



## MINUTES

### Kiggavik Community Liaison Committee

April 23, 2010

7 PM

AREVA Kiggavik Office, Baker Lake

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The meeting was attended by:

Barry McCallum, AREVA

William Noah, AREVA

Diane Martens, AREVA

Samson Arnauyok, Hamlet

Martha Jorah, Akilinirkmiut

James Kalluk, Hunters & Trappers

Phillippa Iksiraq, Hunters and Trappers

Martha Nukik, Health Committee

Jean Simailak, Qilautimiut

Casey Tularialik, District Education Authority

Irene Tavirnak; Kiah Hachey, Tahitut Youth

John Nukik, Drug and Alcohol committee

Sheena Iksiraq, Inuit Haulutagit Justice

Absent:

Peter Tapatai, business. Basil Aptanik, Akilinirkmiut; Hugh Tularialik, Qilautimiut;

Guests:

Cherry Gunning, CNSC; Heather Nicholson, CNSC

Interpreter-Percy Tutanaq

**Meeting opened by the Chair John Nukik at 7: 15 PM**

#### **1. Opening Prayer**

Said by Jean Simailak

## 2. Introduction-

**Barry McCallum-** introduced Diane Martens and guests representing the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission who are in town attending the Nunavut Impact Review Board Community Information Sessions this Sunday, Monday and Tuesday evenings.

## 3. Approval of Agenda-

**Moved –** Casey Tularialik

**Seconded by-** Jean Simailak

**Motion carried**

## 4. Approval of previous Minutes of March 17, 2010

Various spelling corrections

**Moved by-** Casey Tularialak

**Seconded by-** James Kalluk

**Motion carried**

## 5. Project Update-

### 5.1. 2010 Field Program

Provided by **Barry McCallum**

**Overland Haul** - 17 loads bulk fuel; 100,000 liters jet fuel and 70,000 liters diesel fuel. Diesel complete, two more jet fuel remains (waiting on parts for delta and expect it to be complete next week). Approximately 10 loads dry goods (drilling supplies, calcium chloride, cement, propane, core boxes, core racks and camp supplies). Loading today and I think there will be one load remaining. Again should finish next week.

**Freighters** - 2 Hawkers of supplies were flown in last Monday and goods delivered to site.

**Camp Opening** - Camp is scheduled to open May 27 with the first drill crew to arrive May 31. The camp will be quite busy with an exploration program this season. Should have between 40 and 55 persons at site all season.

**Local Workforce** - May have a few extra locals compared to last year working at site and in town as we have to finish the drum crushing which was started last fall on Blueberry Hill. Most of the local workforce will be the same as most have expressed an interest in working back at site and in the local office. We are getting many inquires and half dozen people a week have been dropping of resumes. Hopefully in a few years we will be in a position to offer more employment.

**Casey Tularialik** – When will the remaining two loads be hauled?

**Barry** – After the parts arrive. We are expecting next week.

**Casey Tularialik** – It isn't too warm?

**Barry** – We believe there is still time left but we will need to finish soon.



## **5.2 Environmental Assessment – NIRB Community Information Sessions**

**Diane Martens** – AREVA officially asked permission to build a mine about a year and a half ago and part of this approval process is to write an environmental assessment. You are all familiar with this process having done this for Meadowbank. The next step is what the Nunavut Impact Review Board calls ‘Scoping and Guideline Creation’ and the NIRB is going to be in Baker Lake Sunday to Tuesday to give information and to hear what the residents of Baker Lake have to say about the Kiggavik Project. It is important that AREVA hears what you want to say but it is also important for you to talk with the NIRB and other regulators because it is them that make some of the rules for us. Cherry and Heather are also going to attend the NIRB information sessions in Baker Lake to listen to what people are saying about the Kiggavik Project.

**Cherry Gunning** – AREVA will need to get a licence from the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission before they are allowed to build and operate a mine. I know a lot about mines and have inspected them and I am available for anyone to ask questions the next few days.

**Jean Simailak** – Do you know about radiation in workplaces or uses of radiation?

**Cherry Gunning** – Both

**Samson Arnauyok** – Have you worked in a uranium mine yourself?

**Cherry Gunning** – I have not worked in a mine but I have worked 25 years with the Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission and I have inspected mines. I have been to all the mines in Saskatchewan and in Ontario when they were there.

**Samson Arnauyok** – What community in Ontario?

**Cherry Gunning** – Elliot Lake, Ontario

**James Kalluk** - Have you seen wildlife around the mine areas?

**Cherry Gunning** – I saw Muskox near the Kiggavik site. We were only there for one visit.

**Jean Simailak** – Have you ever checked people that are in a mine or in the process?

**Cherry Gunning** - yes, we talk with mine workers

**Jean Simailak** – like really on their hands and knees in the dirty stuff?

**Cherry Gunning** - We check to make sure the company does what they say they are going to do. They have to be safe and keep exposure to radiation as low as possible. If they can improve that is what we expect them to do. You will hear this phrase many times but we use it a lot. It is ALARA and it stands for As Low as Reasonably Achievable. Not just below the limit but as low as possible.

**Jean Simailak** – Thank you

**Samson** - We have a hard time understanding, especially those people who do not speak English. We need to see things for ourselves.

**Cherry Gunning** – I do not work for AREVA. I work for you. We will never give a licence if it is not safe. We want you to come to the meeting to say what you think of the proposed mine and what your concerns are so we can be sure to deal with those concerns when we look at the application. If there is a mine and we go and inspect and do not like what we see, we can order them to do things to fix what we do not like.



**Irene Tavirnak** - You have seen people work; when they look for employees do you get doctors and other health people to really check the health of workers?

**Barry McCallum** – Mine workers need a medical before they start and mine workers every year need to get a medical exam. I had to get a medical exam and I work in an office.

**James Kalluk** - Do you normally get inoculations?

**Barry McCallum** – I do not recall inoculations but the company often provides the flu shot to employees. You can go to a company recommended doctor or you can go to your own doctor. There is a nurse on site all the time.

**Philippa Iksiraq** - The wind, have you noticed any difference in trees and tundra?

**Cherry Gunning** – Are we talking about radiation?

**Philippa Iksiraq** - Any product that they are mining. Do you do checks to see how far the radiation goes?

**Cherry Gunning** – AREVA does studies to look at this. It does seem it would travel farther. In Saskatchewan this is measured at different distances from the mine site.

**Martha Jorah** – Why don't we really talk about the dangers, why the real danger is not discussed, how much danger is there?

**Cherry Gunning** – Today uranium miners will not get cancer because of uranium mining. The leading cause of cancer is smoking. In the 50's and 60's there was a study that compared them to the rest of Canada and they got cancer more often then. Everyone learned a lot of lessons and now the levels of radiation are a thousand times lower and today's uranium miners will not get cancer because of uranium mining. The best benefit to workers is to encourage them to stop smoking because smoking is the leading cause of cancer. Some mines have health programs to get people to exercise, eat healthy and to stop smoking. The Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission takes radiation very seriously. There are many other dangers in mines, all types of mines, and the health and safety of workers is important.

**Samson Arnauyok** – Compare Kiggavik to Meadowbank, which one is safer?

**Cherry Gunning** – There are more people to watch the Kiggavik mine and the safety record for uranium mines is very good compared to other types of mines.

**Samson Arnauyok** – Meadowbank is not that big. We are concerned about water. The link to water and fish. We are afraid the lake will become contaminated.

**Cherry Gunning** –These are the type of things that would be studied. To get approval there can be no significant adverse effect on something important. So if you say the lake and fish are important they need to study what affect the mine would have and then they have to tell us what they will do to keep it safe. It could happen that they say they cannot build the mine without some damage and then the government has to make a decision. Hopefully they can do the mine with no damage. We will not know until we see the studies.

**Samson Arnauyok** – You just with uranium or other companies?

**Cherry Gunning** – Because uranium is used for electricity, uranium mining is part of the nuclear fuel cycle and that means it is regulated by the federal government.

**Samson Arnauyok** – Will you do an assessment on Meadowbank?

**Cherry Gunning** – No

**Jean Simailak** – I think we should ask more of these questions at the NIRB meetings and move on with other business.

### **5.3 Golder Diet Study**

**Barry McCallum** – Golder Associates was the consulting company that did this study. We talked a bit about the study before and since the last meeting the questionnaire was translated and 75 houses were visited with 2 or 3 interviews per house. There will be a report written to see if diets have changed since the last major diet study that was done. On the advice of this committee, people interviewed were given an honorarium. How many people here participated?

**Martha Jorah** – I forgot to finish the survey. It is half done.

**Cherry Gunning** – People ask how much radiation does the public get. We measure this by looking at how much caribou, geese, berries and other food people eat and then measure if there is any radiation in these things. That is why it is interesting to know what Baker Lake residents eat.

**Martha Jorah** – I am full of radiation now because my husband hunted caribou by Kiggavik.

**Cherry Gunning** – But maybe there is no radiation

**Martha Jorah** – There is lots

**Casey Tulurialik** – When will this be published?

**Barry McCallum** – This will likely become part of the EIS in about a year. The purpose was to validate a previous study.

### **5.4 Transportation Risk Study**

**Barry McCallum** – We have a consultant that is working on a transportation risk assessment and we would like to ask this group for a little feedback on what you see as the most likely accidents and the accidents that you are most concerned with. We are looking at marine transportation, road transportation, docking and air transportation.

**Casey Tulurialik** – I am concerned about the caribou herd migration including hitting caribou with trucks.

**Barry McCallum** – This type of accident will likely occur at some time. These types of collisions are known to happen on the Meadowbank road.

**Martha Jorah** – I do not like it when workers play with wildlife. Sometimes they are not really hunting and twice we saw helicopters chasing caribou and we were aiming for them.

**Jean Simailak** - maybe you should watch out for caribou crossing areas and favourite fishing spots and then try to avoid these areas.

**James Kalluk** - We do not want to see barges stuck in Baker Lake again.

**Samson Arnauyok** – The Hudson Bay people will know about sea wildlife and then AREVA should watch and know where these wildlife travel.

**James Kalluk** – When barges are transporting through the South channel in between Chesterfield Inlet and Baker Lake, It might be an good idea that when transporting someone they should be looking for wildlife. Through Muugyuni'tuaq south channel narrow ways.

**Barry McCallum** – Wildlife consultants have looked at the route between Baker Lake and Kiggavik and we will use this information to guide access road location and route decisions. We did not do this detail of work for the winter exploration haul. There is one trip on snowmobile before the winter haul starts to help plan a good route but any wildlife seen would have been reported.

**Philippa Iksiraq** – I brought this up because I heard that some wildlife was run over and this should not happen.

**Barry McCallum** – You heard this of the Kiggavik Project?

**Philippa Iksiraq** – No, I heard this of Meadowbank and the caribou were just left behind.

**Barry McCallum** – The protection of wildlife is being considered in the way the Kiggavik Project is being designed. There were even marine mammal studies conducted to Churchill.

**Jean Simailak** – When the mine is opened you should do the same things to try to avoid wildlife. There can be people on the radio to talk about wolves they see to warn people. Caribou migration is especially important and there should be radios on every vehicle and people watching when they travel so that they can warn the other drivers.

**Martha Nukik** - Cherry, those people who worked with uranium, did they notice right away or long after they stopped working?

**Cherry Gunning** – If you were exposed to low levels of radiation for a long time and if you got sick it would be maybe 10-20 years later. If you hear of a bomb and people die right away – this is not the same for a mine.

**Philippa Iksiraq** - The build up of sand where the barges arrive could be dangerous. You should have a special spot and be careful with the build up of sand. There needs to be a spot for anchoring barges so they do not move around the lake.

**Barry McCallum** – We are doing studies on the route where the barge would travel. We do not want any barges stuck.

**Martha Jorah** – When caribou are white it means they have radiation on them.

**5.5 Kiggavik Video** – “Through the Eyes of a Young Person” – watched video and Barry gave the name of the video so that people could find it at home on YouTube.

## 6.0 Recent Events

### 6.1 Nunavut Mining Symposium

**Barry McCallum** – AREVA gave two presentations at the Mining Symposium. One was by Frederic Guerin about a general project update and Peter Wollenberg gave a presentation about the uranium deposits there. About 400 people attended. AREVA lent our translation equipment to the symposium and we do not have it back in Baker yet so that is why we are using other equipment.

## 6.2 Mine Training Roundtable

**Barry McCallum** - During the symposium I attended the mine training roundtable. The Government of Nunavut and some companies are looking at needs for mine training and how to put this into place. The one mine needing training right now is Meadowbank and there is a plan in place right now to train 50 people a year to work at that mine.

## 7 Up and Coming Events

### 7.1. Suicide Prevention Workshop

**Barry McCallum** – Jack Hicks in Iqaluit is helping to deliver suicide prevention workshops to AREVA staff and contractors. The idea is that we might be able to prevent a suicide with enough training and people who know what to look for. The suicide awareness program will run on May 25 and May 26. We will be running a session in Saskatoon to include AREVA personal and representatives from contractors involved with the field program.

**Kiah Hachey** – Will Jack run the workshops?

**Barry McCallum** – No. They will be run by people from Saskatoon and Calgary

**Jean Simailak** – at the mines only?

**Barry McCallum** – We are having them for contractors and others on site

**Jean Simailak** – No doubt if there is a workshop, people will be applying to attend.

**Barry McCallum** – We think this is something well needed

## 8. New Business-

### 8.1 Visit to the potential Thelon River crossing

**Barry McCallum** – We think it is a good idea to bring people with local knowledge to the possible Thelon crossing. Because of Samson's interest and information on the Thelon we would like to bring him and a few others along examine the crossing with our consultant and Nicola who is the Project engineer. Samson, when is the ideal time to take this trip? We cannot go before June 1 because that is about when the helicopters will arrive.

**Samson Arnauyok** – The original area you picked was good but a new area may be okay. The main reason I did not like the original area was because it was a little too shallow.

**Barry McCallum** – This is a good discussion for you to have with the engineers at the river. What is the best time for the river visit?

**Samson Arnauyok** – Any time would be good as long as the helicopter is here and maybe that the river is open. I just don't know when the engineers are here. They should come when the river flows and when they are here then anytime is good.

**Casey Tularialik** – Will you be looking at bridge locations only once?

**Barry McCallum** – We are only planning to do this visit once.

**Samson Arnauyok** – We put up rocks when we checked the area and next time the rocks were gone so it is good to more permanently mark the spot. It is important to look upstream.

**Barry McCallum** – It is important for you to be on that trip to share your knowledge

**Samson Arnauyok** – We will check the banks to see the best place for a foundation. We need to see where ice is flowing and watch the whole time.

**Barry McCallum** – So the best time is at ice break up.

**James-** Remember that there is more snow this year than usual so there may be more water than usual.

**Samson Arnauyok** – Depending on the melting and freezing spring cycles and snow conditions it will be different every year. The snow and melting is not the same now as it was in the 40's and 50's. I expect it will melt all at once this year. That is what happens now.

## **8.2 CBC coverage of helicopter and caribou disturbance**

**William Noah** – The CBC radio was giving a story about the Baker Lake HTO not being happy about helicopters in the area working. Caribou are on the Baker Lake airport runway all the time and always have to chase them away. I heard there was someone who wanted to complain and they went to the wildlife officer and they said to go to the RCMP and the RCMP said to go to the airport. I do not think that caribou run away anymore because they have become used to planes and helicopters. You should bring some of these subjects up as a committee member.

**Barry McCallum** – It is up to each company to make rules. Our helicopters are required to fly high unless the ceiling is low. We record these trips taken so that we have a record. If the HTO wants to know these things there is a record to look at.

**Jean Simailak** – The HTO maybe if they do complaints they should do with a resolution or motion and not just one person or member. I suggest this happens.

**James kalluk** - The CBC never notified us what they will discuss. I am an HTO member and I am not happy with that.

**Philippa** - I remember a single engine plane had rolled over above harvesters and people do not like that especially when they are hunting. Harvesters not really complaining about helicopters but small planes are disruptive. Some people say that helicopters are not doing anything when flying but this is not necessarily true.

**James kalluk** - The CBC is not talking from really any organization or board. The caribou are different since helicopters came. Maybe in September they are scared and run away but in spring they won't really run away.

## **8.3 Discussion on how representatives are selected for CLC**

**William Noah** – I am happy with the two representatives picked by Elders President. We should have at least one male and female from each organization and enough people from each organization. Maybe at the next meeting this can be discussed.

**Samson Arnauyok** –No matter what, whatever needs to be heard by our organization are brought up. Some of these discussions tonight are important to mining companies, pilots and others and that is how we have to be. The membership is varied and good.



**Barry McCallum** – Some of you are newly appointed/elected members of this committee so maybe it is a good time to talk about how the committee works and people become members. The membership is picked by various groups and not by AREVA. The groups that are represented on this committee are the Hamlet Council, Youth, HTO, DEA, justice and health. The business community and the Aberdeen Lake people are also supposed to be represented here but because they do not have an organization to decide on who will be represent them, individual people have just been asked by the committee to participate. There used to be many more men on the committee but now it is almost half women and half men.

**Phillippa** – Whoever was selected for this committee did not attend meetings so I was asked and that is how I am part of this committee.

#### **8.4 Fish Habitat Compensation**

**Barry McCallum** – If the mine goes ahead we would put a small dam up on Andrew Lake. Whenever you do this you are required to compensate for any fish habitat that would be lost. We are not allowed to take away fish habitat without making new fish habitat. This is an important topic to AREVA to discuss with the HTO and I will be asking Joan to put this on the agenda at a HTO meeting.

**James** – If you want to come speak we are always available as long as we are available at the time of the meeting.

**Barry McCallum** – This is a good meeting to have when the biologist is here so we will try to have the meeting in summer and will give advance notice to the HTO.

### **9. Members Topics**

**Casey Tulurialik** – Has there been any decision on the road contractor?

**Barry McCallum** – No contractor has been selected yet. In fact the access road that will be built has not been selected yet. We will try to use a northern contractor or a company with northern content.

**Casey Tulurialik** – Have you hired the contractor for catering?

**Barry McCallum** – yes, this contract has gone out. We use Arctic fuels for the camp contractors

**Casey Tulurialik** – There is no date set for the tour?

**Barry McCallum** – We are hoping June but no date has been set yet.

**James** – People asked to go on homeland visits, is anything happening with this?

**Barry McCallum** – William coordinates this and keeps a list. We have 3 to 5 visits each year.

### **10. Date & Time of next Meeting - Adjournment**

**Barry McCallum** – Propose the last week of May for the next meeting

All Agreed



**John Nukik** – It is good the CNSC is here to help our lifestyle. No doubt you will be there to make sure things are safe.

**Moved to Adjournment:**

**Moved by-**Martha Jorah

**Seconded by-** Jean Simailak

**Motion is carried.**

**Meeting adjourned: 10.20 P.M**