



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

**ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT
2008 - 2009**

For the period April 1, 2008 - March 31, 2009

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June 2009**

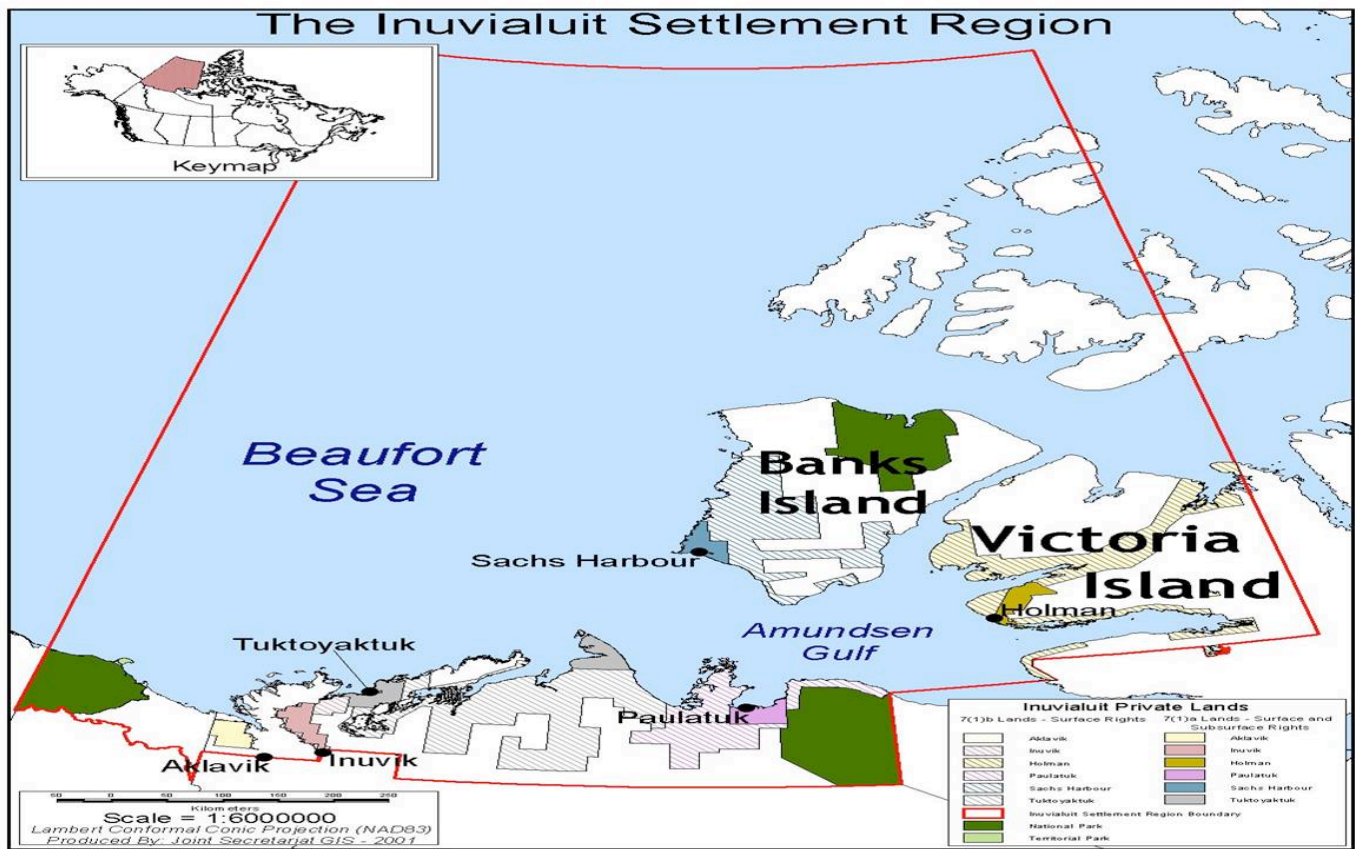


Figure 1. Private Inuvialuit Lands and Crown Lands within the Inuvialuit Settlement Region.

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CHAIR'S COMMENT

2008-2009 was a busy year for the Environmental Impact Review Board, which included new Board Members, reappointed Board Members, a new website, a logo, and the drafting of a Strategic Plan and Business Plan. During this period, the EIRB received its first project referral from the Environmental Impact Screening Committee (EISC) since 2006.

The Board welcomed two new Members in 2008. Bruce Chambers was nominated by the Yukon Territorial Government in September and Roland Kikoak was appointed by the Inuvialuit Game Council, also in September. They have since made significant contributions to the EIRB and we look forward to working with them for the duration of their terms.

A new website was developed for the EIRB, which compliments the EISC website. Work that began on revised Operating Procedures and Guidelines that will be consistent with the new Guidelines being developed by the EISC will continue into the next fiscal year.

The logo adopted by the EIRB was the result of a contest put on by the Board in 2008 with schools and communities in the ISR. The design can be seen on the website and on EIRB letterheads.

In September, the EIRB initiated a public review known as “Umiak Drilling, Completion, and Testing Project: 2008-2011,” referred to it by the EISC. In December, the project’s proponent (MGM Energy Corporation) requested an adjournment of the proceedings. After deliberation, the EIRB granted this request and adjourned the public review process until June 30th, 2009.

As Chair of the EIRB, I wish to thank the Board members, EIRB Coordinator Eli Arkin, and the staff of the Joint Secretariat in their efforts working with the EIRB over this period.

Elizabeth Snider,
Chair

PERIOD OF REPORT

This report describes the affairs of the Environmental Impact Review Board (EIRB) for the fiscal period of April 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009.

AUTHORITY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

The EIRB was established under the terms of the Inuvialuit Final Agreement (IFA) between Canada and the Committee for Original Peoples Entitlement, representing the Inuvialuit. The IFA was approved, given effect, and declared valid by the *Western Arctic (Inuvialuit) Claims Settlement Act* [S.C. 32 - 33 Elizabeth II, C.24.], on June 28, 1984. The IFA provides the groundwork for a two-stage Environmental Screening and Review Process that is carried out by the Environmental Impact Screening Committee (EISC) and the EIRB [IFA Section 11.0]. The EISC conducts environmental screenings of development activities proposed for the Inuvialuit Settlement Region. The EIRB carries out detailed environmental impact assessments and public reviews of development projects referred to it by the EISC pursuant to the IFA.

The goals of the IFA, directly relevant to EIRB operations, are:

- *to preserve Inuvialuit cultural identity and values within a changing northern society;*
- *to enable Inuvialuit to be equal and meaningful participants in the northern and national economy and society; and*
- *to protect and preserve the Arctic wildlife, environment, and biological productivity.*

MEMBERSHIP

The EIRB is composed of seven people. Three members are appointed through by the Government of Canada; three members are appointed by the Inuvialuit Game Council (IGC); and a Chair is selected by the Government of Canada with the consent of the IGC. Of the three members appointed by Canada, one is nominated by the Government of Yukon, one is nominated by the Government of the Northwest Territories, and one is nominated by the Government of Canada.

MEMBERS FOR 2008–2009

Chair

Elizabeth Snider, Yellowknife, NT
Appointed by the Government of Canada (2005)
Present Term: February 1, 2008 to February 1, 2011
Previous Term: February 1, 2005 to February 1, 2008

Members

Jack Akhiatak, Ulukhaktok, NT
Appointed by the Inuvialuit Game Council (2000)
Present Term: September 2008 to September 2011
Previous Terms: September 2005 to September 2008
September 2002 to September 2005
February 2000 to September 2002

Catherine Cockney, Inuvik, NT
Nominated by the Government of the Northwest Territories
Appointed by the Government of Canada
Present Term: December 2006 to December 2009

Roland Kikoak, Tuktoyaktuk, NT
Appointed by the Inuvialuit Game Council (2008)
Present Term: September 2008 to September 2011

Tom Butters, Chemainus, BC
Appointed by the Government of Canada (1992)
Present Term: April 6, 2008 to April 6, 2011
Previous Terms: April 6, 2005 to April 6, 2008
June 13, 2004 to March 31, 2005
June 12, 2001 to June 12, 2004
June 13, 1998 to June 12, 2001
June 12, 1995 to June 12, 1998
June 12, 1992 to June 12, 1995

Herbert Felix, Inuvik, NT
Appointed by the Inuvialuit Game Council (1995)
Present Term: September 2008 to September 2011
Previous Terms: September 2005 to September 2008
September 2002 to September 2005
September 1999 to September 2002
September 1996 to September 1999
September 1995 to September 1996

Bruce Chambers, Whitehorse, YK
Nominated by the Government of Yukon.
Appointed by the Government of Canada (2005)
Present Term: September 5, 2008 to September 5, 2011

ADMINISTRATIVE AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The EIRB receives administrative, technical, and clerical support from the Joint Secretariat (JS) in Inuvik. Full-time assistance has been provided since January 2008 by Eli Arkin, Environmental Assessment Coordinator, Resource Person (RP), and Secretary of the EIRB.

In addition to the above, during the period of this report the staff of the Joint Secretariat (JS) included the following individuals:

Administrative

| | |
|---------------|-----------------------------------|
| Norm Snow | Executive Director, JS |
| Connie Gordon | Senior Administrative Officer, JS |

Financial

| | |
|------------|---------------------|
| Erica Lugt | Finance Officer, JS |
|------------|---------------------|

Clerical

| | |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| Myrna Button | Casual Office Clerk/Librarian |
| Meeka Kisoun | Travel/Accommodation Coordinator, JS |
| Bernice Joe | Secretary/Receptionist, JS |

Auditors

Avery Cooper and Company, Yellowknife, NT

Legal Advisor

John Donihee Professional Corporation

Resource People

| | |
|-----------------------|---|
| Christine Inglangasuk | Community Support Unit RP |
| Jennifer Lam | Community Support Unit RP |
| Richard Binder | Community Support Unit RP |
| Louie Porta | FJMC Resource Biologist |
| Sheila Nasogaluak | FJMC Resource Biologist |
| Diane Dillon | HTC Administrative Support Officer |
| Barb Chalmers | EISC Environmental Assessment Coordinator |
| Steve Baryluk | IGC Resource Management Coordinator |
| Bruce Hanbidge | WMAC (NWT) Resource Biologist |

REVIEWS

On September 4, 2008, the EISC referred the project titled: “Umiak Drilling, Completion, and Testing Project: 2008-2011” to the EIRB for further assessment and review. The proponent of the project is MGM Energy Corporation. During a conference call on September 18, 2008, the EIRB deemed the project as a variation of a Small Scale Development, as the project was referred on the basis of the uncertainty surrounding ice pads and their potential effects on permafrost and arctic vegetation.

Public notices were issued to government agencies, co-management boards, hunters and trappers committees, and the general public, inviting them to become registered participants in the review process. Those who responded were added to a distribution list and were made aware of all documents and news pertaining to this public review.

On December 3, 2008, MGM formally requested an adjournment of the project due to uncertainty surrounding the proposed Mackenzie Gas Project. At a teleconference held on December 15, 2008, the EIRB granted an adjournment of the public review until June 30, 2009.

OPERATING PROCEDURES

Persons who are interested in obtaining a copy of the EIRB’s current *Operating Procedures* or who have questions about the EIRB should contact:

**Environmental Impact Review Board
Joint Secretariat - Inuvialuit Renewable Resource Committees
Inuvialuit Corporate Centre
PO Box 2120, Inuvik, NT,
CANADA X0E 0T0**

**phone: (867) 777-2828
fax: (867) 777-2610
email: eirb@jointsec.nt.ca**

ROUTINE OPERATIONS

The EIRB held one regular meeting in October 2008 and one in February 2009. Two teleconference meetings were held during this fiscal year; one in June 2008 and one in March 2009. These meetings are in addition to the meetings held as a result of the public review.

For the February 2009 meeting, the EIRB hired Elevate Consulting to assist in the development of a Strategic Plan and Business Plan for the Board. The Strategic Plan and Business Plan are attached to this Annual Report and are posted on the EIRB website.

During the past fiscal year, the EIRB launched a new website (www.eirb.ca) dedicated to the work of the Board, to facilitate the review process, and to make the EIRB more visible and accessible to the general public.

The launch of the website coincided with the unveiling of the new EIRB logo, which was designed by Anne-Marie Villebrun of Tuktoyaktuk. Her winning design was selected at the October 2008 Board meeting after considering many designs received from residents of the ISR.

ACTIVITIES, MEETINGS, WORKSHOPS, CONFERENCES

The EIRB takes part in other activities, as necessary, to maintain currency in the field of Environmental Assessment. The following is a list of activities, meetings, workshops, and conferences in which various members of the EIRB took part in over the past year:

2008 (April – December)

- IAIA Annual Conference: Perth, Australia, May 2008 (Herbert Felix)
- CEAA Workshop (Interest Based Negotiation in Environmental Assessment): Ottawa, June 2008 (Herbert Felix)
- IFA Research Day: Whitehorse, September 2008 (Herbert Felix, Jack Akhiatak, Elizabeth Snider, Eli Arkin)
- National Energy Board Workshop (Canadian Oil and Gas Operations Act - COGOA 101): Calgary, September 2008 (Eli Arkin)
- Meeting of the Nunavut Impact Review Board: Yellowknife, October 2008 (Elizabeth Snider, Herbert Felix, Eli Arkin)
- Geoscience Forum: Yellowknife, November 2008 (Herbert Felix, Jack Akhiatak, Roland Kikoak)
- IAIA Conference: Calgary, November 2008 (Herbert Felix)

2009 (January – March)

- None

FINANCES

Funding for the Chair, Canada Member, Yukon Member and the Secretary of the EIRB, and for reviews conducted by the EIRB, is provided by way of Contribution Agreements with Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. Funding for the Inuvialuit members is provided by way of a Contribution Agreement with the Government of the Northwest Territories. A summary of the finances is attached as Appendix B.

APPENDICIES

| | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Appendix A | Acronyms and Abbreviations |
| Appendix B | Financial Summary |

APPENDIX A ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

| | |
|------------|--|
| EIRB | Environmental Impact Review Board |
| EISC | Environmental Impact Screening Committee |
| FJMC | Fisheries Joint Management Committee |
| GIS | Geographic Information System |
| HTC | Hunters and Trappers Committee |
| IFA | Inuvialuit Final Agreement (The Western Arctic Claim) |
| IGC | Inuvialuit Game Council |
| INAC | Indian and Northern Affairs Canada |
| ISR | Inuvialuit Settlement Region |
| JS | Joint Secretariat – Inuvialuit Renewable Resource Committees |
| RP | Resource Person |
| WMAC (NWT) | Wildlife Management Advisory Council (Northwest Territories) |

APPENDIX B FINANCIAL SUMMARY

These following financial summaries are for information purposes and should not be considered as definitive statements of account. For full financial details, the audited financial statements of the Joint Secretariat should be consulted. For further information, contact:

*Executive Director
Joint Secretariat - Inuvialuit Renewable Resource Committees
PO Box 2120/ Suite 204
Inuvik, Northwest Territories
CANADA X0E 0T0*

Environmental Impact Review Board – CHAIR & CANADA MEMBER

2008-2009 Contribution Agreements - INAC

For the Year Ending March 31, 2009

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| REVENUE | | |
| | INAC Contribution (Implementation Funds) | <u>\$95,026</u> |
| EXPENDITURES | | |
| Chair's Costs | | |
| | Accommodation | 3,236 |
| | Honoraria | 37,500 |
| | Per Diem | 1,813 |
| | Travel | 10,862 |
| Canada Member | | |
| | Accommodation | 417 |
| | Honoraria | 563 |
| | Per Diem | 495 |
| | Travel | 3,092 |
| Services | | |
| | Workshops/Conferences | 40,467 |
| | JS Board Meetings | 8,208 |
| | Legal/Consulting | 124 |
| | Registration Fees | 2,740 |
| Overhead | | |
| | Insurance | 827 |
| | Office Costs | 2,402 |
| | Meeting Costs | 122 |
| | Telephone/Fax | 506 |
| | Fixed Assets | 8,717 |
| | | <u>122,091</u> |
| EXCESS REVENUE (EXPENDITURE) | | <u>\$(27,065)</u> |

Environmental Impact Review Board – INUVIALUIT PARTICIPATION
For the Year Ending March 31, 2009

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|------------------------|
| REVENUE | | |
| | Government of the Northwest Territories (Implementation Funds) | <u>\$23,086</u> |
| EXPENDITURES | | |
| | Honoraria | 10,597 |
| | Per Diem | 1,892 |
| | Travel | 6,980 |
| | Accommodation | <u>1,930</u> |
| | | 21,399 |
| EXCESS REVENUE (EXPENDITURE) | | <u>\$1,687</u> |

Environmental Impact Review Board – Administration

2008-2009 Contribution Agreements - INAC

For the Year Ending March 31, 2009

REVENUE

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| INAC Contribution (Implementation Funds) | <u>\$113,768</u> |
|--|-------------------------|

EXPENDITURES

Staff Support

| | |
|----------|--------|
| Salaries | 55,979 |
|----------|--------|

Overhead

| | |
|--------------|--------|
| Office Costs | 42,852 |
|--------------|--------|

| | |
|------|-------|
| Rent | 7,363 |
|------|-------|

| | |
|---------------|-------|
| Telephone/Fax | 2,649 |
|---------------|-------|

Other Expenses

| | |
|--------|-------|
| Travel | 4,374 |
|--------|-------|

| | |
|---------------|-------|
| Accommodation | 3,495 |
|---------------|-------|

| | |
|----------|-------|
| Per Diem | 1,246 |
|----------|-------|

117,958

EXCESS REVENUE (EXPENDITURE)

\$(4,190)

Environmental Impact Review Board – Umiak Public Review

2008-2009 Contribution Agreement (INAC)

For the Year Ending March 31, 2009

| | | |
|--|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| REVENUE | Indian and Northern Affairs Canada | 173,000 |
| EXPENDITURES | | |
| Chair | | |
| Accommodation | | 619 |
| Honoraria | | 10,000 |
| Per Diem | | 446 |
| Travel | | 666 |
| | | 11,731 |
| Canada Member | | |
| Accommodation | | 122 |
| Travel | | 1,594 |
| Per Diem | | 85 |
| | | 1,801 |
| Yukon Member | | |
| Consulting | | 1,313 |
| Staff | | |
| Salaries | | 18,178 |
| Per Diem | | 153 |
| Accommodation | | 379 |
| Travel | | 1,081 |
| | | 19,791 |
| Inuvialuit Participants | | |
| Accommodation | | 658 |
| Honoraria | | 5,660 |
| Travel | | 1,016 |
| Per Diem | | 587 |
| | | 7,921 |
| General Expenses | | |
| Advertising | | 7,824 |
| Telephone and Fax | | 203 |
| Office Costs | | 405 |
| Facilities | | 1,573 |
| | | 10,005 |
| Services | | |
| Legal/Consulting | | 6,984 |
| | | <u>59,546</u> |
| EXCESS REVENUE (EXPENDITURE) | | <u>113,454</u> |
| TRANSFER (TO) FROM CONTRIBUTION PAYABLE | | <u>\$(113,454)</u> |

VIII