



**Independent Environmental Monitoring  
Agency  
2017-18**

**Communications Responsibilities and Plans for  
Community Meetings**

**Environmental Agreement Implementation Meeting  
July 10, 2018  
Jaida Ohokannoak, Chair**

# Agency Communications Responsibilities

## ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT

### Purpose

- Provide advice to Dominion Diamond Ekati ULC (Dominion Diamond)
- Coordinate monitoring
- Facilitate participation of Aboriginal Peoples and the general public

### Agency Mandate

- Public Watchdog
- Participate as an intervenor
- Effective communication with Aboriginal Peoples and the general public
- Bring concerns of Aboriginal Peoples and public to Dominion Diamond and governments



# Agency Communications Responsibilities

## ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT

### Reporting and Accountability

- Report annually
- Submit other reports and correspondence on findings and recommendations to Dominion Diamond and government
- Dominion Diamond and government to give full and serious consideration to our reports and recommendations in writing



# Communications Responsibilities

## RESOLUTION AGREEMENT

### Environmental Agreement Implementation Meetings

#### January

- Agency's current and proposed work plan and budget
- Dominion Diamond's environmental management programs and operations for coming year
- Agency's findings, recommendations, reports and overview of the monitoring program costs
- Reconciliation of the drawdown on the separate fund for interventions
- Meeting requirement was cancelled and responsibilities deferred to Agency March Board meeting (confirmed at June 6, 2017 Implementation Meeting)

#### June

- Dominion Diamond and Agency on the status of their communication responsibilities
- Plans to meet with communities
- Opportunities to coordinate participants' engagement with communities
- Review and discussion of the preliminary content of the Agency's annual report





# Communications Responsibilities

## Society By-laws

- Board of Directors responsible for conducting the affairs of the Society
- Minutes to be kept of all Board meetings and made available
- Annual General Meeting of the Society Members and special meetings

## Communications Protocol

- Agency expects the EA parties to provide copies of all final information (including data, studies, reports, and other material) they generate for another party, or the public, which relates to the Environmental Agreement and the Agency's mandate
- Agency shall place all written material from the parties on the public registry unless requested to do otherwise, and the Agency consents



# Agency Activities 2017-18

| Date and Location                            | Purpose   | Main Issues   |
|--|---|---|
| May 8-12<br><i>Kugluktuk, NU</i>             | Annual Report Writing Session and Community Visit | This was the first time the Agency combined the Annual Report Writing Session with a Community Visit. School visit with a fish tagging demonstration, Meet and Greets with Kitikmeot Inuit Association and the Hamlet of Kugluktuk, Community Information Session/Open House, and an on the land activity with local outfitter.   |
| June 6<br><i>Yellowknife</i>                 | Environmental Agreement Implementation Meeting    | Dominion Diamond presented their upcoming community meetings. The Agency presented the Annual Report recommendations.   |
| June 28-29<br><i>Yellowknife</i>             | Bathurst Caribou Range Plan Technical Workshop    | Discussed Zone of Influence, the plan itself, seasonal range sensitivity, adaptive management elements for the range plan to create directions and action plans for going forward with the range plan.  |
| September 12-13<br><i>Ekati Diamond Mine</i> | Site Visit  | Visited “all 4 corners” of the site, including the new Sable and Jay roads to view construction, Lynx Pit, Cell B of the Long Lake Containment Facility. Discussed the Misery Underground Project with Dominion Diamond staff.  |
| September 14<br><i>Yellowknife</i>           | Agency Board Meeting                              | On site portion received presentation from Dominion Diamond on Misery Underground project, brief mention of Fox Deep project and discussion with Dominion Diamond regarding recent comments on the Pigeon Waste Rock Pile. In town meeting discussed resignation of NSMA appointee, variance report, and upcoming review items such as Misery underground and Potassium Amendments. |
| October 13<br><i>Via teleconference</i>      | ZOI Technical Task Group Meeting                  | The analysis and potential implications of the analysis of the 2009 and 2012 aerial survey data. The state of the guidelines document.  |

# Agency Activities 2017-18

|                                     |  |   |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|
| November 28<br><i>Yellowknife</i>   | Misery Underground -<br>Technical Session                                | Agency attended and asked question based on our initial comments our main concerns was with the timing of operations and the management of water. Dominion Diamond addressed our concerns   |
| November 29<br><i>Yellowknife</i>   | Potassium EQC Amendment –<br>Technical Session                           | Agency attended and had discussions with Dominion diamond based on our initial comments. We could not come to an agreement on all issues. We included remaining issues in our intervention.   |
| December 5-6<br><i>Yellowknife</i>  | Agency Board Meeting   | Discussed the variance report, reviewed and updated all Agency policies, discussed upcoming workshop and items currently out for review and provided all directors with an update on various amendment applications.  |
| December 12, 2017                   | Bathurst Caribou Research<br>Objectives Meeting                          | Workshop was held with Society members and other affected communities. The purpose was to identify research priorities for the Bathurst Caribou. Dominion Diamond has \$500,000 over 3 years to fund research out side of mine specific monitoring. This meeting was use to determine how best to allocate the funds.   |
| January 15<br><i>Yellowknife</i>    | Jay Project Aquatic Effects<br>Monitoring Program, Technical<br>Workshop | Agency attended and participated in the Jay AEMP workshop.  |
| January 17-18<br><i>Yellowknife</i> | Annual General Meeting &<br>Environmental Workshop                       | The AGM had quorum.<br>Environmental workshop was very well attended with representatives from all society member's communities represented. The selected theme was waste rock. Dr. Leslie Smith, Professor Emeritus at UBC, was a guest speaker and gave a presentation on the general functions of waste rock piles. The Agency and Dominion Diamond also gave presentations specific to the Ekati mine. There was lots of good discussion. |
| February 7-8<br><i>Behchoko</i>     | Misery Underground - Public<br>Hearings                                  | Agency attended but did not present or submit an intervention as our main concerns were addressed at the technical sessions.  |

# Agency Activities 2017-18

|                                      |   |  |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|
| February 8<br><i>Behchoko</i>        | Potassium EQC Amendment<br>Public Hearing               | The Agency submitted an intervention which was presented at the public hearing.  |
| February 13-14<br><i>Yellowknife</i> | Mackenzie Valley Resource<br>Management Act<br>Workshop | Director Tim Byers was a panelist at this workshop, and staff member Shannon Moore attended the workshop to further familiarize herself with the Environmental Assessment process in the NWT.            |
| February 27-28<br><i>Yellowknife</i> | Interim Closure &<br>Reclamation Plan<br>Workshop       | Dominion Diamond held a workshop in Yellowknife for stakeholders on the development of its update to the Interim Closure and Reclamation Plan (ICPR) for the Ekati mine.                                 |
| March 13-14<br><i>Yellowknife</i>    | Agency Board Meeting<br>(100 <sup>th</sup> )            | Dominion Diamond and GNWT attended a portion of meeting as Agency presented a summary of budget and upcoming workplan. Agency discussed upcoming annual report writing session, dates and divided tasks. |



# Communications for 2018-19

2017-18:

- Launched new website
- Translated the Agency Video into Aboriginal Languages and posted on the Website.
- Updated the Ekati Timeline on our website
- Hired new Communications and Administrative Specialist – Shannon Moore

2018-19:

- July 2018: Distribute Agency's Newsletter the Ekati Monitor
- July and August 2018: Post on website and distribute 2017-18 Agency Annual Report, including Plain Language version and summary brochure.
- September 2018: Agency Board Meeting and site visit.
- December 2018: Agency Annual General Meeting and Workshop

Other community visits and meetings, as requested by Society Members.

Collaborative work with EMAB and SLEMA as opportunities arise.



# Questions



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