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Nunavunmi Parnaiyit
Nunavut Planning Commission
Commission d'Aménagement du Nunavut

Nunavut Land Claims Agreement Workshop

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November 25 & 26th, 2009

Ottawa

Presentation by Vice Chairperson Paul Quassa

Presentation Overview

Our presentation today will include an overview of:

- The role of Nunavut Planning Commission.

An update on the Nunavut Land Use Plan.

- Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act Legislation
- The new NPC Website
- Opportunities to work together.

Role of the Nunavut Planning Commission

The Nunavut Planning Commission is an Institution of Public Government. The Commission's role and responsibilities are set out under Article 11 of the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA). We are committed to fully implementing Article 11, including 11.4.4(m), which requires us to report annually to the Ministers, NTI, and the RIAs. Being a co-management organization, we value our planning partners, and enjoy this opportunity to speak with you in person.

Commission members are appointed by the Federal Minister of INAC with names

submitted from Nunavut Tunngavik, the three Regional Inuit Associations, the Government of Canada and Government of Nunavut. Our Commission members are:

- Ron Roach, Chairperson,
- Leena Evic, Government of Canada
- Okalik Egeesiak, Government of Canada,
- Frank Ipakohak, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
- Paul Quassa, Vice-Chairperson, Government of Nunavut
- Government of Nunavut, second appointee name in the system
- Ovide Alakannuark, Kitikmeot Inuit Association,
- Qikiqtani Inuit Association, appointment name in the system
- Peter Alareak, Kivalliq Inuit Association

The Nunavut Planning Commission has an important mandate under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement to prepare and implement the Nunavut land use plan. This plan guides and directs resource use and development throughout the entire Nunavut Settlement Area.

Governance

As an Institute of Public Government, the Commissioners are committed to governing with excellence and follow the results-based-governance model.

Status of the Nunavut Land Use Plan

The Nunavut Planning Commission (NPC) adopted the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA) 11.4.1(a) broad planning policies, objectives and goals, in November 2007. Since that time, in accordance with 11.4.1(a), the NPC has been developing a Nunavut Land Use Plan (NLUP), as required under NLCA 11.5.1.

The NLUP will replace the existing North Baffin and Keewatin Regional Land Use Plans originally developed in the late 80's and early 90's, respectively. The Nunavut land use plan includes the entire settlement area.

The NPC remains active in promoting the participation of Inuit, residents, and other partners in the planning process through various means. Most recently, we broadly distributed and made available publically our comprehensive baseline data in hardcopy and digital formats. NPC's collation of this information will be reviewed with technical panels in mid-January 2010. The panels will be reviewing maps showing areas of economic potential and areas of high conservation value in

relation to Inuit land use and harvesting patterns. We are looking forward to our planning partners participation in those panels. The panels will be followed by three Regional public hearings in the spring and public release of the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan in September 2010. The Commission's timeline for the Draft NLUP to be submitted for approval is February 2011.

The Commission continues to encourage NTI, the Regional Inuit Associations, the Hunter and Trapper Associations and all Nunavut Communities participation in the land use planning process. Over the past several months NPC has been soliciting guidance from government, (government includes both the Federal and Territorial) NTI and RIA land managers on issues and priorities to be considered as part of the planning process.

Technical Panels

In the spirit of co-management, the Commission is working with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Government of Nunavut, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated, and the Regional Inuit Associations as participants in technical panels. We are encouraging all to participate in these meetings.

We have collected a great deal of information from government, Inuit, industry and other planning partners. We are now asking the experts who work with the data to help us understand the information so it is used appropriately for land use planning decisions.

These technical panels will provide expert advice and guide the development of options for managing land use in the Nunavut Settlement Area. The information gathered from these technical panels will be incorporated into the Draft plan and included in the materials for the Regional consultations.

Timelines

The Nunavut Land Use Plan Options will be made public this winter and we anticipate hosting 3 Regional public hearings to review feedback on the plan this spring. We may call upon technical panels to assist us with addressing issues as we work to finalize the Draft Nunavut Land Use Plan for review again in September 2010. With the support of NTI and other land and resource management experts,

the Commission is preparing to submit the Final Draft Plan for approval in February 2011.

Legislation

The Commission is actively working with the Government of Canada, Government of Nunavut, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated and the Nunavut Impact Review Board to complete the Nunavut Planning and Project Assessment Act. This Act is intended to bring clarity to the regulatory process in Nunavut. This legislation is a high priority of Government and we remain hopeful that it will be completed soon. The timeline for the Legislation to go forward into the House of Parliament is dependent on the Federal Government.

Funding

The NPC implementation contract for the first ten years expired in 2003. This issue remains outstanding between the NTI and Federal Government. It is hoped that with the important mandate and role of the Commission that this funding issue is resolved and brought to fruition in the very near future.

Website

We encourage everyone to go to our new website at nunavut.ca for an overview of the Commission's activities and to obtain our approved documents, including the 11.4.1(a) Broad Planning Policies, Objectives and Goals. The site will soon be available in all four languages and will be regularly updated as we proceed with the development of the NLUP. All the information we have collected for the development of the land use plan is available, and there is an interactive map that allows users to see for themselves the relationship between economic development, conservation, and Inuit use and occupancy activities in Nunavut. There are also forms to easily submit feedback, and even a Teacher's Corner section where we hope to build a collection of resources to support Nunavut's teachers and students.

Opportunities to work together

Again, we feel the participation of NTI staff in the development of the Nunavut Land Use Plan would be very beneficial to determining how land use should be managed throughout the Nunavut Settlement Area.

For instance, the NPC attended a meeting hosted by INAC to discuss the future development of the oil and gas discoveries near Melville Island. This project will include year round shipping. Do Nunavummiut have any ideas on how oil and gas projects or year round shipping should be managed? These are the types of questions we are working to address with all of our planning partners.

The Nunavut Marine Council is an area that remains under development. The Nunavut Planning Commission, Nunavut Impact review Board, Nunavut Water Board and Nunavut Wildlife Management Board are exploring opportunities to implement the Article 15 requirements. Recently, the senior IPG staff met to discuss the best approach for formalizing the NMC. The NPC will also be attending the NWMB meeting in December to discuss the NMC. In addition, the NPC provided an update on the Nunavut Land Use Plan and the Nunavut Marine Council to the Canadian Marine Advisory Council (CMAC) – Northern Region. CMAC is a multi-party forum where marine issues and management options are developed.

As you can see we have a number of big projects underway. We look forward to working with you and your staff over the coming months. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask - or if at any time you would like further information call our Executive Director in our Cambridge Bay office.

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