

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

November 15/16, 2023

Virtual Meeting

Meeting Objective

There were multiple objectives for this meeting including to:

- Provide Agency updates and legal updates.
- Receive a debrief from the Co-Chairs on the October TAC/IAC/MINAC Co-Chair meeting.
- Facilitate a second discussion on the Project List Review and solicit TAC feedback/input.
- Provide subcommittee updates.
- Review the forward agenda for the remaining meetings this fiscal year and discuss the annual priority-setting exercise that will be launched at the January TAC meeting.

Agenda Item: Welcome and Agency Updates

- The TAC Co-Chairs provided a territorial acknowledgement.
- The Agency provided updates to TAC members.

Agenda Item: Legal Updates & SCC Opinion Discussion

- The Agency provided the TAC with updates on the Bradford Bypass litigation and the Newfoundland and Labrador Offshore Regional Assessment.
- The TAC discussed the Supreme Court Impact Assessment Act reference case decision and its relevance to the TAC's work and priorities. Agency staff responded to TAC questions for clarification about the SCC opinion and the potential for the opportunity for the TAC to provide input on potential amendments to the *Impact Assessment Act*.

Agenda Item: Follow-up to September Project List Review Presentation/Discussion

- The Agency summarized the feedback that the TAC provided regarding the Agency's proposed approach for reviewing *Physical Activities Regulations* (the Project List) that was outlined at the September meeting. The co-chairs facilitated a follow-up discussion on the topic and committed to providing the TAC's input to the Agency by December 13, 2023.

Agenda Item: Subcommittee Updates

- The Alternative means/alternatives to Subcommittee provided an update on its work since the September 2023 TAC meeting and is on track to provide a draft product for discussion for the January TAC meeting.
- There was an update on the Joint TAC/IAC Subcommittee on Indigenous Knowledge and Science. The subcommittee plans to meet multiple times before the January TAC meeting to advance its work.
- The Biodiversity Subcommittee provided an update on its work since the September 2023 TAC meeting and is aiming to present a draft product to the TAC at the January 2024 meeting.

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

- The Agency provided information about the process for determining the TAC's annual priorities to prepare for a January 2024 discussion on the topic. The Secretariat agreed to circulate an explanatory document and a survey so that members can begin brainstorming potential priority topics in advance of the January meeting.

Take Aways

- TAC Co-Chairs will submit the TAC's advice on the approach to the Project List Review by December 13th.
- TAC members may begin brainstorming potential priority topics in advance of the January TAC meeting via a survey that will be facilitated by the Agency.
- The January 2024 TAC meeting will be held virtually on the 15th and 16th.

Attendees

TAC Co-Chairs

Kevin Hanna
Patricia Fitzpatrick

TAC Committee Members

Alistair MacDonald
Ryan Barry
Faiza Waheed
Steve Morck

Mark Shrimpton
Marie-Hélène Gauthier
Bill Ross
Robert Gibson
Darcy Pickard
Gillian Donald

Regrets

Janice Linehan
Helga Shield
Marie Lagimodiere

Impact Assessment Agency of Canada

Steve Chapman
Robyn Whittaker
Anne Spear
Lauren Omson
Michael Grassie
Findlay Yates-Lavery
Sarah Jackson
Alessandra Szilagyi
Jenna Wolno