and regulatory decisions.

Agenda item: Presentation from IK (Indigenous Knowledge) Sub-Committee

The IK (Indigenous Knowledge) Sub-Committee has analyzed all of the material, comments and input from the Committees' working session in January to identify a series of Principles, elements and best practices that would guide the development of an Interdepartmental IK (Indigenous Knowledge) Framework. A representative from the IK (Indigenous Knowledge) Sub-Committee walked through the main sections of the document including defining IK (Indigenous Knowledge), respect and partnership, inclusion of IK (Indigenous Knowledge), protection and confidentiality and capacity-building.

Agenda item: Discussion

The IAC (Indigenous Advisory Committee) decided that the objective of the Sub-Committee's document will remain a high-level "principles" document rather than specific guidance for practitioners. The Agency noted that the Committee's advice would be welcome on the revised engagement strategy, which was initially presented to IAC (Indigenous Advisory Committee) in January 2020.

Members highlighted the following key points:

- Definition of IK (Indigenous Knowledge) vs. description – understanding the meaning of IK (Indigenous Knowledge)
- Framing IK (Indigenous Knowledge) within the context of western science and within the context of an IA (various socio-economic factors).
- Capacity-building – supporting communities for the collection, protection and storage of IK (Indigenous Knowledge), defining what capacity means to help align government funding.
- Distinction-based approach for engagement on the draft IK (Indigenous Knowledge) Policy Framework. One member offered to assist the Agency with northern engagement specifically with Inuit partners where engagement interest to date has been limited

Agenda item: Committee Business

The Agency and co-chair provided an overview of two upcoming joint meetings with the Agency's Technical Advisory Committee to discuss both Committees' priorities and views on Indigenous Knowledge and Western Science.

The Committee also discussed nominating a member to assist with co-chair duties until Kyle Vermette's return

Next steps:

- Stanley Oliver will act as Interim co-chair throughout the summer, until Kyle Vermette returns.

Indigenous Advisory Committee Action Items from June 23 Meeting

Secretariat Action Items:

- Prepare meeting minutes for Members to review and finalize.
- Circulate revised engagement strategy for IK (Indigenous Knowledge) Policy Framework

Members' Action-items:

- Review and comment on meeting summary.
- Provide input on "Principles, best practices, and elements for the development of the Indigenous Knowledge Policy Framework" **(July 10)**
- Provide input on Agency's revised IK (Indigenous Knowledge) engagement approach **(July 10)**

Attendees

Co-Chairs

Sue Chiblow

Committee Members

Stanley Oliver
Suzie O'Bomsawin
Angel Ransom
Deana Sappier
Paul Jones
Melody Lepine
Jocelyn Gosselin
Rachel Olson

Impact Assessment Agency

Susan Winger
Janice Zeitz
Emily Fairbairn
Allan Clarke
Martha Johnson

Other Government Departments

Cathy Hainsworth (Transport Canada)
Lushani Nanayakkara (Department of Fisheries and Oceans) Marc Boucher (Canada Energy Regulator)
Heather Berry (Natural Resources Canada)

Regrets

Kyle Vermette
Stewart Lindale

Date modified:

2020-10-22