



Speaking Notes

Slide 1

Nunavut Association of Municipalities Rankin Inlet, Nunavut April 2008

Opening Remarks – Thank you for having the Nunavut Planning Commission to the NAM AGM. I am the Chairperson of the Commission, Ron Roach and beside me is Peter Kritaqliluk, the NPC Vice-Chair. I would also like to acknowledge that we have another Commissioner here who is part of the NAM Executive, Paul Quassa.

Slide 2

Presentation Overview

Our presentation today will include:

- 1.** The Commissions commitment to governance
- 2.** The Commission and its purpose

Slide 3

- 3.** The Nunavut Land Use Plan
- 4.** Benefits of Land Use Planning

Slide 4

- 5. Working together and relationships
- 6. Major Research Projects initiative

Slide 5

- 7. The Conformity Determination Process

Slide 6

1. Governance

As a public agency the Commissioners are committed to a results-based-governance model that identifies roles, responsibilities and accountabilities and are committed to governing with excellence.

Our Mission Statement is:

“Leading the way through land use planning for Nunavummiut.”

Slide 7

2. The Commission and its purpose

The Nunavut Planning Commission (the Commission), is an Institute of Public Government with its roles and responsibilities set out under the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement (NLCA), Article 11; Land Use Planning.

The Commission mandate as outlined in the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement, is to prepare and implement land use plans that guide and direct resource use and development. Land Use Plans apply to land that lies outside community boundaries. The communities are responsible for preparing their own land use plans and zoning by-laws.

Land use plans do not tell Inuit where to camp or hunt. Land use plans tell others how Inuit want the land and water used today and into the future.

The NPC consults with government, Inuit organizations, Communities and organizations to gather information relevant to develop the framework for the NLUP. It is the Commission's responsibilities to compile the information and make the final decisions on how Land Use Plans will be developed and how the plans will manage the land in Nunavut. Once these decisions are made, the plans are sent to Government for approval. Once the plan is approved everyone must follow them.

The Commission has members appointed by Nunavut Tunngavik, the three Regional Inuit Associations, the Government of Canada and Government of Nunavut. Our current Commission members are:

- Ron Roach, Chairperson,
- Peter Kritaqliluk, Vice Chairperson, Kivalliq Inuit Association
- David Newman, Government of Canada
- Frank Ipakohak, Nunavut Tunngavik Incorporated
- Paul Quassa, Government of Nunavut
- Kitikmeot Inuit Association, Qikiqtani Inuit Association and one Government of Nunavut member position is currently vacant.

Slide 8

3. The Nunavut land use plan as outlined in the Nunavut Land Claims Agreement

Land use plans apply to land, water and resources, and they consider the social, cultural, economic and environmental concerns associated with land use. As defined in the NLCA, land includes freshwater, salt water and resources.

Resources include fish, wildlife, minerals, oil and gas, other forms of energy like hydro power, gravel, tourism sites, etc.

Land use plans in Nunavut deal with how resources will be used and how the land, water and Inuit culture will be protected as development occurs. The plan is important because people use the land, water and wildlife for different reasons. Sometimes people disagree on how the land should be used. People might not want a mine built because it is where they go hunting and / or the area might have cultural importance.

Land use planning works to solve these disagreements.

The NPC employ's Land Use Planners that work with Inuit to find out where the important areas are located. These areas and other relevant information are put on maps. Planners also work with your communities, hunters and trappers, government, industry and others to make maps. These maps are incorporated into the land use plans. Again, this information will guide and direct how the land is being used today and what types of things might happen in the future.

Land use plans must protect the rights of Inuit set out under the NLCA. For instance as outlined in the NLCA, land use plans must:

- Devote special attention to protecting and promoting the existing and future well-being of Inuit and Inuit Owned Lands;
- Reflect the priorities and values of residents;
- Take into account cultural factors and priorities;
- Give great weight to the views and wishes of the municipalities;
- Be consistent with NLCA Article 5, Wildlife and Article 7 Outpost Camps, and;
- Take into account Inuit goals and objectives for Inuit Owned Lands.

Slide 9

4. Benefits of Land Use Planning

Land use plans bring many different people to the table to talk about how to balance development with protection of the environment and Inuit goals. By working together we can use land use plans to identify what types of land use communities support, where it should occur, and how it should occur.

The implementation of approved plans brings the community voice and collective wisdom of Inuit to land use decisions to ensure that future development achieves your long term goals. Plans increase investment and promote development that communities support. The money that comes from developing resources and the jobs that are created are worth billions of dollars. These land uses provide benefits today, tomorrow and into the future.

Industry supports land use planning because plans tell industry where they can and cannot go and sets clear rules for development. This allows industry to invest in areas where Inuit will support development.

In summary, a good land use plan sets the minimum requirement for how development of the land should proceed. Plans bring the community voice into the decision making process so government and developers will address the concerns of Inuit.

Slide 10

5. Our Relationship and working together

We are currently working towards completing the Nunavut Land Use Plan, which is a single land use plan for the land outside community boundaries. In addition to putting in

place a single framework for managing land across Nunavut, the NLUP will update and replace the Kivalliq and North Baffin Plans as well as the draft West Kitikmeot Regional Land Use Plan.

The Commission gives great weight to the views, priorities and goals of the communities. In order for the Commission to promote your goals in our plans you have to tell us what your goals are.

Your work to develop a single sustainability plan for your community will prove to be a very useful tool. The Commission see the opportunities for the Integrated Community Sustainability Plans (ICSP's) to update and inform the NPC about what the communities want.

The NLUP will also support the Integrated Community Sustainability Plan work of the communities on many fronts. For example our mapping and data collection would:

- Enhance the community's awareness of the land use activities around you community, within your region and across Nunavut.
- Increase your ability to respond to environmental assessments, and;
- can support your goals related to the development of infrastructure that is culturally and environmentally sustainable in the NLUP.

The Land Use Plans prepared by the Commission and those prepared by the communities are required to work together. Commission staff contacted Community Government Departments and Municipal staff over the fall of 2007 to learn about the communities, and continue to gather current information today.

Slide 11

6. Major Research Projects

One of our primary initiatives from now until September 1, 2008 is the collection of information in order for the NPC to develop the land use plan. The NPC has hired Terriplan Consulting and NUNAMI Jacques Whitford to collect information on research contracts on wildlife, cumulative impacts management, socio-demographic and economic sector analysis. This information is essential for developing a good land use plan.

Collecting all the information relevant to land use planning is a time consuming activity. The NPC does not have the human resource capacity and recognized the importance of undertaking this initiative, in a timely and efficient manner. These research projects are intended to gather the best available information relevant to Nunavut to inform planning decisions. As more information becomes available we will be occasionally update the NLUP to reflect changes.

If the community has identified areas outside municipal boundaries that you want the Commission to protect such as your community watershed or a future sewage lagoon site, airstrip or gravel site then we need to know. If you have areas identified for community use or economic development then we need to know that too. By working together and telling us how you want the land outside community boundaries managed the Commission can ensure that information is included in the NLUP.

All the wildlife, park proposals, economic development and Inuit / community land use information that we collect will be put on maps so that everyone can see how the land is being used today. The Commission uses this information to make decisions about how the land will be used in the future.

Slide 12

7. Conformity Determination Process

The Commission checks all projects to make sure they follow the rules in the approved Land Use Plans. This is called a conformity determination.

We are required to check all project proposals and all water applications for conformity to approved land use plans.

Currently the NPC and Government of Nunavut, Department of Community government Services have an agreement in place to manage land use activities that are taking place near the community boundary so that both the NPC Plan and community plan have a role.

If a project comes to the NPC that may have impacts on land inside the community boundary then the NPC sends that project to the community for review against its own plans and visa versa. If the community receives a permit for a land use that might have an impact outside the community it would be forwarded to the NPC.

The Commission has provided Nam, (Lewis) with a copy of the letter of agreement for your information.

Slide 13

In closing the Nunavut Planning Commission is committed to:

- Working together with all of our planning partners, each of your communities and community organizations;
- Completing the Nunavut Land Use Plan in a timely

manner and;

- Implementing existing plans

We look forward to working with you and all our planning partners as we continue advance this exciting Nunavut wide land use planning initiative. Our Executive Director and her staff are always available to answer questions and work with you.

Thank you