

WATER STEWARDSHIP STRATEGY

MAY 21ST, 2009 BAKER CENTRE YELLOWKNIFE, NT

DRAFT **SUMMARY REPORT**

WORKSHOP #4

STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIPS







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NWT Water Stewardship Strategy Workshop #4: Strengthening Relationships

May 21, 2009 8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

1.0 Introduction

On May 21, Terriplan Consultants assisted with the fourth of several workshops planned to engage stakeholders on aspects of a proposed NWT Water Stewardship Strategy¹. This initiative is directed in partnership by GNWT, Environment and Natural Resources, and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada. The first workshop was attended by over 35 participants representing government, industry, Aboriginal organizations and ENGOs, who assembled to discuss the information associated with developing a proposed strategy. The second workshop was held in Hay River and discussed Traditional Knowledge in the context of an unfolding strategy. The third workshop was held in Yellowknife, at which over 40 participants discussed improving access to and management of water-related information.

The purpose of the workshop is to obtain input and advice on ways of strengthening the relationships between partners, and ultimately the stewardship of waters in the NWT. The input will assist in drafting the NWT Water Resources Management and Stewardship Strategy. Participants were to gain a shared understanding of the results that are needed by decision makers and the public, the effective communication of water management decisions, and how a Water Strategy can help decision-makers in their roles.

The specific objectives of this workshop were as follows:

- To receive input assistance on a draft section of the NWT Water Strategy. The section of the Water Strategy Technical Guidance Document is titled Coordination of Water Management – Understanding Water Resources Management & Stewardship Roles & Responsibilities in the NWT.
- 2. To answer the following questions:
 - Are the description of sharing responsibilities and suggestions for strengthening relationships on the right track?
 - Are there additional opportunities, challenges or other matters which should be considered?

¹ Note that the name of the Strategy has been changed in order to better reflect the stewardship aspect. At the time of the workshop it was referred to as the *NWT Water Resources Management & Stewardship Strategy*.



Participants	
Richard Binder	Inuvialuit Regional Corporation (IRC); Inuvialuit Game Council
Gary Bohnet	GNWT, Environment and Natural Resources (ENR)
Sevn Bohnet	INAC, Water Resources Division
Christian Bucher	Parks Canada
Mark Cliffe-Phillips	Wek'èezhìi Land and Water Board (WLWB)
Patty Ewaschuk	Wek'èezhìi Land and Water Board (WLWB)
Amanda Gillander	GNWT, Environment and Natural Resources (ENR)
Anita Gue	Environment Canada (EC)
Tim Heron	NWT Métis First Nation
Joel Holder	GNWT, Environment and Natural Resources (ENR)
Jesse Jasper	Mackenzie River Basin Board (MRBB)
Marc Lange	Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO)
Olivia Lee	GNWT, Municipal and Community Affairs (MACA)
David Livingstone	INAC, Renewable Resources and Environment
Alistair MacDonald Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Assessment Book (MVEIRB)	
Sonny MacDonald	Mackenzie River Basin Board (MRBB)
Sarah McKenzie	Northwest Territories Water Board (NWTWB)
Jane McMullen	GNWT, Environment and Natural Resources (ENR)
Tricia Melander-Forde	INAC, Renewable Resources and Environment
Carole Mills	INAC, Water Resources Division
Zabey Nevitt	Wek'èezhìi Land and Water Board (WLWB)
Kathy Racher	Wek'èezhìi Land and Water Board (WLWB)
Mardy Semmler	Gwich'in Tribal Council
Norm Snowshoe	Gwich'in Tribal Council
Fred Talen	GNWT, Aboriginal Affairs and Intergovernmental Relations (DAAIR)
Mark Warren	GNWT, Environment and Natural Resources (ENR)
Randy Wedel	Environment Canada (EC)
Consultants	
David Finch	Terriplan
Ed Hanna	Terriplan / DSS Consultants
Ricki Hurst	Terriplan

2.0 CONTEXT

Participants were addressed by Mark Warren (ENR) and David Livingstone (INAC) who provided the context for developing a strategy governing NWT water resources and welcomed participants to the workshop to get their input on its development. In his opening remarks David Livingstone observed that a key part of the water strategy is working together. He spoke of the need to build and strengthen relationships between water partners, commenting that "it (stewardship) only works if everyone is putting their shoulder to the wheel."



2.1 AN INTRODUCTION TO THE STRATEGY

2.1.1 Presentation #1

Ricki Hurst (Terriplan)

NWT Water Resources Management Strategy: Overview of Strategy

Terriplan provided an overview of the relevance and evolution of an NWT Water Stewardship Strategy. Stewardship was defined as being more than focused management; instead it is "an ethic that involves cooperative planning and responsible management of environmental resources entrusted to one's care." The presentation introduced a diagram of the strategy's components, stylized to resemble a drum (similar to the petal diagram of the NWT Environmental Stewardship Framework). See Figure 1 below.

ADMINISTRATION

AUDIT & REPORTING

PLANNING & ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS

ASSESSMENT & REGULATION

Figure 1: Diagram of Components of NWT Water Stewardship Strategy

It was emphasized that considerable engagement must occur before a draft strategy goes to consultation. The Strategy is being developed with recognition of, and respect for, the rights, responsibilities and knowledge of Aboriginal people and is intended to support Comprehensive

Land Claims and Self-government Agreements. It is intended to contribute to increased certainty in making water stewardship decisions and to advance the interests and rights of Northerners.

The components of the proposed Strategy were described as well as the communication & collaboration events related to its development. These included Northern Voices, Northern Waters (the July 2008 Discussion paper); a series of engagement sessions with Aboriginal leaders facilitated by Stephen Kakfwi & François Paulette; and a series of multi-party workshops that address technical aspects of developing a strategy. These efforts are based upon previous activities such as the Keepers of the Water gatherings led by Aboriginal leaders, WaterWise (2007), and NWT Legislative Motion 20(15):5 *Right to Water*. Among its other goals, the developing Strategy is intended to help the NWT prepare for future discussions of transboundary water agreements.

The presentation described the emerging information needs as being classed into 4 areas: Human Needs, Ecosystem Needs, Traditional Cultural Needs and Economic Needs. It was explained that the NWT Water Stewardship Strategy is intended to describe an approach to water management based on the coordination of knowledge and Information. The eventual Strategy will specify the information and knowledge available and needed for decision making. TK, in partnership with science, will be a valuable source of information and understanding for NWT water management. As part of Strategy development a large quantity of existing information is being compiled on water supply and aquatic resources and the significance of these water resources to northerners.

2.2 THEME 1- WATER MANAGEMENT: CURRENT RELATIONSHIPS

2.2.1 Presentation #1

Miranda Persaud (Terriplan) Roles & Responsibilities

Terriplan presented an overview of the current roles and responsibilities of NWT water partners. The purpose of the presentation was (1) to define existing relationships and (2) to obtain input and advice on gaps, challenges and potential opportunities for enhancing water stewardship. The input of participants will be incorporated into the Strategy's technical guidance documents.

The presentation gave a summary overview of the range of legislation and regulations guiding the use of NWT water resources. Profiles of NWT water managers, decision-makers and stewards were presented in a table format which participants evaluated in terms of accuracy and completeness. The table was intended as a summary of the roles, responsibilities and mandates of water partners.

Participants made the following suggestions for revising the Roles & Responsibilities tables (and the section of the Water Strategy to which they apply):

General

1. The report could make a distinction between *Management* and *Stewardship* roles, even within the same organization.



- 2. The report could make a distinction between Regulators and Users.
- 3. The tables can reference organizations whose water mandates are due to legislation, but non-legislated entities may fall outside the purview of the table (e.g. Power Corp. --- it does not manage water and it is itself managed by other bodies).
 - If the table adopts recommendation #2, then such organizations would be classified as Users.
- 4. Certain organizations (CCME, LUP boards) have transboundary or overlap roles. Reference can be made to the agreements that establish such bodies (not just legislation).

Missing Partners

- 1. Parks Canada
- 2. Agriculture Canada
- 3. GNWT Industry, Tourism and Investment
- 4. Aboriginal and municipal governments/organizations

Other

Participants noted that the CCME is a forum and not a decision-making body (and thus lacks any regulatory role). Its principal role is to facilitate and promote standards in water management.

Participants were encouraged to Terriplan submit their written comments on the table. In the week following the workshop, several responses were received and their suggestions were incorporated into an updated table.

2.3 THEME 2 - WATER MANAGEMENT: CHALLENGES & CONSIDERATIONS

2.3.1 Presentation #2

Miranda Persaud (Terriplan)
Roles & Responsibilities (continued)

Terriplan continued with the discussion of the roles and responsibilities of the partners in NWT water stewardship. The second phase of discussion focused on identifying challenges and opportunities for stewards of NWT waters.²

As mentioned earlier, Aboriginal governments had not been discussed explicitly in materials prepared for workshop participants. Participants were clear that Aboriginal governments would need to be discussed in their role as managers and stewards of water resources. As Aboriginal governments will be asked to consider the Water Strategy their visibility in this list is important. Likewise, resource management boards should be noted in their respective roles as products of the Land Claims.

² Terriplan committed to sending to the participants a copy of the challenges identified in the workshop, which was done following the meeting. Table 2a is a condensed version of this list, bringing certain challenges together as they address related issues.

Participants observed that Aboriginal governments had roles as water managers as well as stewards of the resource. The results of this discussion were included in a revised table of Roles and Responsibilities but are summarized in Table 1.

Table 1: Role of Aboriginal Governments in Water Stewardship and Water Management

	ABORIGINAL GOVERNMENTS			
ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES	 Duties around resource use applications review all resource licence applications provide comments after the Boards have reviewed licence applications intervene through public consultations nominate Board membership. Make recommendations on the timeline for resource use Add to Terms and Conditions (i.e. sampling points) 			
STEWARDHIP	Responsibility per Land Claims Agreements Responsible for: - Water Quality - Water Quantity - Flow of water resources			
MANAGEMENT	Reviewing and assisting with the development of policy & strategies - e.g. CIMP, CEAM [EMF], PAS, Northern Contaminants Program [NCP]) - in particular funding allocations for CIMP and NCP			

It is important to note that the Aboriginal governments have overlapping agreements with other regions & territories. This is particularly important with respect to the notion of future transboundary agreements. The current Transboundary Water Management Agreement in place between the Yukon and NWT includes partners such as the Yukon Territorial Government, ENR, GTC, ISR and INAC.

2.3.2 Challenges and Opportunities for Water Stewardship

Participants were asked to identify and discuss challenges in terms of the roles and responsibilities of water managers and stewards. A general list of challenges is presented in Table 2a.

Table 2a: Challenges Identified by Participants

	Table 2a. Gladeliges lacitation by Faratolpaties				
CHALLENGES					
ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES	Jurisdictional & legislative overlap (and duplication of efforts) Need to understand the context of decision-making who is making decisions, and why implications of decisions for water stewardship implications of decisions on other processes				
INFORMATION USED FOR MAKING	 Need for greater coordination of decisions, and updates on how decisions/interests are incorporated 				

CHALLENGES - within agencies and between agencies - evaluating decisions through more effective / more frequent auditing - identifying 'grey areas', e.g. transboundary issues, cumulative effects, new technology / trends CONSIDERATIONS CONSTRAINTS Lack of a 'trigger' or focal event to enable positive change Limited capacity / resources Physical and political consequences of location in watershed (i.e. NWT is upstream of Nunavut, downstream of BC & Alberta)

Participants also identified challenges within the current system of water stewardship specific to Aboriginal governments (see Table 2b below). Many of these centred on the accessibility of information (reinforcing some of the messages heard at Workshop #3: *Information Needs*) but also on the need to contextualize some of this information to increase its usefulness to Aboriginal governments and communities.

Table 2b: Challenges Identified by Participants Specific to Aboriginal Governments

Table 25. Challenges identified by Farticipants Specific to Aboriginal Governments				
CHALLENGES - ABORIGINAL GOVERNMENTS				
ACCESS TO INFORMATION	Need to have a central location where data is stored and is accessible (data banks / portals) Need to ensure that the data storage mechanism is continuously updated — information (data, research, etc.) — contact information (who to contact on specific issues) Need for greater trust to enable buy-in — that communities will get the information they need — that the information will represent actual situations / findings — people need to be willing to share their data Need for greater transboundary information sharing within a watershed — It is the case right now that data, information, research is being or has been carried out upstream (i.e. local, regional territorial, and transboundary) which is crucial to the understanding of those water partners downstream, but that information is not currently being shared;			
CONTEXT OF INFORMATION	Need to have both information <u>and</u> an understanding of how water resources are currently being used			

It was generally agreed among participants that more effective communication would be helpful. Specific 'building blocks' to address challenges included: (1) land use plans; (2) thresholds; and (3) baselines. These suggestions were in keeping with comments heard in breakout groups in which greater standardization of approach was seen as advantageous (e.g. forms/applications, terminology, access to information).

Jesse Jasper (MRBB) noted that agreements to merge EA processes, or to share information between them. He held up as a model the Mackenzie Gas Project (MGP) whose EAs are shared processes among federal, provincial and territorial agencies. Agreements could specify roles for specific agencies and ensure that gaps could be identified and filled, and areas of overlap

reduced. Alistair MacDonald (MVEIRB) observed considerable jurisdictional overlap in assessments of projects such as tailing ponds. Agreements to share data or to delineate the individual process steps were possible. He noted that the North has some experience in this area with numerous transboundary agreements whereas southern Canada did not demonstrate a similar pattern. Marc Lange (DFO) observed a need for a set of common policy tools to maximize net benefit, though agreement would be needed on thresholds to measure net benefit.

The six specific challenges and the opportunities related to them are discussed below.

Challenge #1

Jurisdictional & Legislative Overlap / Duplication

(particularly in terms of Trust, Coordination and Vision)

Opportunity:

- Coordination: knowing all water partners is important along with having agreements (MOUs) outlining the specific relationship that exists among these partners.
- ▶ Communication is vital: there needs to be a consistent, meeting strategy (it was suggested that there be an annual meeting).
- On specific cases there are possible examples with can be used as templates. These include Spills Management and Waste Management.
- Environmental Assessments --- these responsibilities are shared between the province and the territory.
 - There needs to be some mechanism to reduce the duplication among waters (i.e. partners need to work together).
 - There may be an EA agreement with MVEIRB & YESSAB, ISR & Alberta.
 - The MRBB Master Agreement is also a potential tool; however, it does have supplemental agreements.
- ▶ In terms of communication: look to the Environmental Stewardship Blueprint and its associated Actions for examples.
 - Hydrometric agreements (deal with clients);
- ▶ There is a need for a common set of policy tools which outline items such as the following:
 - Net Benefits: namely, how do we achieve it;
 - What do water partners do when they do not all agree; and
 - Setting a threshold between Net Benefit & No Benefit.
- It is important to note that there are policies in the background document to the Drill Agreement.

Challenge #2

Need to Understand the Context of Decision-Making

Opportunity:

- ▶ The Strategy is the context. It outlines what the aim is and as such what decision-making will be working towards.
 - Decisions will support the Strategy
 - Outline an implementation plan



Building blocks that can be used: LUP, Baseline, Thresholds

Challenge #3

Limited Capacity / Resources

Opportunity:

- NB: Resources understood to include: Time, People, Money.
- The Strategy is a mechanism to address resource scarcity given that it will in fact reduce duplication by clarifying roles and responsibilities, etc.
- In order to address resource needs, it is necessary to have buy-in from water partners (this is key!).
- ▶ Important to make strategy-related information available to Boards for purpose of continuity (e.g. when new members appointed).
- 'Cross fertilization' (as a means of addressing limited resources)
 - Cross-training & secondment are options.
 - Developing trust & relationships will better facilitate cross-fertilization.
 - One way to build trust is to lead by example.
- It is important to note that there are policies in the background document to the Drill Agreement.
- Environmental Audit could look at assessing the Strategy.
 - Documents specifying challenges in terms of monitoring and recommendations can be found in the Environmental Audit. (cf. table of contents for new audit)

Challenge #4

Need a Focus / Trigger Event

Opportunity:

- Alberta & NWT transboundary event. In the previous instance when this was pursued, the NWT was unprepared. The Strategy allows the NWT to be prepared.
- Auditor General Report: point was made saying there is a need for guidelines (i.e. effluent discharge).
- National Water Strategy (i.e. national buy-in);
 - It is important to note that this has triggered the valuation concept of the NWT water Strategy.
- Canada-wide Strategy for municipal waste (here the focus shifts to communities).
- ▶ Environmental Risk Assessment.

Challenge #5

Need to Coordinate Decisions & Updates

Opportunity:

- Water Strategy Committee to provide scheduled updates to partners & interested parties.
 - Reporting to be linked to goals and what future plans may be (it is believed that by communicating, water partners will be able to identify those among them with similar interests and potentially find support in carrying out tasks and reduce duplication).



- Options exist to improve communication.
 - Look at capacity & staff
 - Outline ways in which to address turnover (mechanism to ensure that new staff are up-to-date on what is taking place ... this implies an emphasis on the Quality of communication)
 - Integrated decision-making
 - Build into some of the existing legislation
 - Look at consistency in terms of information going to 'decision-makers'
 - There are multiple informants who provide data and information to decision-makers, there is a need to ensure consistency among these bodies
 - Feedback Mechanism: in order to build trust among all parties participating in this process, it is necessary to let informants know 'if and why their advice was not taken'. This way the informant feels their input was valid and thus may continue to participate in the process.
 - There is an need to determine what advice will be given to the communities, who will be responsible for doing it, and how will it be done ... it is important to note that communicating with the communities it is likely best done by using community members.
- Education is needed: it is important to inform all of what the NWT is trying to do and why.
 - One way of accomplishing this is example from Alberta which distributed information on its water strategy to all citizens / residents.
- ▶ The Strategy needs to be positioned in the context of what is already happening (look at other strategies in place).
- Centralizing information storage may not solve problems, but centralized/shared access would be an asset.

Challenge #6

Need to Understand Roles & Responsibilities (Boards, Agencies)

Opportunity:

- ▶ Ensure water partners articulate how roles and responsibilities of self relate to others;
- It is important to note that this cannot be done in isolation (i.e. in 'silos'). There is a need for development planning. Development Planning includes:
 - A technical piece;
 - Less formal & move toward relationships rather than an emphasis on roles and responsibilities;
 - Look at components and responsibilities (i.e. waste water, spills, etc.) [Insert into Strategy];
- It is necessary to have agreement with teeth. This facilitates accountability, but note that these agreements have to flow both ways.
- Ensuring the sense of shared responsibilities (i.e. not only Boards, others feed into the process as well). This will also lead to accountability.
 - Important to make strategy-related information available to Boards for purpose of continuity (e.g. when new members appointed).



What Was Heard

"If we knew what each other was doing, it would help." - Carole Mills (INAC)

"Decisions should be grounded in the Strategy itself." – Mardy Semmler (GTC)

"We have a huge silo problem. We need more informal for gathering." – Alistair MacDonald (MVEIRB)

"We need to foster a sense of responsibility." – Kathy Racher (WLWB)

2.3.3 Identifying the Needs of Water Managers and Decision-makers

Participants stated in discussion that information must be provided in a useable format. Currently large quantities of data are received but may not be in a useable or easily accessible form (e.g. monitoring data, baseline data). Participants expressed the need to convert this data into information that analysts can use to help make decisions. Any data needs context in order to translate it into information which can be used for making decisions. Some participants observed that this role was previously assumed by consultants who answered the questions of anticipating change.

One suggested strategy of dealing with this problem is to clearly outline what is being sought. For example, when asking parties for information / data, managers must ensure it is not only the correct information but in the correct format. This echoed recommendations from Workshop #2: *Information Needs* in which information management was emphasized as a collective responsibility, perhaps even a cornerstone of stewardship. In this way it becomes important for managers to identify priorities. Guidance for this priority-setting comes from a variety of sources:

- **Tools** to assist with this include regulations per MVRMA, through limited questionnaires, provisions in the Act and provisions on licences.
- Challenges include accessing information. For example, one may ask a proponent for the correct information but may not be able to get it. Additional caveats include confidentiality issues and the format of information that can limit the analyst's ability to use the data that is available. Challenges also exist in regards to Data, Models, and Translations. It is important that there is consistency across the board with regard to these in order to ensure that all managers and decision-makers are operating with the same resources, tools and level of information.
- Opportunities can arise from addressing these challenges. Board questions are explicitly outlined to interveners:, making it important to make them available proactively. Questions should be explicit but there is a need to go beyond asking questions. It is important that questions are clearly outlined and tailored to the



'receiver'. Similarly, it is important to recognize that a hearing may allow for more detailed response than written feedback.

A second strategy is to clarify the issues around the questions. There may be a need to know not only the questions that are going to be asked but who will be asking them. Thus, the attempt to identify water partners and their respective roles was welcomed by several participants.

Participants noted that issues of *trust*, *transparency*, and *accountability* were fundamental to asking questions and getting the answers desired. Trust, in this sense, must include that of the community. For example, a business case suitable for government may not work locally. In this case, leading by example was felt to be important. For example, transboundary water negotiations could be made easier by 'getting your house in order first.'

Getting the Word Out

Discussion around the accessibility of technical information led to the matter of its dissemination. Water managers were noted as having to communicate to multiple audiences, sometimes simultaneously, ranging from other managers, to decision-makers, and to the public. Information sharing mechanisms, such as the Wek'èezhìi forum mentioned in Workshop #2, allows for the exchange of approaches and information. One participant observed that the Water Stewardship Strategy presented an opportunity for integrating a community-based monitoring program. Suggested means by which to accomplish this included holding community tours and involving schools and communities in monitoring programs. A DFO project in Norman Wells was mentioned to illustrate this latter method.

There can also be situations in which too much information is available, and a Strategy can assist in determining what to make available by setting priorities. A Strategy can establish who the 'right' partners are for particular issues and through them distribute the information to those that can use it (i.e. regional boards, municipal boards, Aboriginal governments). This could be achieved through direct community contact and determining local concerns, not simply about the quality and quantity of water resources but whether or not the water partners (and the Strategy) are doing what they are supposed to do.

Bridging Land & Water

Participants stated that tools should be developed to better integrate land- and water-related management. It may also be necessary to consider air as it can easily impact water quality. It was noted that though there are connections between land, water, and air, treating these separately may be beneficial in that it allows for express focus on one at a time. With that in mind (and within the broader view of the NWT Environmental Stewardship Framework) one breakout group commented that one must use 'the right tool for the right job'; the Water Stewardship Strategy was seen as the tool for water resources.

2.3.4 Specific Suggestions for Moving Forward

Participants made a number of specific suggestions that addressed the challenges identified. These are listed with the individual challenges and opportunities but some of the notable options are as follows:



- A suggestion from Kathy Racher (WLWB) was to regularly hold events that would provide fora for exchanging information, formally or informally.
 - Scheduled updates to water partners / users
 - Annual meeting or forum
- ▶ Jane McMullen (ENR) suggested that the CEAM (now ESF) Blueprint provided a good model for planning for the year ahead.
- ▶ Jane McMullen (ENR) also suggested that a series of agreements could be included in or alongside the technical guidance of the Water Stewardship Strategy. The strategy would then be tied more closely to the context of decision-making.
- Mardy Semmler (GTC) noted the importance of making strategy-related information available to Boards for purpose of continuity (e.g. to get new members up to speed on strategic direction).
- Alistair MacDonald (MVEIRB) suggested the Strategy feature greater local involvement (and hence empowerment) to encourage buy-in. This could include education and tools for communities, not just Boards.
- ▶ Carole Mills (INAC) agreed and explained that a community focus might answer questions of who is responsible for particular water issues; a useful product would be a contact list or primer on which agency does what.
- Tim Heron (GTC) and Norman Snowshoe (GTC) expressed a need for regularly-updated contact lists for water resources.

2.4 THEME 3 - ENHANCING WATER MANAGEMENT

2.4.1 Presentation #3

Ed Hanna (Terriplan/DSS Consultants)
WaterWise - Overview

Terriplan presented an overview of WaterWise, a decision-support tool designed to assist in implementing the developing NWT Water Stewardship Strategy. WaterWise is a computer modelling tool that organizes basic information to make better management decisions. It uses the information in the Geodatabase presented by Terriplan at *Workshop #2 Information Needs*. WaterWise utilizes existing data to determine the optimal outcomes of actions, including water quality and quantity data, Traditional Knowledge, and other forms of information. It can accommodate new elements of information, such as the levels of new pollutants, initial water quality and how the pollutant behaves in the ecosystem. It currently contains relatively little information on the spiritual and cultural uses of water and it was suggested that these values be determined by users. A starting point would be to determine the thresholds for changes to water that can affect its spiritual or cultural value.

WaterWise is organized on a watershed level and divides individual streams and basins into segments. These can be further subdivided in order to facilitate new developments. When fully implemented, the flow network for the entire Northwest Territories will be complete, and likewise for the entire Mackenzie River Basin (albeit at a coarser level of resolution). The system uses the best information available but this can be updated and shared; a question for users to consider is who will be responsible for this task.

WaterWise is a tool and can be used or not used at the discretion of water managers. However, broad usage would encourage consistency in evaluating water decisions.

A brief demonstration of the tool was presented to participants, showing the nature of the interface, the types of decisions considered and the consideration of optimal alternatives. It was noted (like it or not) that water is treated as a service in terms of use, such as waste disposal. There are attendant risks and damages associated with certain decisions, and a tool such as this would allow open discussion of relative costs and values. Ultimately, determining the values themselves would be up to decision-makers and their respective constituencies.

Discussion

Tim Heron (NWT Métis Nation) asked how long it would take a user to learn to operate the WaterWise system. Ed Hanna responded that many of its primary users would already have the basic skill set to operate it, and he estimated it would take 2 or 3 days of training sessions. He explained that it does what water managers already do, only in a structured manner.

Mr. Heron also asked how this would be used in regards to other jurisdictions, as in transboundary matters for example. Mr. Hanna responded that WaterWise would contribute to court cases (1) by laying out the effects of management decisions in a systematic way, and (2) by assigning an estimate of damages.

Jesse Jasper (MRBB) noted that the MRBB is developing a basin hydrology model to determine natural flow conditions (i.e. prior to upstream damming) and post-dam observed flows. There will be a system in place to forecast physical changes in the Mackenzie Basin, which could feed into WaterWise or another decision-support tool.

Mark Warren (ENR) and Mark Cliffe-Phillips (WLWB) asked about data standards for using WaterWise and the models used. Mr. Hanna explained that data standards are up to the boards and other decision-makers, and recommended that standards begin with what is currently acceptable. He reiterated that the system does not say what the importance of various factors is, but provides a mechanism for weighing their relative import once set by the users. WaterWise is an optimization model, not a simulation model, and it would benefit from running both types of models in tandem.

WaterWise was discussed during the afternoon breakout groups. One group noted that the scale of WaterWise should be at the level of local watersheds to reflect the concerns of Land & Water Boards and communities. A feedback mechanism is needed to determine local effects.



3.0 LAST WORDS

Mark Warren (ENR) reminded participants of the upcoming *Science in the Changing North* gathering in Yellowknife (June 15-16, 2009). This event has as its focus the issue of water stewardship in the NWT and represents another forum for input on the developing NWT Water Stewardship Strategy. A public strategy document would be available at or around that time, though the technical guidance documentation will be the real 'meat' of the strategy. Together these components would be available in August 2009. A fifth workshop is planned for this time in order to review the draft Strategy.

David Livingstone (INAC) encouraged participants to remain involved in the development of the Strategy, noting that it was important. He encouraged participants and the broader public to get involved in order to ensure that the Strategy properly reflects the needs of Northerners.

APPENDIX A: BACKGROUND AND AGENDA

NWT WATER RESOURCES MANAGEMENT & STEWARDSHIP STRATEGY

WORKSHOP #4: STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIPS

Baker Centre, Yellowknife May 21, 2009

1.0 PURPOSE AND OUTCOMES

1.1 PURPOSE

The purpose of this workshop is to obtain input and advice on ways of strengthening the relationships between partners, and ultimately the stewardship of waters in the NWT. The input will assist in drafting and implementing the NWT Water Resources Management and Stewardship Strategy.

1.2 OUTCOMES

The intent is to gain a shared understanding of the results that are needed by decision makers and the public, the effective communication of water management decisions, and how a Water Strategy can help decision-makers in their roles.

Specific outcomes are as follows:

- Provide input on a draft section of the NWT Water Strategy, confirming the current roles and responsibilities of partners in water stewardship. (The section of the Water Strategy Technical Guidance Document is titled Coordination of Water Management – Understanding Water Resources Management & Stewardship Roles & Responsibilities in the NWT.)
- Determine if the suggestions to strengthen relationships are appropriate.
- o Identify challenges in developing and implementing a Strategy.
- Identify opportunities for strengthening relationships and implementing the Water Strategy.

2.0 Who, When and Where

Workshop Attendants:

- NWT Water Strategy Aboriginal Steering Committee (ASC) members
- Northern Board staff
- Water managers in federal govt including INAC, EC, Parks and DFO
- Water managers in territorial govt including DAIIR, ENR, HSS, MACA, DoT, ITI and PWS
- Representatives of NWT ENGOs and Industry associations
- Terriplan Consultants



When and Where Workshop will be Held:

- May 21, 2009, at the Baker Community Centre, Yellowknife NT

3.0 WORKSHOP AGENDA

MAY 21, 2009 Baker Community Centre, Yellowknife NT			
TIME	TOPIC	LEAD	
8:30 - 9:00	REFRESHMENTS		
9:00 - 9:10	OPENING REMARKS	INAC & GNWT	
9:10 – 9:15	INTRODUCTIONS	TERRIPLAN	
9:15 – 9:30	PURPOSE OF WORKSHOP IN RELATION TO NWT WATER MANAGEMENT STRATEGY - Presentation: Strategy Overview	TERRIPLAN	

Theme 1: WATER MANAGEMENT: CURRENT RELATIONSHIPS

- 1. Are all the water partners accounted for?
- 2. Are their roles and responsibilities appropriately described?
- 3. Are all legislative authorities outlined?

9:30 - 9:45	PRESENTATION: EXISTING RELATIONSHIPS	TERRIPLAN
9:45 – 10:30	FACILITATED DISCUSSION	FACILITATORS
10:30 – 10:45 REFRESHMENT BREAK		

Theme 2: WATER MANAGEMENT: CHALLENGES & CONSIDERATIONS

- 1. What challenges exist within the current water management system?
- 2. What are the connections between the Water Strategy and steps in the decision-making process?

10:45 – 11:00	PRESENTATION: STRENGTHENING RELATIONSHIPS	TERRIPLAN
11:00 – 12:00	FACILITATED DISCUSSION	FACILITATORS
12:00 – 1:00	LUNCH (PROVIDED)	

MAY 21, 2009 Baker Community Centre, Yellowknife NT

Theme 3: ENHANCING WATER MANAGEMENT

- 1. What opportunities exist to enhance the current management system?
- 2. What management support tools can be developed and used to assist water management decisions.
- 3. How to effectively communicate technical information to decision makers and public?

1:00 – 2:15	Presentation: Potential Support Tools	TERRIPLAN
	Geodatabase	
	WaterWise	
2:15 – 3:15	Breakout	FACILITATORS
3:15 – 3:30	Refreshment Break	
3:30 - 3:45	Report back to plenary	
3:45 – 4:15	Facilitated discussion	TERRIPLAN
4:15	Closing Remarks	GNWT & INAC

APPENDIX B: ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES TABLES

UNDERSTANDING WATER-RELATED ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsible Authority	Water-Related Role (i.e. what the water partner is charged with doing)	Water-Related Responsibilities (i.e. how does the water partner accomplish their goals)	Relevant Legislation (i.e. Mackenzie Valley Resource Conservation Act, Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, etc)	Additional Notes
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada	INAC manages the water resources of the NWT though the administration of the Northwest Territories Waters Act and Regulations, and the Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act. Though responsibility for water is traditionally a provincial issue, INAC has undertaken responsibility until such time as full devolution takes place. It acts as the "center for water expertise in the NWT". INAC's overall responsibility for water management is set out in Section 5 of the DIAND Act which gives the department provincial-type responsibilities for the North. The federal Crown has ownership of the water and other natural resources in the Northwest Territories and Nunavut. INAC's Water Resources Division supports INAC in the execution of its responsibilities. The Water Resources Division is a part of INAC's Renewable Resources and Environment Directorate, which states its missions as "supporting Northern political and economic development through the management of federal interests and promoting sustainable development of Northern Communities and natural resources." The Water Resources Division's Vision is "to be a center of excellence, providing high quality valued support and to work collaboratively with other organizations to contribute to a strong, sustainable water resources management process in the NWT". The 4 goals of the Water Resources Division are: • Developing and maintaining scientific and technical excellence • Supporting clients with scientific and technical expertise • Establishing and strengthening working relationships with clients • Fostering internal knowledge creation and management	INAC's direct responsibilities are the development, implementation, and interpretation of water management legislation and policy in the NWT; • Licensing under the waters legislations; • Enforcement (inspections on licensed operations in the Northwest Territories – INAC enforces violations); • Water Data collection (in collaboration with the GNWT and Environment Canada); and • Water Planning (planning is based on the hydrological unit of the watershed rather than political jurisdictions. This also includes research programs). • INAC also provides funding to assist with the provision of water and wastewater services within reserve communities. • INAC also helps to protect water quality in Canada's North and is responsible for the management of water resources in and around Nunavut and the Northwest Territories via the Water Resources Division. • INAC's Water resources is responsible for the following activities: • Developing and managing scientific programs, which includes the collection, analysis, interpretation, and distribution of water quantity / quality information, and conducting specific aquatic ecosystem studies; • Developing guidelines and codes of practice for water resource management and monitoring; and • Providing on-going expert scientific and procedural advice to a wide range of clients in the NWT. The Water Resources Division has the following objectives in support of the goals mentioned in the "Roles" section: • In support of developing and maintaining scientific and technical expertise; • In support of supporting clients with scientific and technical expertise;	 Yukon Waters Act NWT Waters Act The Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act Canadian Environmental Assessment Act Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act Dominion Water Power Act DIAND Act 	Clients of the Water Resources division include: Land and water Boards; MVEIRB; Other DIAND Divisions (territorial, DIAND Ottawa); Other federal agencies in the region; Aboriginal and community organizations; Other provinces / territories; NGOs; Industry; and Members of the public.
Fisheries and Oceans Canada	The Department of Fisheries and Oceans' (DFO) responsibilities and programs for fresh waters are shared with provincial and territorial governments, as well as with other federal agencies. The multi-jurisdictional nature of freshwater resources leads to a relatively complex management system. The department has developed a new vision of safe, healthy, productive waters, and aquatic ecosystems (including habitat). This has been done for the benefit of present and future generations and is accomplished through the maintenance of the highest possible standards of: Service to Canadians; Marine Safety And Environmental Protection; Scientific Excellence; Conservation and Sustainable Resource Use.	 In support of establishing and strengthening working relationships with clients; and In Support of fostering internal knowledge creation and management. The Department of Fisheries and Oceans' (DFO) responsibilities and programs for fresh waters are shared with provincial and territorial governments, as well as with other federal agencies. The multi-jurisdictional nature of freshwater resources leads to a relatively complex management system. DFO's roles and responsibilities in fresh waters support five long-term goals identified in the department's plans, policies, and programs: Managing and protecting fisheries resources (including habitat); Protecting the marine and freshwater environment; Understanding the oceans and aquatic resources; Maintaining marine safety; and Facilitating maritime commerce and ocean development. 	Fisheries Act and Regulations pursuant to the Act Freshwater Fish Marketing Act International Boundary Waters Treaty Act Canada-Yukon Accord for Freshwater Fisheries Management Canadian Environmental Assessment Act Navigable Waters Protection Act Canada Shipping Act Oceans Act Navigable Waters Protection Act Applicable Land Claim agreements throughout the NWT	N/A
Transport Canada	Transport Canada conducts Environmental Assessments (EAs) for proposed projects in accordance with the <i>CEAA</i> and other federal EA processes in the Northwest Territories, Nunavut, and the Yukon.	Transport Canada's Environmental Affairs staff work with the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency and other departments to ensure the appropriate application of CEAA and the northern EA processes to projects involving Transport Canada or its lands, and provide guidance and training to departmental staff on EA requirements.	Navigable Waters Protection Act (NWPA); and National Energy Board Act (Section 108).	N/A
Environment Canada	The federal government has jurisdiction related to fisheries, navigation, federal lands, and international relations, including responsibilities related to the management of boundary waters, agriculture, health and the environment, and plays a significant role supporting aquatic research and technology, and ensuring national policies and standards are in place. Environment Canada works closely with other federal departments to develop a more strategic approach to addressing nationally significant freshwater issues. The Federal Water Policy addresses the management of water resources, balancing water uses with the requirements of the many interrelationships within the ecosystem. The policy takes into account the needs of all Canadians in its overall objective: To encourage the use of freshwater in an efficient and equitable manner consistent with the social, economic and environmental needs of present and	See "INAC" section for further detail, along with the MRBB and DFO.	EC legislative authorities / legislation of responsibility include: Canadian Environmental Assessment Act; Disposal at Sea Regulations; Regulations Respecting Applications for Permits for Disposal at Sea; Migratory Birds Convention Act; Migratory Birds Regulations; and Migratory Birds Anctuary Regulations. Canadian Environmental Protection Act;	INAC, until such time as there is devolution, has responsibility for water resources in the NWT.



Responsible Authority	Water-Related Role (i.e. what the water partner is charged with doing)	Water-Related Responsibilities (i.e. how does the water partner accomplish their goals)	Relevant Legislation (i.e. Mackenzie Valley Resource Conservation Act, Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, etc.)	Additional Notes
Parks Canada		Within the national parks located in the Northwest Territories, the Pingo Canadian Landmark and Saoyu-Aehdacho National Historic Site, Parks Canada has the following role: • Work with various environmental assessment agencies (Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency, Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board, Environmental Impact Screening Committee, Environmental Impact Review Board) and other federal departments to ensure appropriate application of environmental assessment processes for projects within National Parks, National Marine Conservation Areas, and National Historic Sites; • Develop, manage, and implement scientific research and monitoring programs (collection, analysis, interpretation, and distribution of water quality and quantity information and conduct specific aquatic ecosystem studies);	 (i.e. Mackenzie Valley Resource Conservation Act, Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, etc) Department of Environment Act. Department of Environment Act. Canada National Parks Act and regulations; Canada National Marine Conservation Areas Act; Historic Sites and Monument Act; Contraventions Act; Various Comprehensive Land Claims; Various Park Establishment Agreements and Impact and Benefit Agreements. O OTHER APPLICABLE LEGISLATION Species at Risk Act; Dominion Water Power Act; Various environmental assessment legislations (Canadian Environmental Agreement, Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act); Fisheries Act; Migratory Birds Convention Act; Canadian Environmental Protection Act. Other Water Management Partners Various cooperative and comanagement boards; Aboriginal Governments; Aboriginal Governments; Various environmental assessment boards; Various environmental assessment boards; Various dederal and territorial 	Presently Parks Canada manages water resources on 3.5% of the Northwest Territories landmass; this will increase substantially as proposed sites in the Northwest Territories are being added to the National Parks and National Historic Sites system.
			Various federal and territorial agencies (Indian and Northern Affairs Canada, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Environment Canada, Transport Canada, Canadian Wildlife Service, Government of the Northwest Territories Department of Environment and Natural Resources).	



UNDERSTANDING WATER-RELATED ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

	UNDERSTANDING WATER-RELATED ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES				
Responsible Authority	Water-Related Role (i.e. what the water partner is charged with doing)	Water-Related Responsibilities (i.e. how does the water partner accomplish their goals)	Relevant Legislation (i.e. Mackenzie Valley Resource Conservation Act, Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, etc)	Additional Notes	
GNWT – ENR	At present, the GNWT's direct legislative mandate on water issues is limited to (among other things) drinking water quality and environmental protection. The authority of ENR, as it applies to water resources, is primarily a function of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA). It also has some authority under other legislation that may touch upon water resources.	Responsibilities include: • The sustainability of water resources; • Transboundary water negotiations; • Wildlife and forestry management; and • Undertaking the responsibilities delegated by the Federal Minister (as outlined by Section 4 of the MVRMA) and functioning as the de facto 'responsible minister'.	Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act; Wildlife Act; Wildlife Licenses and Permit Regulations; and Forestry Management Act & Regulations.	N/A	
GNWT- HSS	The Department of Health and Social Services' Office of the Chief Medical Health Officer sets the Drinking Water Sampling and Testing Requirements which dictate what parameters should be tested and how often. The testing results are then monitored by the local and regional Environmental Health Officers.	HSS (Related to drinking water only) Review the sample reports and advise the Senior Administrative Officer (SAO) if the water is not safe to drink; Issue Boil Water Advisory Notice if required; Issue Boil Water Order if necessary; and Recommend solutions for any drinking water safety related issues. Within the NWT, the GNWT reserves the right to test for the following substances in drinking water. Included, but not limited to, are the following: Alkalinity; Aluminium; Cadmium; Chloride; Chromium; Colour; e-coli; Fecal Coliforms; Heterotrophic Plate Count; Iron; Lead; Manganese; Mercury Nitrate; PH; Selenium; Sodium; Sulphate Trihalomethanes (THMs); Uranium; Zinc.	Canadian Drinking Water Guidelines NWT Public Health Act	The Chief Medical Health Officer sets all drinking water standards, testers, and regional health authorities report to him / her; Standards and quality are measured by the Stanton Territorial Health Authority and the Government of the NWT departments of Health and Social Services, Municipal and Community Affairs, and Public Works and Services.	
GNWT - MACA	MACA provides funding to support communities in their provision of water and sewage services through the Water & Sewer Services Funding Policy. Communities are funded according to a standard cost model. This model assumes a due diligence approach to operations, that community governments will charge consumers for water and sewage services, and recognize that there is a "fixed" cost of operations, regardless of consumption.	 MACA Provides classroom and hands on training to the operators; Provides assistance in identifying the necessary infrastructure; Provides support to the Senior Administrative Officer (SAO) in the development of the Community Infrastructure Plan; Recommends alternative funding sources; and Assists the SAO in the development of a simple, easy to use and understandable O&M and Preventative Maintenance workplan. 	Canadian Drinking Water Guidelines NWT Public Health Act	The Chief Medical Health Officer sets all drinking water standards, testers and regional health authorities report to him / her; Standards and quality are measured by the Stanton Territorial Health Authority and the Government of the NWT departments of Health and Social Services, Municipal and Community Affairs, and Public Works and Services.	
GNWT – PWS	Public Works and Services and other government departments work together to provide safe drinking water and effective sewage systems in NWT communities. PWS provides support by: Reviewing design of water and sewage projects; Carrying out Inspections and operational reviews of water supply systems; Undertaking pilot studies for evaluating potential water treatment process upgrades; Updating and developing technical standards and guidelines; Commissioning water and sewage systems; Providing technical assistance during construction; and Training of water treatment plant operators.	 PWS Provides technical (design, construction, operation, and maintenance) and training support; Provides technical expertise in the areas of water treatment operations, troubleshooting, water sampling and testing, water system operator training, water treatment optimization and conducting pilot studies; Assists MACA/SAO in the development of a simple, easy to use and understandable O&M and Preventative Maintenance workplan; and Assists MACA to undertake the water and sewer system review and recommend any gaps to the Senior Administrative Officer (SAO) and MACA. 		PWS Staff take part in or give technical advice to a number of committees related to water quality, which include Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board; Regional water and health boards; NWT Water Committee; Federal / Provincial Subcommittees on Canadian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines & the NWT Water and Waste Association	



UNDERSTANDING WATER-RELATED ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsible Authority	Water-Related Role (i.e. what the water partner is charged with doing)	Water-Related Responsibilities (i.e. how does the water partner accomplish their goals)	Relevant Legislation (i.e. Mackenzie Valley Resource Conservation Act, Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, etc)	Additional Notes
	The Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board's mission is to conduct quality environmental impact assessments that protect the environment and the social, economic, and cultural well being of the residents of the Mackenzie Valley and all Canadians	1. Preliminary Screening All proposed developments that require a license, permit, or other authorization must apply and go through a preliminary screening. A land and water board or other regulating authority runs this process. Preliminary screening is a quick review of a proposed development's application to decide if the development might have significant adverse impacts on the environment, or might cause public concern. If so, the application is referred to the second stage - environmental assessment. If not, then the application can be sent to the regulator for permitting and licensing. 2. Environmental Assessment This stage is a more thorough study of a proposed development's application to decide if the development is likely to have significant adverse impacts on the environment, or likely to cause public concern. If so, the Review Board may recommend to the	Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act Regulations	 As a co-management board, aboriginal land claim organizations nominate half of the Review Board members, and the federal and territorial governments nominate the other half of the board members. The Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs appoints all the members to the Review Board. Other boards or organizations with referral power may ask MVEIRB to conduct environmental assessments
MVEIRB		federal Minister: a) that the project can proceed to regulatory permitting and licensing as is; b) that the project can proceed to regulatory permitting and licensing provided some measures are in place; or c) that the project should be rejected. Alternatively, the Review Board may order an environmental impact review for a more detailed review by an independent panel.		and environmental impact reviews as the situation merits. These are then reported back to the relevant board (e.g. SLWB, GLWB, WLWB, MVLWB)
		3. Environmental Impact Review An environmental impact review follows an environmental assessment when the Review Board deems a more comprehensive examination of a proposed development is needed. The review is conducted by an independent panel, which may consist of both Review Board members and non-Review Board members. All members of the panel are appointed by the Review Board. The		 MVEIRB must also contact INAC or the NEB with its findings as well; MVEIRB is not the final decision- maker; it provides recommendations to
		environmental impact review provides a more focused study of the issues raised during the environmental assessment.		INAC and responsible ministers.
MVLWB	 The MVLWB is charged with: Regulation of water and the deposit of waste in order "to provide for the conservation, development and utilization of land and water resources in a manner that will provide the optimum benefit to the residents of the settlement area and of the Mackenzie Valley and to all Canadians"; Consideration of "the importance of conservation to the well-being and way of life of the aboriginal peoples of Canada" as per their constitutional duties. 	 Issuing land use permits and water licenses in the unsettled claims area until the balance of the land claims are settled in the Mackenzie Valley; Processing transboundary land and water use applications in the Mackenzie Valley; Ensuring consistency in the application of the legislation throughout the Mackenzie Valley; and The preliminary screenings of development proposals to judge adverse environmental impacts or public concern, which may lead to MVEIRB carrying out an environmental assessment / impact review. 	Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act Regulations Northwest Territories Water Act Northwest Territories Water Regulations	 The Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA) was enacted as a result of the Gwich'in and Sahtu Comprehensive Land Claims being settled. The MVRMA establishes and sets out the membership of the MVLWB and regional land and water boards. The MVLWB is comprised of five members from the GLWB, five members from the WLWB and five members from the WLWB and five members that are not part of a regional
SLWB	The SLWB is charged with regulating the use of land and water to ensure that development activities in the settlement area do not have adverse impacts on the land, the water, or the environment.	 The SLWB shall have the following powers: Issue, amend or renew licenses, permits and authorizations and the terms and conditions; Oversee compliance with its decisions by the suspension or cancellation of license, permits, and authorizations; Establish policies and guidelines applicable to its licenses, permits, and authorizations; Hold public consultations; Establish procedures for the conduct of business; Propose changes to legislation; and Establish rules and procedures, including reasonable fixed time limits for the negotiation of agreements (Sahtu Dene Final Agreement 25.4.5). 	Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act Regulations Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act Sahtu Dene and Metis Comprehensive Land Claim Agreement Northwest Territories Waters Act Northwest Territories Waters Regulations	panel.
GLWB	The GLWB shall provided for conservation, development, and utilization of the land and water resources of the settlement area in a manner that will provide optimum benefits for present and future residents of the settlement area and for all Canadians (Gwich'in Final Agreement, 24.4.2)	In order to fulfill this mandate, the GLWB shall have the following powers: Issue, amend, or renew licenses, permits, and authorizations; Oversee compliance with its decisions by the suspension or cancellation of license, permits, and authorizations; Establish policies and guidelines; Hold public consultations; Establish procedures for the conduct of business; Propose changes to legislation; and Establish rules and procedures, including reasonable fixed time limits for the negotiation of agreements (Gwich'in Final Agreement 24.4.5).	Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act Regulations Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act Northwest Territories Water Act Northwest Territories Water Regulations Gwich'in Final Agreement	
WLWB	The purpose of the Wek'eezhii Land and Water Board (WLWB) is to regulate the use of land and water and the deposit of waste throughout the area. Providing for the conservation,	In order to fulfill this mandate, the WLWB shall have the following powers: • Issue, amend, or renew licenses, permits, and authorizations and the terms and conditions attaching thereto for all used of	Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act Regulations	



Responsible Authority	Water-Related Role (i.e. what the water partner is charged with doing)	Water-Related Responsibilities (i.e. how does the water partner accomplish their goals)	Relevant Legislation (i.e. Mackenzie Valley Resource Conservation Act, Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, etc)	Additional Notes
	development, and utilization of land and water resources to provide the optimum benefit for all Canadians and, in particular, for residents of Wek'eezhli, is a major requirement for the Board.	land and water; Oversee compliance with its decisions by the suspension or cancellation of license, permits, and authorizations; Establish policies and guidelines applicable to its licenses, permits, and authorizations; Hold public consultations and hearings in communities in relation to any matter within its jurisdiction; Establish procedures for the conduct of business; Propose changes to legislation in respect of land or water; and Establish rules and procedures, including reasonable fixed time limits for the negotiation of agreements (Tłįch Final Q Agreement 22.3.14).	Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act Tlich Q Agreement	
ISR: EISC	The EISC conducts environmental screening of development activities proposed for the Inuvialuit Settlement Region (ISR). It decides whether a development could have a negative impact on Inuvialuit or wildlife. Developments considered include: permit or licence applications for mineral exploration and extraction, industrial site clean-up and restoration, granting of water rights, commercial tourism ventures, and land use associated with government sponsored or funded research.	 The EISC can make one of four determinations regarding a proposed development: The development will have no significant negative impact and may proceed without an environmental impact assessment and review under the IFA; The development, if authorized should be subject to environmental terms and conditions recommended by the EISC, will have no such negative impact and may proceed without an environmental impact assessment and review under the IFA; The development could have significant negative impact and is subject to assessment and review under the IFA; or The development proposal has deficiencies of a nature that warrant a termination of its consideration and the submission another project. 	Inuvialuit Final Agreement	
ISR: EIRB	Under the IFA, the Environmental Impact Review Board (EIRB) for the ISR is mandated to carry out the public review of development projects referred to it by the EISC. The EIRB makes recommendations to the body empowered to authorize development. Recommendations may include remedial or mitigative measures to minimize impacts. Licenses or approvals will not be issued for any proposed development until the environmental impact screening and review provisions of the IFA are followed.	Supporting the EISC & NWTWB in the ISR with public reviews of development projects.	EIRB's legislative authority in the NWT and the legislations for which it is responsible can be seen outlined below: • Inuvialuit Final Agreement.	EIRB supports both EISC and NWTWB.
CEAA (ISR)	The Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency (CEAA) is a federal body accountable to the Minister of the Environment. The Agency works to provide Canadians with high-quality environmental assessments that contribute to informed decision making, in support of sustainable development' ³ .	The agency carries out the following responsibilities: 'Administers the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act; Encourages public participation because protecting the environment is everyone's business; Advances the science and practice of environmental assessment through research and development; Promotes high-quality assessment through training and guidance; Provides administrative and advisory support for review panels, mediations, comprehensive studies, and class screenings; and Promotes the use of strategic environmental assessment as a key tool to support sustainable decision making*4.	CEAA's legislative authority in the NWT and the legislations for which it is responsible can be seen outlined below: • Canadian Environmental Assessment Act.	CEAA works to support the EISC and NWTWB in the ISR
NWTWB	"The NWT Water Board provides for the conservation, development and utilization of the water resources of the NWT, in a manner that will provide the optimum benefit of the waters for all Canadians and for the residents of the NWT in particular." It should be noted that the NWTWB's mandate only extends to water resources and water licenses issued within the ISR.	 Issue licenses (type A or B) for the use any waters or disposal of any waterborne waste within the NWTWB management area Responsible for preliminary screenings of development proposals to judge adverse environmental impacts or public concern, which may lead to the MVEIRB carrying out an environmental assessment/impact review 	Northwest Territories Waters Act Northwest Territories Waters Act Regulations Inuvialuit Final Agreement	Dependent on the type of water permit being granted. Type A licenses require public hearings. All licenses are reviewed by a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) INAC is directly responsible for monitoring, but the Water Board has some duties to ensure the license conditions are met Projects carried out on Crown land in the ISR are subject to the review process developed by the EISC
MRBB	The Mackenzie River Basin Board was created as a forum for cooperative water management within the Mackenzie River Basin. The MRBB's vision is: A healthy and diverse aquatic ecosystem for the benefit of present and future generations. MRBB carries out its role via a Secretariat office located in Fort Smith, which is hosted by Environment Canada. It is important to note that the board was created by the Canada-NWT Transboundary Waters Master Agreement, not as a management or decision-making body, but an administrative mechanism to encourage and facilitate application of common principles on cooperative management of the basin's aquatic ecosystem, and provide for bilateral water management agreements between jurisdictions. MRBB provides a multi-jurisdictional forum for communication, coordination, information exchange, notification, and consultation. It is empowered to carry out studies and other activities to implement the agreement, consider the needs and concerns of Aboriginal people for culturally appropriate communication and incorporation of their traditional knowledge into board and basin water management activities, recommend uniform objectives and guidelines for quality and quantity of water resources, encourage consistent monitoring programs, monitor implementation of bilateral agreements, and administer a dispute resolution mechanism for	 The Parties to the agreement have committed to five principles in support of this: Maintaining the ecological integrity of the aquatic ecosystem; Managing the use of the water resources in a sustainable manner; The right of each Party to manage the use of water resources provided such use does not unreasonably harm the ecological integrity in another jurisdiction; Providing for early and effective consultation, notification, and information; and Resolving issues cooperatively. Canada Water Act empowers the federal government to enter into agreements with provinces and territories on special studies and water management activities with the provinces and territories as a federal partner. The Act encourages jurisdictions to voluntarily resolve matters between themselves (with or without federal involvement), but empowers Canada to act as required (the last resort option) with participation of jurisdictions involved to settle disputes. 	Mackenzie River Basin Transboundary Waters Master Agreement Canada Water Act.	MRBB includes 13 members from the government of Canada (EC, INAC, and Health Canada), and 5 jurisdictions of the basin (British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Yukon, and NWT). Jurisdictions are represented by two members; one from a water management agency and the other from aboriginal groups.

³ Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency. (February 2009). About the Agency. Available [Online]: http://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=0046B0B2-1. Viewed: February 2009. About the Agency. Available [Online]: http://www.ceaa-acee.gc.ca/default.asp?lang=En&n=0046B0B2-1. Viewed: February 2009.



Responsible Authority	Water-Related Role (i.e. what the water partner is charged with doing)	Water-Related Responsibilities (i.e. how does the water partner accomplish their goals)	Relevant Legislation (i.e. Mackenzie Valley Resource Conservation Act, Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, etc)	Additional Notes
	MRB jurisdictions.			
Aboriginal Governments	Aboriginal Governments function in a capacity that places them in the middle of management & stewardship. Stewardship: Under the Land Claim Agreements, Aboriginal governments are given Stewardship responsibilities, in particular they are responsible for: Quality, Quantity, and Flow of water resources; Management: responsibilities in this category refer to: reviewing and assisting with the development of policy, strategies (i.e. CIMP, CEAM [EMF], PAS, Northern Contaminants Program [NCP]) in particular funding allocations for CIMP and NCP; Resource Management Boards should be present because they are part of the resource management plan development.	 Review all resource licence applications, provide comments after the Boards have reviewed licence applications, intervene through public consultations, nominate Board membership. In terms of recommendations, the Aboriginal governments provide the following: Recommendations on the timeline for use; Add to the Terms and Conditions (i.e. sampling points) It is important to note that the Aboriginal governments have over-lapping agreements with other regions & territories (i.e. Yukon presently and will have one with Nunavut in the future this is particularly important with respect to the notion of transboundary agreements); The current Transboundary Water Management Agreement (which the Aboriginal governments have) is with partners: YTG, ENR, GTC, Inuvialuit, INAC. Aboriginal governments have responsibilities which sit in the middle of stewardship and management. 	Land Claim Agreements; Host of other agreements	



OTHER WATER PARTNERS WATER STEWARDSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

Responsible Authority	Water-Related Role (i.e. what the water partner is charged with doing)	Water-Related Responsibilities (i.e. how does the water partner accomplish their goals)	Relevant Legislation (i.e. Mackenzie Valley Resource Conservation Act, Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, etc)	Additional Notes
Canadian Council of Ministers of the Environment ⁵	The 'CCME is comprised of the environment ministers from the federal, provincial and territorial governments [including the Minister of Environment and Natural Resources from the NWT]. The Council seeks to achieve positive environmental results, focusing on issues that are national in scope and that require collective attention by a number of governments. CCME serves as a principal forum for members to develop national strategies, norms, and guidelines that each environment ministry across the country can use' ⁶ .	The ministers comprising the CCME, outline and set the general outcomes, goals, and strategic direction for the organization. Some of the water related work undertaken and achieved by CCME to date include: • 'Completion of an agreement to guide their cooperation on environmental assessments requiring approvals from both governments. • Agreement to prohibit the export in bulk of water from Canadian watersheds; • A Policy on the Management of Toxic Substances, which envisions a cooperative approach and a multilateral process for identifying, assessing, screening, and managing national priority toxic substances; • A national action plan to encourage municipal water-use efficiency, which promoted a consistent approach to using water more efficiently, saving on infrastructure costs and reducing pollution loads; • A multi-barrier approach to the protection of drinking water for Canadians from the source to the tap, targeted for use by governments, owners and operators of drinking water systems; • The revised and integrated Canadian Environmental Quality Guidelines, updating one of CCME's most successful products, the 1987 Canadian Water Quality Guidelines; • A national water quality index as a means to provide consistent procedures for Canadian jurisdictions to report water quality information to both management and the public' ⁷ .	• N/A	Once CCME outcomes and goals have been set, participants from federal, provincial, and territorial environmental ministries work to uphold and accomplish CCME goals and standards. In terms of the NWT, CCME policies, standards, and goals play a role in decision-making.
GNWT - NWT Power Corporation	The NWT Power Corporation, which is 100% owned by the GNWT, intersects with water management though its hydroelectric strategy. "Hydroelectric power is renewable, insulated from rising fuel prices, and provides a legacy for future generations" and as a result is "the key to long-term energy planning in the NWT". The NWT Hydro Strategy is designed to guide the activities of the GNWT and the Northwest Territories Hydro Corporation in tapping the NWT's tremendous potential of over 11,000 megawatts of hydro-electric power. Power Corp's vision is as follows: "Promote the development of NWT hydroelectric resources with the intention of displacing imported fossil fuels, drive economic development through the provision of stable, affordable electricity, and provide a lasting legacy of clean, renewable power for future generations." Past hydro generation and transmission developments across Canada have resulted in significant flooding and major alteration to land and water regimes. The challenge today is to seek alternative ways of producing hydroelectric energy such as run-of-river designs; low head designs which significantly reduce the amount of flooding; use of other low-impact technologies; or through maximizing the use of existing storage capacity already in place from previous hydro development.	NWT Power Corp plans on reducing the impact of Hydro as follows: • Undertaking Environmental Baseline Research to gauge effects on land and water and ensure a lower impact over the entire lifecycle of the project; • Research and utilize technologies with low environmental impact and apply best practices for environmental mitigation issues; and • Promote Hydro as a renewable "Green" energy with minimal land and water impacts.		

⁵ CCME is CCME is a forum, not a decision-making body (and thus lacks any regulatory role). Its principal role is to facilitate and promote standards in water management.

⁶ CCME. (n.d.). What are some of CCME's Accomplishments? Available [Online]: http://www.ccme.ca/about/accomplishments.html. Viewed: March 2009.

⁷ CCME. (n.d.). What are some of CCME's Accomplishments? Available [Online]: http://www.ccme.ca/about/accomplishments.html. Viewed: March 2009.



APPENDIX C: FLIPCHART NOTES - BREAKOUT GROUPS

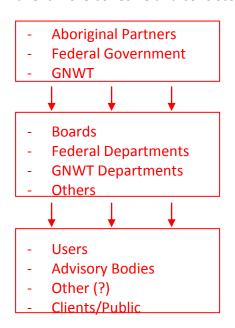
The following are the flip chart notes recorded by the facilitators of the breakout groups on May 21st, 2009.

p.1

Overall Policy

Those who sign off on NWT Water Strategy – hierarchy

make it more cohesive and consistent

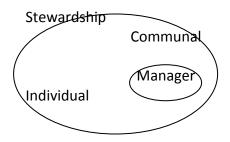


management, regulators decision

Who makes rules?
What affects rules?
Who applies rules? SUPPORT

p.2

Ricki - Breakout, AM



"Manager/Regulator (as opposed to other stewards) can impose a requirements on a specific user"

- how do all partners deal with cumulative affects
- COMPLETING ALL COMP LA CLAIMS

p.3

Therefore, NWT central touchstone sense of responsibility CHALLENGES!!



6 CAPACITY – all partners, all levels

7 Duplication of efforts

Through lack of Trust?
Through lack of Shared Vision?

Through lack of Coordination?

8 New Legislation / Limited number of years (e.g. MVRMA)
Learning boundaries
Learning ways to eliminate overlap

9 Gravity

Water flows downhill from Alberta to NWT Info sharing – close to negotiation

p.4

CHALLENGES

1 understanding of roles and responsibilities of boards and agencies (managers)

What we can do and what we can't do Who delivers what part Int

2 lack of feedback, clarity on how interests are incorporated into terms and conditions

3 how do we measure effectiveness of decisions (e.g. how are decisions of MVEIRB→ MVLWB implemented and how is effectiveness measured)

p.5

CCME (not NWT partner)

- Anomaly refusable advice
- guidelines
- national in scope
- national coordination and advisory group
- GNWT could bring water strategy to CCME influence

Stewardship vs Manager

Function at community level

e.g. community bylaw on lowflow toilets - Dr. K. Racher

p.6

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES



Finch - Breakout

- 1. Who's on the list?
- 2. Roles/responsibilities right?
 - → comments
- 3. Legislation/mandate right?
 - → divide into
 - reg's and users
 - managers and stewards

FEDERAL

p.7

RESTRUCTURE

- collect list of partners → Responsibilities
 - users
 - regs
 - advisors
 - operators (e.g. inspectors)
- management role contained within Stewardship EVERYONE'S A STEWARD
- draw distinctions within various responsibilities
- manager turns on/off tap EVERYONE ELSE support

MGMT ROLE / SUPPORT ROLE

p.8

WHO'S MISSING?

Parks Canada

Health Canada

Municipalities

FLIP AXIS ON TABLE

- don't divide right off the bat into Federal/Territorial/Board
- divide by roles?
- Agriculture Canada?

p.9

CHALLENGES

- jurisdictional overlap

- multiple regulators
- non-integrated macromanagement
- → CROSS government levels
- → same activity can be regulated at nwlt. levels
- context
 - lack of knowledge
 - need stewardship link
 - → stewardship
 - e.g. LUPs

thresholds/baselines

comprehensive monitoring programs

GOALS

p.10

- lots of pieces but risk making a kaleidoscope
- capacity / resources



LACK OF LONG TERM COMMITMENT

- cross the board
- budget constraints
- FOCUS: "Lack of a crisis"
 - lots of water
 - condensing events sometimes needed
- Lack of updates on regulations, enforcement
 - integrating information
- e.g. Economic downturn less focus on environment

p.11

- Coordination working
- Timelines ______ together
 - no time to sit down among different regulators
 - no time for coordination
 - links back to capacity /resources

p.12

CHALLENGES - trust - coordination - vision

- 1. Jurisdictional overlap/duplication
- 2. need to understand context of decision making
- 3. limited capacity/resources
- 4. need a focus/trigger event?
- 5. need to coordinate decisions and updates (links to # 1&2)
- 6. access to information (# 2,5)



- centralize information?
- Not just data, but "what are you doing?"
- 7. need to understand roles and responsibilities (boards, agencies)
- 8. lack of feedback on how results and interests incorporated (#5)
- 9. measuring effectiveness of decisions?
- 10. how do partners deal with cumulative effects?
- 11. boundaries/effects of new legislation *
- 12. gravity like it or not, we live downstream

and upstream [IWN]

→ legislated responsibilities

p.13

Specific building blocks

- LUPs
- Thresholds
- Baselines

p.14

THE LOST BITS

- ACCESS TO INFORMATION
 - nature of access
 - tracking use of information
 - → cumulative decision making
- EVALUATING DECISIONS
 - auditing the process
 - how is it dealing with grey areas?
 - cumulative effects
 - transboundary

p.15

SUPPORT TOOLS

1 Permit application forms

Standardize between boards

Pros: communication

Cons: reduces in-house mechanisms, autonomy

Or

Permit information forms / description

- minimum requirements
- common standards
- 2 PUBLIC REGISTRIES normally accessible by interveners, but not everyone
 - → increase awareness of portal, etc

Education



- notices, newsletters
- flyers come and go

p.16

HOW TO GET THE WORD OUT

- public media → not just paper
- community updates/meetings
- broader information
 - → not just communities affected directly
- triggers other questions in other jurisdictions

TOOLS FOR COMMUNICATION

- 3 extended distribution list for applications
 - → cooperation agreements between boards
 - → currently absent or informal
 - → models may exist in cooperation between boards and first nations (IMAs)
- 3a Make cooperation agreements a legal requirement
 - i.e. Minister per MVRMA

p.17

- formalize relationship so information goes both ways
- → legislative teeth?
- → AUDITING?
- → Working Groups → EXPAND

Tools should be <u>Transparent</u>

Tools should be Repeatable

Water Wise, etc. can boards afford it?

→ more opportunity to participate before deciding

Having a shared tool has benefits!

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- identify specific gaps in local capacity and resources e.g. internet access

Can everybody actually share the tools?

Updating – need central host for updating tools or forum

4 information-sharing tool



→ Identify gaps, challenges

e.g. local challenges capacity

resourcing

* <u>contract/support personnel</u>

RISK ORPHANING

p.19

COMMUNICATION

Cultural values PROBLEMATIC

- may not be implicit
 - → impress upon industry, decision makers
 - → need more community consultation, not just i.e. Prince of Wales
 - → trust

Every tool/solution will have challenges

Confidentiality agreements between holder/community and users

Social/cultural issues can fall through cracks - spell out roles

p.20

Hearings

- effective?
- possibly too informal

more dialogue sessions, less accent on evidence

"Here's the problem, what do we do?"

NOT

"This is my mandate"

Hearing may be of-putting

Lack of acknowledgement of communities in reports

More follow up on recording, reporting

Identify regional 'go-to' person – traffic light for directing inquiries

- → need a list to avoid reliance on 1-2 people
- → one-window regular updates who will do this?

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Educate people about value of their input

- → education / audit
- → plain language



Follow up Appropriate contact people

Venues – workshops/tech sessions

- local facilitators/support
 - explain process
 - agreement on what is being written down/submitted

NEED TO ADDRESS ISSUE OF DATA 'OWNERSHIP'

→ We need to foster trust to lose silos

p.22

THE LAST THREE...

- Access to information
 - centralize access
 - how it's being used
 - who is using it
- Measuring effectiveness of decisions
 - cumulative effects
 - transboundary issues

p.23

MISSING PARTNERS

- 1 Agriculture Canada
- 2 Parks Canada
- **3 Aboriginal Governments**
- 4 Municipal Governments
- 5 Resource Management Boards

SEPARATE

CCME

Communities (e.g. Bylaw)

p.24

TABLES - relationships

- 1 david.finch@dpra.com Wednesday May 27
- 2 TP → Participants
 Challenges list (tomorrow)
- 3 Workshop summary



TP → participants ~ June 8

Technical guidance document

