

Summary of the Meeting of the Technical Advisory Committee on Science and Knowledge

January 15/16, 2024

Virtual Meeting

Meeting Objective

There were multiple objectives for this meeting including to:

- Provide Agency updates and receive subcommittee updates.
- Discuss the draft economic effects guidance and seek TAC member feedback.
- Present the Agency's proposed approach to updating its Health, Social and Economic Effects Guidance and seek TAC member feedback.
- Discuss potential priorities for the committee for the new fiscal year.

Agenda Item: Welcome and Agency Updates

- The Agency provided a territorial acknowledgement, followed by updates to TAC members.

Agenda Item: Draft Economics Effects Guidance Updates

- The Agency and a representative from Natural Resources Canada provided a status update and content summary of the draft Economics Effects Guidance.
- The TAC co-chairs facilitated a discussion for TAC members to provide feedback on the draft document. It was indicated that feedback on the draft guidance would be accepted until the end of January 2024.
- The draft guidance document will be revised based on TAC feedback and other inputs.

Agenda Item: Approach to Updating Health, Social and Economic Effects Guidance

- The Agency presented an outline of the proposed updates to its Health, Social, and Economic Effects guidance in response to previous feedback from the TAC.
- TAC co-chairs facilitated a discussion to seek feedback from TAC members on the proposed approach for updates. The Agency encouraged TAC members to provide their feedback on the proposed updates by the end of January 2024.

- The Agency plans to revise the guidance document based on TAC feedback and other input. Once drafted, the guidance document will be circulated for comment by TAC and departmental colleagues.

Agenda Item: Subcommittee Updates

- The Alternative Means/Alternatives to Subcommittee provided an update on its work since the November 2023 TAC meeting and is on track to provide draft advice for discussion at the March 2024 TAC meeting.
- There was an update from the Joint TAC/IAC Subcommittee on Indigenous Knowledge and Science. The subcommittee will be holding a joint TAC and IAC meeting on February 14, 2024, to seek feedback on its draft product. The subcommittee is accepting written feedback from members on its draft principles product until the end of January 2024.
- The Biodiversity Subcommittee provided an update on its work since the November 2023 TAC meeting. The subcommittee will present a draft product for feedback during the March 2024 TAC meeting.

Agenda Item: Priority Setting Exercise for 2024-25 Fiscal Year

- The Agency presented the results of a preliminary survey in which TAC members provided ideas for potential priorities for the next fiscal year. TAC Co-Chairs facilitated a discussion about these ideas and solicited additional input.
- The TAC Secretariat will consult within the Agency on the draft list of potential TAC priorities generated by the committee in advance of the TAC's March 2024 meeting.

Take Aways

- The Agency will host a meeting for TAC members on the October 13 Supreme Court Decision on the Impact Assessment Act on January 22, 2024.
- TAC members may continue to provide input and feedback on selected meeting items until January 26, 2024 via the Menti platform.
- TAC members may provide written feedback via the TAC inbox on the Joint TAC/IAC Indigenous Knowledge and Western Science Subcommittee's principles document, the Agency's draft economic effects guidance document, and the Agency's disposition table for the Health, Social and Economic Effects Guidance by January 30th.
- The March 2024 TAC meeting will be held in-person/hybrid in Ottawa on the 4th and 5th.

Attendees

TAC Co-Chairs

Kevin Hanna
Patricia Fitzpatrick

TAC Committee Members

Alistair MacDonald
Bill Ross
Darcy Pickard
Faiza Waheed
Gillian Donald
Helga Shield
Janice Linehan
Marie Lagimodiere
Marie-Hélène Gauthier
Mark Shrimpton
Robert Gibson
Ryan Barry
Steve Morck

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

Phil Seeto
Alessandra Szilagy
Amira Nazarali
Anne Spear
Findlay Yates-Lavery
Jenna Wolno
Lauren Omson
Marion Doull
Robyn Whittaker

Natural Resources Canada

Emily Farrimond
Jon Graham
Stephanie Maillet