



Summary of the Indigenous Advisory Committee Meeting

February 25, 2021

Virtual Meeting

Meeting Objectives

Process meeting to discuss IAC (Indigenous Advisory Committee)s work in retrospect.

Agenda item: Introduction & opening remarks

The meeting began with a cultural welcome and an opening prayer from an Indigenous Elder. IAC (Indigenous Advisory Committee) co-chairs provided a welcome to members and opening remarks noting the return of member, Elmer Ghostkeeper. The Ex-Officio member provided opening remarks and delivered an overview of recent meetings of the Technical Advisory Committee to advance work of their three sub-committees on health, social and economic effects, positive and cumulative effects and the joint sub-committee on Indigenous Knowledge (IK (Indigenous Knowledge)) and Science. An overview was also provided on the Ministers Advisory Council on Impact Assessments recent meetings, which focused on sub-working groups and the Councils' governance.

Agenda item: Overview of Committee Work in Retrospect

The Committees' Co-chair walked through work to date in three priority areas including: IK (Indigenous Knowledge), Collaboration & Cooperation and Assessing impacts on rights with the objective to gather additional feedback to inform the accomplishments letter. The letter will be sent back to the President in response to the 2020-21 tasking letter that was sent to IAC (Indigenous Advisory Committee) members. Members decided that language in the letter should reflect ongoing work in these priority policy areas. A draft accomplishments letter will be circulated to members for review in Spring 2021.

Members had a discussion on meeting logistics opting for longer less frequent meetings going forward. It was decided that regular meetings would be amended to three hours. Breakout sessions and sub-committees were also noted as effective tools to advance the Committees work.

Agenda item: Update on the Indigenous Knowledge Policy Framework

An Agency official provided an update on work to date on the IAC (Indigenous Knowledge) Policy Framework, recognizing the importance of IAC (Indigenous Advisory Committee)'s collective advice from recent breakout sessions. The Agency is looking to have a 90 day comment period in the Spring aimed at Indigenous communities and rights holders with a final framework in Fall 2021. Members agreed that their feedback on the Framework would remain as informal feedback and not formal advice at this point.

Agenda item: Committee Business and next steps

The Committee's Co-Chairs provided an overview of the approach for an upcoming breakout session on the topic of assessing impacts on rights noting it would be an opportunity for members to answer previously circulated questions seeking advice from the Committee to inform guidance to proponents on early planning.

An overview of the next IAC (Indigenous Advisory Committee) meeting was also provided, including a discussion of forward work planning looking at Agency and IAC (Indigenous Advisory Committee) priorities next year. The Collaboration Agreement Sub-Committees work would also be brought forward at this meeting for IAC (Indigenous Advisory Committee) input. The Sub-Committees' draft Principles to be reflected in collaboration agreements would be presented which was informed by previous IAC (Indigenous Advisory Committee) breakout sessions to identify overarching principles related to the negotiation of collaboration agreements. It was decided the Secretariat and Co-Chairs will work on the draft Forward Work plan to share at the upcoming meeting.

The meeting ended with a closing prayer from an Indigenous Elder.

Indigenous Advisory Committee

Action Items from February 25

Secretariat Action Items:

- Prepare meeting summary for Members to review and finalize.
- Lengthen regular IAC (Indigenous Advisory Committee) meetings to 3 hours.
- Draft accomplishments letter for IAC (Indigenous Advisory Committee) review.
- Draft Forward work plan to share with members at March 29 meeting.

Members' Action-items:

- Review meeting summary.
- Review discussion questions for breakout session on Assessing Impacts on Rights.

Attendees

IAC (Indigenous Advisory Committee) Co-Chairs

Sue Chiblow

Kyle Vermette

IAC (Indigenous Advisory Committee) Committee Members

Deana Sappier

Paul Jones

Jocelyn Gosselin

Rachel Olson

Angel Ransom

Melody Lepine

Impact Assessment Agency

Patricia Brady

Brent Parker

Susan Winger

Janice Zeitz

Emily Fairbairn

Alana Green

Regrets

Suzie O'Bomsawin

Stanley Oliver

Date modified:

2021-04-29