

Closure/Reclamation and Landscape History

EMAB Office and Tree of Peace Friendship Centre, Yellowknife, NT
October 23-25, 2012

Facilitation and Recording

Deborah Simmons, SENES Consultants Ltd.

Natasha Thorpe, Thorpe Consulting Services

Shelagh Montgomery, SENES Consultants Ltd.

Invited Participants

Kitikmeot Inuit Association	Bobby Algona, Mark Taletok, Mona Tiktalik (interpreter)
Lutsel K'e Dene First Nation	George Marlowe, August Enzoe
North Slave Métis Alliance	Ed Jones, Wayne Langenhan, Susan Enge
Tłı̨chǫ Nation	Pierre Beaverho (Whati), Louis Zoe (Gamèti), Peter Husky (interpreter), James Rabesca (interpreter)
Yellowknives Dene First Nation	Fred Sangris

Observers/Presenters

EMAB	Michèle LeTourneau
Diavik Diamond Mine	Colleen English (3:00-4:00 pm October 25)

Background and Purpose

The EMAB TK/IQ Panel is mandated to assist EMAB in facilitating appropriate and meaningful accommodation of Traditional Knowledge/Inuit Qaujimajatuqangit (TK/IQ) in the planning and review of environmental monitoring at Diavik Diamond Mine.

This TK/IQ Panel session consisted of five main parts:

1. Update on actions and decisions – previous TK/IQ Panel recommendations
2. Review and release of March 14-15 2012 TK/IQ Panel session report, *Bridging Science and Aboriginal Knowledge in Caribou Monitoring at Diavik Diamond Mine*, and recommendations for follow-up.
3. Review and release of June 26-28 TK/IQ Panel session report, *Renewing Our Landscape: Envisioning Mine Closure and Reclamation of the North Country Rock Pile, Diavik Diamond Mine*, and recommendations for follow-up.
4. Development of preliminary draft TK/IQ Panel Procedural Manual (in large part through the process of reviewing the two draft reports from the March and June sessions)
5. Development of other recommendations for action

During the session, EMAB staff and session facilitators emphasized that the TK/IQ Panel must release their two reports in order for funding to be allocated to continue the work of the panel at future sessions.

This Interim Report provides a summary of session activities, including immediate recommendations for action to be considered by EMAB and notes that were posted during the session. Discussion notes should not be construed as recommendations.

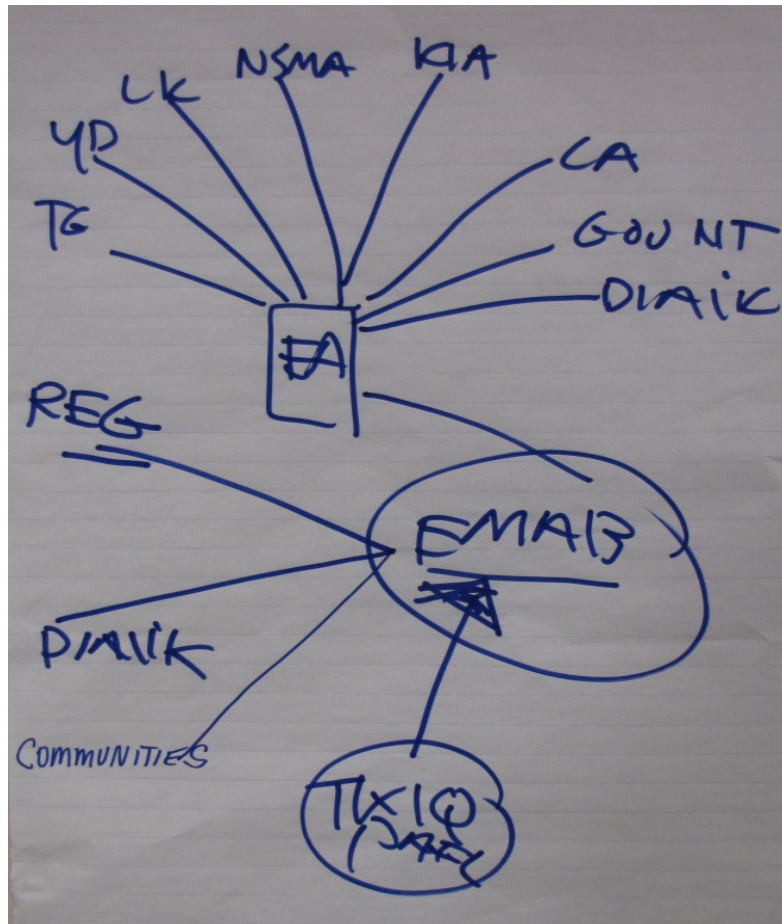


Figure 1: Schematic of Framework for TK/IQ Panel Inputs

Approach and Methods

The TK/IQ Panel is developing an approach to fulfilling its mandate that combines Indigenous ways of knowing and learning about results of scientific research. This cross-cultural learning approach provides the panel with tools that are needed to make TK/IQ relevant and meaningful when dealing with major changes on the land, like the diamond mine.

The process involved a combination of presentations by facilitators, semi-structured discussions, and more formal talking circles. This allowed for a balance of learning, self-direction and consensus-building among panel members. Diavik staff was invited to participate in a discussion of questions developed by panel members for one hour at the end of day one (October 23, 3-4 pm).

The proceedings were audio-recorded – including recordings of interpretations in English for aboriginal language contributions. Detailed notes were taken, and key messages were posted on flip-charts and Post-It notes clustered on brown craft paper (included in this report). Full transcription and coding of the proceedings is planned, and the proposal is that the procedure for developing the full report follow the procedures suggested by the TK/IQ Panel, as summarized in this report.



Figure 2: L-R Back Row Louis Zoe, Mark Taletok, Pierre Beaverho, Phillip Liske, Susan Enge, Wayne Langenhan, Peter Huskey, Natasha Thorpe, Mona ??, BobbyAlgona; Front Shelagh Montgomery, August Enzo, George Marlowe, James Rabesca, Ed Jones, Fred Sangris; Front Michèle LeTourneau

Update on Actions and Decisions – Previous TK/IQ Panel Recommendations

Michèle reported on actions and decisions following from March and June TK/IQ Panel recommendations, as follows:

Session	Recommendation	Follow-Up	Status
March 14-15, 2012	Recommendations for accommodating TK/IQ in caribou behaviour monitoring Standard Operating Procedures (SOP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendations delivered to EMAB directly following session Approved by EMAB and submitted to Diavik Diavik is compiling photographs as the basis for a revised SOP 	Incomplete
June 26-28, 2012	EMAB to work with DDMI to plan a site visit by the TK/IQ Panel to learn firsthand about the North Country Rock Pile, with follow-up activities to prepare recommendations on rock pile closure and reclamation planning; the site visit should include an overnight stay at the Community-Based Monitoring Camp.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendation delivered to EMAB and Diavik during session Discussion of site visit scope and timing during session Approved by EMAB and submitted to Diavik Site visit August 20 Debriefing session in Yellowknife, August 21 Incorporated into final report on June 26-28 session 	Complete (Panel recommends more site visits)
June 26-28, 2012	EMAB request funding support from DDMI for TK/IQ Panel members to play a leading role in reporting back to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommendation delivered to EMAB directly following session Michèle, as Program Manager for 	Pending implementation

Session	Recommendation	Follow-Up	Status
	<p>their respective communities, to inform the communities about the role they are playing in closure and reclamation planning, working with DDMI and EMAB as needed.</p>	<p>EMAB, will be responsible for communication.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TK/IQ Panel members will be invited to participate in EMAB communication activities in their communities, compensated at standard panel honorarium rate 	
<p>June 26-28, 2012</p>	<p>Due to the fact that Diavik, Ekati and Snap Lake diamond mines all share the same landscape, EMAB should facilitate sharing the TK/IQ Panel’s work with the Independent EMA and the Snap Lake EMA so that our work can be used to inform closure and reclamation planning at the other diamond mines, per Section 1.1(b) of the Environmental Agreement, in order <i>“to respect and protect air, land, water, aquatic resources, wildlife, archaeological and cultural resources, and the land-based economy that are essential to the way of life and well-being of the Aboriginal Peoples.”</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommendation delivered to EMAB directly following session • EMAB agrees with the recommendation • Released reports will be distributed to IEMA/SLEMA and Wek’èezhìi Land and Water Board 	<p>Pending implementation</p>
<p>June 26-28, 2012</p>	<p>The following TK/IQ Panel Guiding Principles were recommended:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The TK/IQ Panel works independently and in a spirit of cooperation with EMAB to develop recommendations related to environmental monitoring plans and programs at Diavik diamond mine. 2. The TK/IQ Panel can communicate its views independently to EMAB and DDMI regarding its recommendations and reports. 3. Youth play a critical role working with and learning from the TK/IQ Panel. 4. That a spokesperson or spokespersons of the TK/IQ Panel will present recommendations in person to EMAB and DDMI as and when needed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recommended Guiding Principles delivered to EMAB directly following session, and made the following determinations: • Re Principle 1: the TK/IQ Panel is an advisory body reporting to EMAB; an overview of the framework for panel inputs was diagrammed by Michèle (Figure 1) • Re Principle 2: EMAB approves TK/IQ Panel reports and recommendations, and delivers these to Diavik • Re Principle 3: Agreed in principle, but budget is a constraint in implementation • Re Principle 4: Planning is in the initial stages for the TK/IQ Panel and EMAB to spend a half-day together 	<p>Principles as approved by EMAB to be included in TK/IQ Panel Manual; half-day joint session planned for February 2013</p>

Discussion Notes - Accountability

- Keep in mind that we are protecting our treaty rights
- How do we measure use of TK/IQ by Diavik?
- EMAB “facilitates” and “promotes” use of TK/IQ

Discussion Notes – TK/IQ and Science

- Pronunciation of Inuit Qaujimagatuqangit – *Inuit Cow-yema-ya-two-kan-geet*
- TK/IQ and science are never going to get married
- We’re here on behalf of TK/IQ
- Our stories hold our knowledge about/laws about “respect and protect” [in the Environmental Agreement objectives]
- We are 99.9% TK/IQ
- Taking the message back to the communities
- “Best available TK/IQ” – work with the *real* knowledge holders
- Put the TK/IQ and science together and *practice* it

Discussion Notes – TK/IQ Panel Vision

(from *Environmental Agreement Objectives and Principles*)

- Respect and protect air, land, water, aquatic resources, wildlife, archaeological and cultural resources, and the land-based economy that are essential to the way of life and well-being of the Aboriginal Peoples.
- Opportunities for community and public input and participation.
- Principle of full consideration and use of both TK/IQ and other scientific information where appropriate.
- Advise EMAB on whether TK/IQ is being properly accommodated in Diavik’s plans and processes.

Discussion Notes – TK/IQ Panel Objectives to Date

- Document aboriginal understandings of TK/IQ monitoring – on the land, in the community and at the mine site
- Help Diavik with one of many caribou monitoring Standard Operating Procedures
- Provide input to Diavik’s annual updates to the Wek’èezhìi Land and Water Board about TK/IQ in rock pile closure planning

Discussion Notes – Challenges

- Our third meeting
- Being empowered
- Being accountable
- Being timely
- Cross-cultural learning
- No one has done this before
- New procedures and protocols
- Five Aboriginal Parties, five cultures and knowledges
- Responding to needs of EMAB, Diavik and Wek’èezhìi Land and Water Board

Report Review: March 14-15, 2012 TK/IQ Panel Session on Caribou Monitoring

The draft report on the March 14-15 TK/IQ Panel session entitled *Bridging Science and Aboriginal Knowledge in Caribou Monitoring at Diavik Diamond Mine* was reviewed and edited per panel member input.

Decision

Formal oral and written consent was provided for **distribution to the public**, with the proviso that detailed copyright information and “no prejudice” disclaimer be included.

Discussion Notes

From Post-Its and flip chart notes

- Explore the behavioural differences in herds/caribou
- Our laws for respecting caribou
- Thinking like a caribou
- Caribou herding Standard Operating Procedure
- Study TK/IQ of caribou movement tool

Report Review: June 26-28, 2012 TK/IQ Panel Session on Rock Pile Closure

The draft report on the June 26-28 TK/IQ Panel session entitled *Renewing Our Landscape: Envisioning Mine Closure and Reclamation of the North Country Rock Pile, Diavik Diamond Mine* was reviewed and edited per panel member input.

Decision

Formal oral and written consent was provided for **limited distribution to EMAB, Diavik and the WLWB only**, with the proviso that detailed copyright information and “no prejudice” disclaimer be included.

Discussion Notes – Timeline for Closure and Reclamation Planning

- Annual update from Diavik to the Wek’èezhii Land and Water Board.
- Next full revision of closure plan is due in 2016
- Final plan 2020

Discussion Notes – General Closure and Reclamation Ideas

- Visit the burial sites
- Study TK/IQ about snow drifts
- From anywhere, animals can walk over
- Go to site to *see* rocks, site etc.
- The last person who leaves that island should do a tobacco ceremony
- Connect piles, look like an esker (again)
- Keep caribou away
- See landscape with your own eyes
- All the islands are important refuge areas for wildlife
- Assess archaeological sites and heritage resources

Discussion Notes – Rock Pile Closure and Reclamation Ideas

- Rebuild the denning sites
- Talk more about rocky pile, boulders etc.
- Okay for caribou to wander through
- Not too steep

Preliminary Draft TK/IQ Panel Procedural Manual

This component of the session was interwoven with the discussion about the agenda and review of the March and June session reports. The following procedural notes represent the beginnings of a manual for the TK/IQ Panel.

TK/IQ Panel Sessions – Learning and Sharing Knowledge

- Have an aboriginal co-facilitator
- The Big Picture
- History of TK/IQ research on the topic
- How scientists are learning
- Decisions so far
- TK/IQ Panel develops the questions/topics with resource people
- Summary notes soon after a meeting

Developing Reports

- Interim report – recommendations for timely action
- Full report
 - “Grounded theory” – organised based on what you said, using quotes and photos
 - Includes extra research on scientific/ technical context]
 - Includes clearly highlighted recommendations
 - Background materials compiled separately
 - Aim for plain language – less acronyms
 - Include translated text as much as possible (titles at minimum)
 - Include recommendations, action items, and concluding remarks
 - Include edited transcripts for each individual in appendix? For future consideration (not decided)
 - Copyright page
 - Lots of photos

Reviewing and Approving Reports – Prior to Sessions

- One liaison from each delegation for work between panel sessions?
- Hard copy delivered one month before meeting mail
- Include compilation of transcript excerpts for individual in report package
- Make sure plain language is used as much as possible
- Don’t need appendices for review
- Hard copy mailed to each panel member
- Liaise with organisation staff for assistance
- Honorarium for preparation

Reviewing and Approving Reports – TK/IQ Panel Session

- Overview by report writer
- Delegation caucus
- Discussion and revisions
- Approval with recommended changes
- “LIVING DOCUMENT”
- Formal signing ceremony with talking circle

Monitoring and Follow-Up on Released Reports

- Diavik should report back in person to TK/IQ Panel about progress in implementation of recommendations and action items .

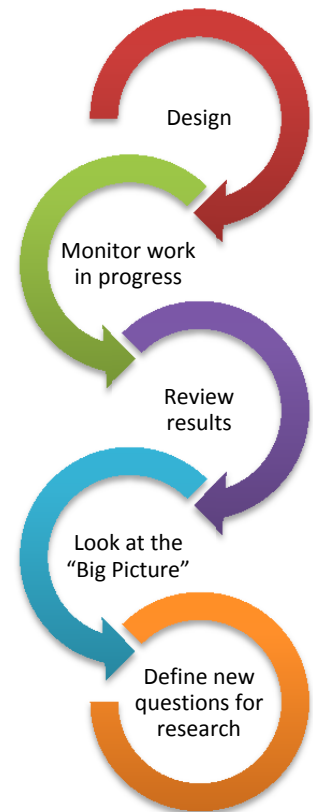


Figure 3: TK/IQ Panel Role in Research and Monitoring

Communications

- Michèle is the coordinator
- TK/IQ Panel members provide assistance in their communities
- Poster is a tool?
- Send the report to the schools

Recommendations for Action

Recommendation 1 – Caribou Work

Background

There are many more considerations about caribou and Diavik that have not yet been addressed. The TK/IQ Panel would like to suggest another session on caribou monitoring at the mine site.

Recommendation

The TK/IQ Panel should develop a report that more fully represents our knowledge and practice for maintaining the well-being of the caribou.

Recommendation 2 – State of Knowledge on TK/IQ

Background

There has been a lot of TK/IQ documented in the past, and there is current no way of assessing this knowledge or how it is being applied in mine planning, monitoring and management. Specifically, Diavik employee Colleen spoke to the panel in March of a few practices at the mine site that stemmed from TK/IQ information. The panel wondered why these were not gathered into a document that it can access.

Recommendation

Diavik should carry out and make public a review of its use of TK/IQ in its environmental plans and programs. This review should document the successes and lessons learned from TK/IQ studies, and what changes or improvements in adaptive management can be attributed to TK/IQ.

Recommendation 3 – Monitoring Implementation of TK/IQ Panel Recommendations

Background

The TK/IQ Panel wants assurance that Diavik will document and report on progress made in implementing recommendations and action items.

Recommendation

Diavik to develop and maintain a tracking sheet for documenting progress on recommendations and action items and present progress to the panel at the beginning of sessions.

Other Recommendations

- Women to have opportunities to participate in TK/IQ Panel – especially for the session on caribou.
- Extend length of session to 4 days