



MANITOBA METIS FEDERATION INC.

300 - 150 Henry Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 0J7

Phone: (204) 586-8474 Fax: (204) 947-1816 Website: www.mmf.mb.ca

David Chartrand, LL.D. (Hon)
President

July 20, 2016

VIA E-MAIL

Mr. Ron Hallman
Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency
160 Elgin Street, 22nd Floor
Ottawa, ON K1A 0H3
Email: CEAA.EARReview-ExamenEE.ACEE@ceaa-acee.gc.ca

Re: Review of Environmental Assessment Processes: Expert Panel Draft Terms of Reference

Dear Mr. Hallman,

The Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) is in receipt of your letter dated July 8, 2016 providing information regarding the June 20, 2016 announcement by the Government of Canada concerning the review of Federal Environmental and Regulatory Processes. The following is the MMF's response to the Terms of Reference for environmental assessment processes that Natural Resources Canada has provided online.

The MMF has undertaken a preliminary review of the environmental assessment processes: Expert Panel Draft Terms of Reference, and has identified some comments and concerns that we would like to see emphasized/ addressed (see attached).

The MMF is the self-governing representative for the Metis Nation's Manitoba Metis Community (the Community), and as such, must promote, protect and advance the collective rights of its citizens. The MMF represents the citizens and harvesters of the Community, who use the lands, waters and resources throughout the province of Manitoba. It is of significant importance that the rights, claims and interests of the Community be recognized and respected.

Further to the MMF's responsibility in this regard, the MMF's 2007 Resolution No. 8 sets out a process for the MMF's engagement in discussions with governments, industry and other proponents in matters that relate to the interests and rights of the Community. The MMF home office is the central point of contact for all consultation and engagement on behalf of the Community. In engaging the MMF, on behalf of the Community, the Resolution No. 8 Framework calls for the implementation of five phases:

Phase I: Notice and Response;
Phase II: Funding and Capacity;

Phase III: Engagement and Consultation;
Phase IV: Partnership and Accommodation; and
Phase V: Implementation.

As the proposed Terms of Reference will have an impact on the rights and interests of the Community, the process as set out above will need to be followed. Phase II: Funding and Capacity is the next step in the process and the MMF is pleased that participant funding will be available for this review of environmental assessment processes for consultations with Indigenous groups. The MMF would like to request further details around the timeline, application requirements, and amount of funding available so we can adequately inform and prepare ourselves for the consultations set to begin in September 2016.

The MMF appreciates this initial process and looks forward to being involved in this process as well as future review processes on this and other matters. If you have any questions or require clarification on any matters addressed in this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me directly via telephone (204) 586-8474, ext. 234, or via email jasmine.langhan@mmf.mb.ca and we would be happy to assist.

Best regards,



Jasmine Langhan
MMF Engagement and Consultation Coordinator