



**TOPIC:**

Minutes of the November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 Meeting of Mistik’s Public Advisory Group (PAG)

**MEETING LOCATION:**

United Church, 502 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue West, Meadow Lake, SK

**MEETING NOTES/MINUTES KEPT AND PREPARED BY:**

Kevin Gillis RPF, Mistik Management Ltd.

Niska Hodgson, Mistik Management Ltd.

**Meeting Attendees (name and affiliation):**

Interested Party	Participant Name
Silvacom	Ryan Spooner
Zone 8 Trappers	Leonard Greenhough
Mistik Board of Directors	Brenda Nightingale, Jeremy Nightingale
RM of Meadow Lake 588	Blair Mysko, Russ Jones
Third Party Softwood Quota Holders	Dean Millard
Mistik	Robert Follett, Niska Hodgson, Krystina Penner, Steven Hanky, Sherri Gregoire, Kevin Gillis, Karl Schulz, Tanya Fillion
Village of Green Lake	Joe Gardiner
Ministry of Environment	Natasha Hirschfeld, Mark Doyle, Kathleen Gazey, Mike Sleightholm
Meadow Lake Mechanical Pulp Inc.	Taneal Brucks, Lorne Neal
Meadow Lake Mechanical Pulp Inc. Employees	Dwayne Mysko
DeneSuline Co-Management Board	Louie Chinalquay & William Sylvestre
Canoe Lake Traditional Resources User Board	Barry Opekokew
Divide Forest Advisory Council Corporation	Cordell Cross, Larry Anderson
Wildfire Management Branch	Chris Wilson, Chris Dallyn
Town of St. Walburg	Tony & Merrill Leeson
Forestry Contractors	Tim Wahl & Vicki Pryor

Interested Party	Participant Name
U of S	Amanda Lindgren
West District Stakeholders	Jack Purves
Big Island Lake Cree Nation	Jason Wild
Buffalo Narrows Co-Management Board	Bill Pederson
Norsask Forest Products Inc.	Regan Beck
U of S/SRC/UBC	Sheri Andrews-Key
Saulteaux First Nation	Brook Night
Norsask Employees Union	Larry Boudreau
A Le Baie Metis Local #21 (ILX)	Participant did not attend
City of Meadow Lake	Participant did not attend
Meadow Lake Metis Local #31	Participant did not attend
MLTCII	Participant did not attend
Ministry of Environment Forest Service (PA)	Participant did not attend
Northern Lights Snowmobile Club	Participant did not attend
Northwest Communities Wood Prod./Beauval	Participant did not attend
Saskatchewan Environmental Society	Participant did not attend
Saskatchewan Forestry Association	Participant did not attend
Saskatchewan Outfitters Association	Participant did not attend
Saskatchewan Water Security Agency	Participant did not attend
Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation	Participant did not attend
Tourism Saskatchewan	Participant did not attend
Waterhen First Nation	Participant did not attend
CPAWS	Participant did not attend
Ducks Unlimited Canada	Participant did not attend
L&M Wood Products Ltd.	Participant did not attend
Ministry of Government Relations	Participant did not attend
Moosomin First Nation	Participant did not attend
RM of Loon Lake #561	Participant did not attend
University of Saskatchewan	Participant did not attend
Village of Loon Lake	Participant did not attend

**Supporting documents presented/provided to the (PAG) members:**

1. Public Advisory Group Meeting Agenda, November 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018
2. Minutes of the May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Meeting of Mistik's Public Advisory Group
3. Mistik's 2016 Annual Report (Presentation)
4. Mistik's 2017-20-Yr Forest Management Plan Highlights (Presentation)
5. Top size: 10 cm vs. 12.5 cm (Presentation)
6. Vulnerability and Adaptation to Climate Change in Sustainable Forest Management (Presentation)
7. Mistik & Meadow Lake Forestry Story (Presentation)
8. FSC and Mistik's Protected Area Gap Analysis (Presentation)
9. High Conservation Values (Presentation)

## **Proceedings of the November 21, 2018 Mistik Public Advisory Group meeting:**

Facilitator Brenda Nightingale, commenced the May 15, 2018 Public Advisory Group (PAG) Meeting at 10:15 a.m. with a welcome, round table introductions and adoption of the agenda. Ryan Spooner motioned adoption of the agenda, Barry Opekokew seconded – all in favor.

Facilitator Brenda Nightingale initiated discussion of the meeting minutes from the November 23, 2017 Public Advisory Group (PAG) Meeting. A motion by Barry Opikokew and seconded by Ryan Spooner to accept the minutes, all in favor.

### **Housekeeping, Brenda Nightingale**

Washrooms, exits, mileage, meals and other miscellaneous items were covered.

### **Mistik & L&M Current Affairs (Robert Follett)**

Mistik staff update – introduced new Operations Manager, Steven Hankey. Recent acquisition of L&M Wood Products by MLTC was discussed. L&M will be included in the 2019 20 Year FMP. Currently operations are going well. Roughly 50% of the required wood volume for this year has been delivered. We are also planning a stockpile of hardwood for the pulp mill of 60,000 m<sup>3</sup>.

There is a northern contractor opportunity in the Buffalo Narrows management unit for a processor for the “Northern Group”.

### **NorSask (Regan Beck)**

NorSask is currently at 73% indigenous employees this is a MLTC II mandate and the mill is very proud of this number. Update on mill production and markets. NorSask continues to invest capital to improve mill efficiency and lumber recovery factor. NorSask has had record output this fall.

Q. Are you continuing with the graveyard shifts (Tim Wahl)?

A. The graveyard shift is predominantly for the planer. The benefits of the graveyard shift are finishing off the wood cut that day and getting the lines ready for the next day's shift. This does lead to a bottleneck at the kiln but we are always looking for additional efficiency opportunities.

Q. Are you actively pursuing the Power Plant option (Tim Wahl)?

A. Yes. Talks with the Government are ongoing with regard to this opportunity.

### **L & M Wood Products (Regan Beck)**

L&M is now under the MLTC II umbrella. We are currently working on the transition process. Continued focus on improving wood quality (e.g. logs) and efficiency of processes to garner more product from the same amount of raw material.

## **MLMP (Dwayne Mysko)**

Update on mill production and markets. MLMP recently had a fire in a debarker (still determining the cause). Cost of running satellite chippers is very expensive but expect to have repairs completed on the debarker by mid-December (parts are manufactured when ordered).

No Questions.

## **Mistik's 2016 Annual Report (Niska Hodgson)**

Presentation outlined overall "success" related to 2016 forest management indicator measurement, overview of 2016 operations and "on-target" indicators. More in-depth detail presented on "off-target" indicators (33/236).

*Note:* 2016 Annual Report and associated maps can be found on the Mistik website at [www.Mistik.ca](http://www.Mistik.ca)

Comment: (Barry Opikokew) there are other users (i.e. Carrier in the Beauval area). There is the impression that Mistik has the trust of communities and Consultation takes time. There was general discussion about Caribou movements and harvesting after fire as well.

Q. What is the objective of the single trees?

A. To maintain perching sites for birds and biodiversity. Target is 2 trees/ha. Up to 4 trees in a clump are counted as single trees. This helps improve resistance to wind damage and blowdown.

Q. Will the Forest Values Survey continue (Taneal Brucks)?

A. It was discontinued because the PAG felt it was redundant but if the group wishes, we can reinstate the survey. Can decide or discuss it later. Mistik can look at adding it to the website as a voluntary survey also.

Q. Where do the Indicators come from (Taneal Brucks)?

A. They are requirements under the Saskatchewan Forest Management Planning Standard

Q. Are there other opportunities for other mills etc. in the north if Mistik is not harvesting there (asked to the Ministry of Environment)?

A. (Mark Doyle/Kathleen Gazey) There is a general "use it or lose it" stipulation for wood supplies of forest management agreement holders in SK. There are also economic opportunities that the government is always considering. There may be some dialogue with the PA pulp mill for fibre opportunities in the future.

## **Open Forum for General Questions**

Feedback – It was noted that others may not have an opportunity to learn about these issues in a meeting sense (other users/Carrier in Beauval).

Q. If Mistik is not harvesting in the North, are you overharvesting elsewhere?

A. No. We stay within the sustainable harvest levels. We also offset with other harvesting on Leased and Private lands.  
MLMP (Dwayne Mysko) also noted that the Pulp Mill uses softwood at the mill now.

Q. (Joe Gardiner) Green Lake would like to have Mistik come and share maps and plans with the community. The blocks are getting smaller and there is less cutting. We depend on firewood. Why is that?

A. The harvesting there is done by the ML OSB and is part of the PA FMA harvest plans.

Q. There is blow down in the Dillon area. Is it still harvestable?

A. Mistik will be mapping that area to determine the extent of the blow down but harvesting is not as likely as it is already two years old. MoE - there are processes in place to apply for reduced or waived dues. If one wishes to cut and sell wood, they must have a permit. There may be opportunity to negotiate the "issues" around this type of harvesting. For personal use, no permit is required for dead or down wood.

Comment (Vicky Pryor) – The Vermette road and UCR are now well maintained. The Dillon band is doing this maintenance (UCR) at their expense. Mistik has contributed to maintaining infrastructure to the healing lodge. It would be a shame if these roads fell apart. Mistik is committed to maintaining other infrastructure for the benefit of communities and future harvesting opportunities.

### **Mistik/L&M 2019 20-Yr Forest Management Plan**

Update given on VOIT document changes, Volume III updates & strategies for management of Woodland Caribou, species at risk, climate change and utilization (top size) changes updates (Niska Hodgson)

Q. What is considered old as opposed to very old for trees?

A. Old is 90 to 100 years and very old is 110-120 years on the FMP area.

Mistik requested a show of interest in noting the number frozen days on the three lakes chosen for monitoring on the FMP area (Peter Pond, Keeley and Turtle Lake). High interest noted for follow up at individual co-management meetings.

### **Top Size Comparison (Ryan Spooner) - Part of FMP Volume III**

Ryan presented the implications of changing the utilization to 10 cm top size in softwood for Mistik and L&M (was previously 12.5 cm top in earlier submissions of FMP documents). This is a change from the original selected management strategy and will involve doing additional analysis for the final FMP submission. The advantage is that there will be better utilization (recovery) of volume from a given area by utilizing a tree down to a 4" top, rather than 5".

### **Climate Change (Sheri Andrews-Key, U of S)**

Presentation 1 recapped the project and provided examples of mainstreaming the climate change adaptation implementation.

Q. How is climate change measured in a logged area versus not logged?

A. We do not really measure it on areas that are logged versus not logged. Research involved looking at growth increment of trees (growth rings) and comparing them to the climatic conditions of the same timeframe to determine how much affect climate change may have had on tree growth.

Canoe Lake Co-Management Board invited Sherri to attend a meeting Canoe Lake is having that involves Highways. A network of key people for information flow and a collaborative approach would be the most beneficial

NorSask: Regan Beck noted that operationally NS has been affected by climate conditions in that the requirement of timber volume the mill has in the yard has increased. Crisis levels of timber in the yard have led to increasing the inventory they keep in the yard overall as a way to mitigate variable weather conditions that may affect harvesting and hauling.

Sherri noted that she is going to be working on her post-doctoral fellowship paper looking at creating a business case for adaption to climate change with a forestry economist from UBC.

In Presentation 2 - Sherri reviewed the first part of a project which she has been asked to participate in. The focus of the study will be looking back on 30 years of Aboriginal forest management and manufacturing in the Meadow Lake area. It will highlight the key benefits for both industry and stakeholders. Sherri stated that she will be back to conduct interviews as part of the project.

Q. (Barry Opikokew) when will you be doing this?

A. Aim is for January.

### **Mistik's FSC Protected Gap Analysis (Kevin Gillis)**

A Power Point Presentation on the Phase 1 Project Report on the NE AB NW SK Protected Areas Gap Analysis and implications for the Provincial target of having 12% of the province under protection. Call for more interested parties to come to the table in aiding in selecting areas for protection, special management areas and other effective area based conservation methods. (Northern Village of Green Lake and Divide Forestry Advisory Committee).

### **Mistik's FSC Controlled Wood Controlled Wood Specified Risk Control Measure**

Kevin presented Mistik's Intact Forest Landscapes control measure for FSC Controlled Wood in the Risk Assessment Region, and specifically in the Dore/Smoothstone area. An explanation was given for maintaining the area due to the low level of human disturbance. Woodland caribou are also known to inhabit a significant portion to the area. The size of the area was described to the group as being greater than 200 000 hectares. Since the National Risk Assessment has not been completed by FSC Canada and the FSC National Standard is also in transition an Advice Note was sent out of FSC calling for a limit of disturbance of 20% of any IFL and not having the size fall below

50,000 hectares. Mistik showed that both the Dore/Smoothstone and Montreal Lake IFLs were not impacted by more than 20% of the area (map and calculations shown). Brenda Nightingale called for a motion for the Public Advisory Group to support the principle of maintaining the Intact Forest Landscapes concept and that Mistik's Control Measure is acceptable until the FSC Controlled Wood National Risk Assessment is finalized:

**Questions prior to vote:**

Q. Where did the IFL idea come from and does everyone have to follow it?

A. FSC International came forward with Motion 65 to maintain IFL on certified land bases. The motion was also applied to Controlled Wood as well. Only companies with FSC certificates are required to recognize IFLs.

Q. Can we get a copy of the presentation as some of the legends / data are hard to read?

A. Yes. Kevin will email or provide a hard copy.

Q. Can Kevin do presentations at the Green Lake Co-management Meetings? We have a strong interest in getting information on things like carbon, peat moss companies are trying to come into our area and we want to make good decisions on allowing them access.

A. Yes I would like to come to Green Lake and present to the Village council, Kevin will make arrangements with Joe.

Brenda asked for support votes, all in favor of the Control Measure?

*Dore IFL vote conducted. 22 yes, 0 no*

*Montreal Lake IFL vote conducted. 20 yes, 0 no*

Q. Is it important to report whooping cranes sightings?

A. Yes.

Billy Pedersen noted that whooping cranes have been sighted near Buffalo Narrows.

**Saskatchewan Forestry Historical Society (Harry Ward)**

Harry informed the group of the formation of the new historical society created with the goal of capturing the diverse history and evolution of forestry in Saskatchewan. Invited interested parties to contact Harry Ward directly or contact Mistik and speak with Niska, Kevin or Tanya.

**Facilitator Brenda Nightingale closed the November 21, 2018 meeting session at 4:10 P.M.**