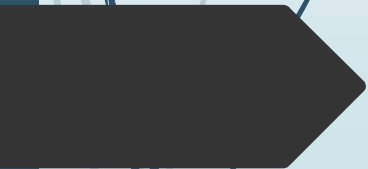




Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board

A Brief Overview



- M-KMA Act
- M-KMA Regulation
- Board Roles and Responsibilities
- Board Membership and Composition
- What the Board Is
- What the Board is not
- Questions

M-KMA Act

M-KMA Act

- ▶ The Muskwa-Kechika Management Area Act was created in 1997 and enacted in 1998
- ▶ Establishes purpose and objectives of the area, management plan, local strategic plans plus establishment of Trust Fund
- ▶ Reference to an Advisory Board and its role of providing advice to Government on management of the M-KMA.

M-KMA Act

- ▶ Activities within the area must be consistent with the management plan.
- ▶ Management Plan is the collective LRMP's of Fort Nelson, Fort St. John and Mackenzie.

M-KMA Act

- ▶ Any amendments or changes to the Management Plan requires consultation with the Board.

M-KMA Act

- ▶ An Advisory Board, appointed by the Premier, will advise government on natural resource management in the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area to ensure that activities within the area are consistent with the objectives of the Muskwa-Kechika Management Plan (Part 2, Section 2.1, Management Regulation)

M-KMA ACT PREAMBLE (excerpts)

- ▶ maintain in **perpetuity wilderness quality**, and the **diversity and abundance of wildlife** and the **ecosystems** on which it depends
- ▶ while **allowing resource development and use** in parts of the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area **designated for those purposes** including
 - : recreation,
 - : hunting,
 - : trapping,
 - : timber harvesting,
 - : mineral exploration and mining, and
 - : oil and gas exploration and development

M-KMA ACT PREAMBLE (excerpts)

- ▶ ...the long-term maintenance of **wilderness characteristics, wildlife** and its **habitat** is **critical** to the **social and cultural well-being** of first nations and other people in the area;

M-KMA ACT PREAMBLE (excerpts)

- ...the integration of management activities especially related to the planning, development and management of road accesses...is central to achieving this intent and the long-term objective is to return lands to their natural state as development activities are completed;

M-KMA Act

- ▶ Identifies Local Strategic Plans.
- ▶ Local Strategic Plans must be consistent with the Management Plan.

M-KMA Act

- ▶ Local Strategic Plans that must be consistent with the Management Plan and require Board advice are:
 - : Landscape Unit Objectives
 - : Pre-Tenure Plans
 - : Recreation Management Plans
 - : Park Management Plans
 - : Wildlife Management Plans

M-KMA Act

- Absence of Local Strategic Plans? Operations must be consistent with the Management Plan.

M-KMA Regulation



M-KMA Regulation

Gives effect to the Advisory Board and its roles and responsibilities



Gives effect to the Advisory Board and its roles and responsibilities

M-KMA Regulation

- ▶ The Premier must appoint an advisory board, to be known as the Muskwa-Kechika Advisory Board, to advise on natural resource management in the management area and may appoint a chair of the advisory board (Part 3, Section 9 of Act).
- ▶ The Premier will appoint up to 17 members... represents a broad range of interests
- ▶ Currently 13 members but 2 appointments are vacant.

M-KMA Regulation

- Gives effect to a Letter of Understanding, dated September 24, 1997, establishes an agreement between the Kaska Dena Council and the Province of British Columbia regarding the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area.
- 4 Board position reserved for Kaska Members.

M-KMA Regulation

Describes high level direction of local strategic plans:

- definition, establishment, varied or cancellation
- Approval of these plans
- Requirements for these plans
- Exceptions to requirements (O&G permits for geo-physical exploration, addressing wildfire or pest or disease infestation to forests or wildlife)

Board Roles and Responsibilities



Board Roles & Responsibilities

- ▶ Conducting semi-annual reviews...of operational activities...**Looking to reinstate.**
- ▶ Reporting, at least annually, to the public and the Premier...**Now done electronically.**
- ▶ Providing advice to the Inter-Agency Management Committee...**Looking to reinstate.**

Board Roles & Responsibilities

- ▶ Facilitating provincial, national and international exposure of the values and management of the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area...**Done via our website.**
- ▶ Recommending and implementing measures to raise money for a Muskwa-Kechika Fund...**Do not have expertise.**

Board Roles & Responsibilities

- ▶ Reviewing proposals and funding requests for, but not limited to, research projects; and making recommendations for expenditures from the Muskwa-Kechika Fund...***Done through Partnership with UNBC.***
- ▶ Ensuring adequate public consultation in the preparation and approval of local strategic plans, amendments to the Muskwa-Kechika Management Plan, any other significant policy issue for the Muskwa-Kechika Management Area, or as requested by the Inter-Agency Management Committee...***Has not happened for a long time.***

Board Roles & Responsibilities

- ▶ Providing recommendations to the Environment and Land Use Committee on any proposed amendments to the Management Plan...***Examining how to reinstate with new ministry re-structuring.***

Board Membership & Composition



Board Membership & Composition

- ▶ First Nations
- ▶ Environmental groups
- ▶ Business
- ▶ Labour
- ▶ Participants of FS John, Fort Nelson and Mackenzie LRMP's.

Board Membership & Composition



- ▶ Scientific, financial or community service experience and expertise.
- ▶ Advisory Board appointments/re-appointments will be for a period of 1 to 3 years.
- ▶ Staggered to provide continuity of Board operations

ADVISORY BOARD WHAT WE ARE NOT

- Not an advocate on behalf of others
- Not a stakeholder

ADVISORY BOARD WHAT WE ARE

- A Premier appointed advisory board (watch dog to ensure management of the M-KMA is consistent with Act, Preamble, Regulation, and Management Plan.

Questions?

- Thank you for your time.
- Any questions?
- For more details head over to our revamped website at www.Muskwa-Kechika.com