

Minutes
East Side of Lake Winnipeg Round Table Meeting
February 18, 2003
Place Louis Riel – Winnipeg, Manitoba

Member Attendees:

Phil Fontaine - Chair	Cherry White	Ken Ellison	Gilbert Knott
Peter Miller	Ed Schreyer	Wesley Harper	Vera Mitchell
Sherry Dangerfield	Don Sullivan	Don Courchene	Paul Chief
Peter Kinew	Jim Ticknor	Helgi Einarsson	
Vince Keenan (Alternate for Mike Martel)			

Secretariat Attendees:

Mike Waldram	Bill Anderson	Moses Okimaw	Barb Hobson
Karen McRobbie			

Regrets:

Al Benoit	Mike Martel	Dan McNaughton	Tom Nepetaypo
Dr. David Punter	Ed Huebert	Chief Nancy Whiteway	

Others in Attendance:

Caroline Bruyere	Doug Peterson
------------------	---------------

Presenters:

Amar Chadha - Manitoba Transportation 20/20Vision

The meeting was brought to order by the Chair.

Elder, Caroline Bruyere gave opening prayer.

The chair gave a brief explanation of the prayer and suggested having a pipe ceremony within a future Round Table meeting.

The Chair gave a brief update of the Advisory Committee held the previous day, February 17, 2003. Issues raised at the meeting included concerns about information not getting out in a timely fashion, the need to improve the process and do a better job of keeping members well informed, as well as clearer definition of linkages between the Round table, the First Nation Council and the East Side advisory Committee. The chair received a commitment from the Minister to provide the resources (people & money) for this process.

Mike Waldram provided a brief update of his meeting with the Deputy Minister with an operating budget of \$500,000.00. for new fiscal year. The province will contribute \$400,000.00 and INAC will contribute \$100,000.00. Some things to take into consideration when looking at the budget are contracts involving the Chair, the Project Manager and Community Liaison Person, as well as meeting facilities, expenses and community people.

There was a statement made to increase the need for more meetings as this process starts to move more quickly then more spending will occur along with the added cost of community support people. There was also a concern expressed that if INAC is providing funding, will it take away from a First Nation Community.

A question asked if the chair or Mike could find out if the money is new money and not taking away from any First Nation community.

Action: Mike to find out about the funding sources that have been contributed to this initiative.

Minutes of the January 17, 2003 Round Table meeting:

It was noted that that on Page 3 the names of the 2 volunteers was not included in the minutes. The names of Jim Ticknor and Don Sullivan to be added to the minutes.

The minutes were approved as amended.

It was also noted that Don Courchene obtained and submitted a copy of the General Protocol Agreement on Land Use Planning and Interim Measures from BC.

Undertakings as a result of Actions arising from Minutes:

- List of First Nation Council and East Side Advisory Committee provided to members at February 18, 2003 meeting and will be sent out with Minutes.
- Presentation by Rick Wilson updating the Manigotagan Provincial Park Reserve consultation process on February 18, 2003 meeting agenda.
- Members reminded that they were contacted by e-mail and fax to provide what information they want listed on the web site.
- Discussion on Elder Input on February 18, 2003 meeting agenda.
- Sandra Storm presentation on The Turning Point Agreement with respect to the B.C. Broad Area Planning Initiative requested.
- The establishment of a working group to provide recommendations to the Round Table concerning the Beren's River request for an all weather road to the community in process.
- An interim status report on the COSDI recommendations concerning Consultation was provided by Ron Missyabit, Director of the Aboriginal Relations Branch, and handed out to members.

Other information arising from Minutes:

- GLIFWC has been contacted for additional information but they have not sent anything to date.

A question was raised as to the purpose of the Round Table in light of the following statement from the interim status report on the COSDI recommendations on Consultation:

The East Side Broad Area Planning Initiative and the creation of the First Nation Council are the direct result of the COSDI Report. The creation of this Council and the mandate to "give direction" as opposed to "give advice" to the Round table recognizes the importance of First

Nation input into any decision making respecting resource allocation within their traditional territory.

The Round Table also requested continuous updates on this initiative.

Action: Mike Waldram to meet with Ron Missyabit to discuss the wording from the update.

A member has been approached by Manitoba Hydro to go into his community to conduct an open house, but held off until after the Round Table meeting.

There was concern expressed that Manitoba Hydro is trying to conduct open houses with the possible intention of calling it consultation. The 20/20 Vision has been invited to present at this meeting.

The Secretariat covered a list of action items from the October 2002, 2002 Round Table meeting and all outstanding handouts were made available at this meeting.

A brief overview of the topics and issues covered at Minister Ashton's presentation to the East Side First Nation Council on February 6, 2003.

- Stumpage Fees
- Budget
- Manitoba Transportation 20/20 Vision
- COSDI Report
- Role of Elders
- Federal government represented on the Round Table
- Draft Terms of Reference

A brief overview of topics and issues covered at East Side Advisory Committee Meeting on February 17, 2003.

- Inherent rights to be covered in the process
- Comments from each community
- Common understanding of community needs
- Missing TLE info on documents
- Linkage and information sharing of all groups
- Loon Straits difficulties with road maintenance
- All documentation & links available on the web site
- Stumpage Fees - going back to the communities
- Their role with the Round Table
- Inventory Info is old and outdated
- Breakout groups to cover specific 4 specific issues
- Updated bibliography
- Community consultations
- Need for community liaisons
- MKO concern about the Phase I Report - Was it formally adopted & approved

The chair indicated that he was encouraged by the discussions and how genuine the groups seemed to participate in the process.

A question was asked if the Round Table should anticipate any major potential conflict with either group. The response was they are experiencing conflict with the direction of the all weather road.

There was discussion about the need for boundaries to be mapped out by First Nation communities and conflict and disagreement of territory lines and boundaries. There was the issue of First Nations being grouped with other organizations and the need to have this addressed.

UPDATE ON THE MANIGOTAGAN PROVINCIAL PARK RESERVE:

A presentation was given by Rick Wilson of the Parks and Natural Areas Branch of Manitoba Conservation which was followed by a discussion and question period.

Rick indicated that both the Manigotagan River and Poplar River Park Reserves were established before the COSDI report and East Side Planning Initiative. He provided an update of the communities that have been contacted and indicated that the 2nd round of community consultations was underway. The MMF was contacted and contacts were mailed information. Meetings dates will be firmed up with Bissett, Manigotagan and Poplar River. Rick is available to give the round Table updates as the process progresses.

Action: Manigotagan River Provincial Park Reserve Public Consultation Update to be sent out with Minutes.

ELDERS INPUT:

The chair addressed the concern raised from Advisory Committee, First Nation Council and Round Table members that individuals other than members are allowed to participate at any meeting. The chair provided background of the elder appointment to the Round Table. The issue has been raised more than once and needs to be addressed. A discussion followed about the sensitivity of the issue and who is considered an elder in a community. There was a recommendation to have elders meet with Peter Kinew to chair the meeting.

Action: The chair to make a request for the elders to meet and come back with a set of recommendations on how to organize that part of business.

Break

Verbatim Minutes of October 24, 2003 were handed out for information. There was some discussion on verbatim minutes and consensus was that a summary report is adequate for this purpose. The project manager provided an update on East Side activities and indicated Parks, Hydro and Highways need to provide more information to the Roundtable of their plans and how they propose to implement these plans. There is some concern on other corporations by-passing the Round Table and what authority the Roundtable has with respect to vetoing any proposal. There was discussion on enforcing fines to Hydro and First Nations for failing to comply with the contract.

There was concern expressed there is a need to get out into the communities and start providing the information to communities because time was running out. The group is spending too much time on process and not enough on action.

20/20 VISION MANITOBA TRANSPORTATION PRESENTATION:

The presentation covered the communities that Manitoba Transportation has made contact with and their strategic plan to improve access to remote communities to develop and support social and economic growth on the East Side of Lake Winnipeg.

Discussion and questions followed with:

- Land use study
- Transportation can conduct study & provide findings for Round Table
- Concern of info going out to communities
- Permission contacting communities provided by Chief and Councilors
- Concerns of elders having resources to attend open houses
- Rice River Road completion date
- How this plan fits in with ESLWPL
- Will 20/20 Vision report back to Round Table
- Development of services need to happen with East Side communities involvement
- Partnerships need to be developed for cost efficiency

The hiring of Moses Okimaw has been made and his office will be located at 123 Main Street

Action Item: Members requested file folders and journals to assist with Round Table meeting.

Action Item: Request for a copy of Royal Commission on the Environment Report - 1977

Closing Prayer given by Peter Kinew

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 and suggestion to have the next meeting scheduled for March 17 & 18, 2003 at the Canad Inn, Polo Park if possible.

Information Distributed at Meeting:

- 20/20 Vision pamphlet and PowerPoint presentation
Manitoba Transportation and Government Services
- Wild Rice Producers Guide (Manitoba Natural Resources)
- Wild Rice Allocation Handout
- Building Relationships and Creating Opportunities - Guiding Principles for Success (The Manitoba Minerals Guidelines Booklet)
- East Side Advisory Committee Draft Terms of Reference
- COSDI - Interim Status Report (Aboriginal Relations Branch)
- East Side Round Table October 24, 2002 Verbatim Minutes
- Trapping Guide 2002/2003 (Manitoba Conservation)
- Executive Summary - Northern Mayors & Chiefs Forum handout
- East Side Information Distribution Plan
- Co-Management in Manitoba PowerPoint presentation
- Aboriginal Communities and Non-renewable Resource Development Document
National Round Table on the Environment and the Economy
- Berens River letter of Recommendation dated January 17, 2003
- Berens River letter dated July 30, 2002
- Future East Side Transmission Line Development PowerPoint presentation

Manitoba Hydro - January 17, 2003

- Future Transmission Line Development on East Side PowerPoint presentation
Manitoba Hydro - July 30, 2002
- East Side First Nation Council Membership List
- East Side Advisory Committee List
- East Side Planning Initiative PowerPoint presentation (Mike Waldram - East Side Project Manager)
- East Side of Lake Winnipeg Broad Area Planning Initiative Phase 1 Booklet & pamphlet (Manitoba Conservation)

Information received at meeting:

General Protocol Agreement on Land Use Planning and Interim Measures with First Nations of BC and the BC government.