

# Peace Region Fish & Wildlife Public Advisory Committee

## Terms of Reference (Draft as of October 28, 2015)

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

The British Columbia Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (Ministry) has the primary responsibility for sustainably managing fishing, hunting and trapping resources and activities for the benefit of all British Columbians. The success of the Provincial fish and wildlife management program depends in large part on effective information exchange and informed decision making. To encourage meaningful input by British Columbians into shaping management decisions and build a culture of stewardship, the Ministry wants to provide an efficient forum for people to engage in, and contribute to these activities. Given the challenges of consultations at large scales in ways that maximize meaningful input into management decisions, a smaller forum needs to be created.

### **2. PURPOSE OF THE COMMITTEE**

The purpose of the Team is to facilitate the exchange of information and respectful dialogue amongst stakeholder groups and the Ministry with respect to hunting and trapping management issues of broad regional and provincial significance. The Peace Region Fish and Wildlife Public Advisory Committee (PAC) is being created to provide a focused forum to assist the Director of Resource Management for the Northeast (Director) in managing fish and wildlife resources and their use sustainably, taking into consideration First Nation and stakeholder interests. Although the Team does not have the authority to create policy or approve regulations, its analysis and recommendations are valued sources of input which may lead to new policies and regulations.

### **3. MEMBERSHIP**

The Team will be composed of Ministry staff and non-Ministry people whose knowledge of local issues, creativity and insight can be engaged in a collaborative, productive and open minded process, to influence and improve wildlife management practices that affect wildlife-use stakeholders in British Columbia. The Team will have the expertise, and full range of perspective to offer valuable, balanced and rational recommendations to government decision makers on matters pertaining to the management of game species for sustainable use.

This committee is not a voting forum, therefore there is no need to balance representation based on this aspect. The preference is to have committee members who represent organized groups, however it is not a pre-requisite to be a member. Anyone with a passion to contribute to the management of fish and wildlife, and a commitment to be involved should be given an opportunity to be part of this committee.

The importance of representation from organizations and clubs is that it provides an opportunity for those organizations to provide their input through the member who represents them.

Although it's not the intent to place a-priori restrictions on the numbers of members in the committee, it's also recognized that the size of this group should be kept at a size that makes it effective in all aspects of its functions. As long as there's no indication that the committee may grow to a point that becomes ineffective, there's no need to determine a maximum numbers of members. This can be evaluated as needed.

\*\*\*\*there are people who agreed to be on committee but have not been able to attend, but they like to remain on mailing list, this hasn't caused any problems so far, but we may want to think about it\*\*\*\*

#### **4. RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS**

Any members of this committee who represent an organized group, club or organization, have the responsibility to try and bring to this forum current and relevant perspectives representative of the organization they belong to. It is also their responsibility to disseminate back to their organization any information or materials that is generated through this committee.

#### **5. GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

The guiding principles of this committee should be based on values that support positive, respectful and problem-solving attitudes. These can be, but not restricted to:

- Be informed by science, knowledge and facts.
- Be aware of emerging social, political and economic influences.
- Stewardship, conservation and sustainable use.
- Commitment to collaboration, problem solving, and transparency.
- Integration of values with credible, objective, and relevant information from the biological, social, and economic sciences.
- Respect for the ecological, social, cultural and economic significance of fish and wildlife for all British Columbians.
- Due consideration to First Nation interests, traditional practices, and unique legal status.
- Financial responsibility, cost effectiveness and efficiency.

#### **6. CODE OF CONDUCT**

All members should strive to conduct themselves in such a way that stimulates and encourages productive discussions and quest for solutions to problems. Members must:

- Adhere to agenda topics and time constraints as directed by the facilitator.
- Be able to provide input and express views without interruption.
- Commit to building mutually respectful relationships, and disagree if necessary, in accordance with this relationship.
- Speak respectfully to Team members and to ministry staff.

- Refrain from personal insults, discriminatory remarks, derogatory comments, swearing, or shouting. These behaviours are not conducive to dialogue, productivity or achieving the purpose of the Team, and will not be tolerated.
- Avoid engaging in any verbal or physical gestures or actions that threaten physical harm.
- Avoid engaging in defamation, by slander or libel, of any other Team member or organization. Such action will result in reconsideration of the offending organization's membership on the Team.

A breach of the Code of Conduct or member responsibilities may result in the Team member being asked to leave the meeting or permanently removed from the Team.

The Chair will identify when a breach occurs, and provide a written document to the Director advising of the breach. This will be forwarded to the Team member, who will have a chance to respond, verbally or in writing, to the Director. The Director may decide whether the member may stay on the Team, or may ask the organization to send a new representative. Depending on the circumstances, the organization may also have their membership reconsidered.

When one Team member identifies an actual, perceived or potential dispute with another Team member, but feels unequipped to respond to it respectfully, the following actions will be taken:

1. The Team member must disclose the actual, perceived or potential dispute to the Chair.
2. The Chair will recommend an appropriate course of action to respond to the particular circumstances.

## **7. MEETING STRUCTURE, AGENDAS AND TIMELINES**

\*\*\*\*twice per year spring and fall set dates, call for agenda items before meeting, meeting place, lunch & refreshments provided by ministry, regulations cycle, distribution of minutes\*\*\*\*

## **8. RESOURCES**

*FLNRO (2011) – Hunting, Trapping and Angling Regulation Setting and Stakeholder Engagement. Policy Manual, Vol. 4 Sect. 7. 14 pp.*

*FLNRO (date) – Provincial Hunting and Trapping advisory Team Terms of Reference. 12pp.*

**9. Current Members, Affiliations and Contact info. as of October 28, 2015**

Chris Addison	FLNRO Director of Resource Management	<a href="mailto:christopher.addison@gov.bc.ca">christopher.addison@gov.bc.ca</a>	250-787-3285
Nick Baccante	FLNRO Section Head, F&W Section	<a href="mailto:nick.baccante@gov.bc.ca">nick.baccante@gov.bc.ca</a>	250-787-3289
Raychl Lukie	FLNRO Engagement Specialist	<a href="mailto:raychl.lukie@gov.bc.ca">raychl.lukie@gov.bc.ca</a>	250-787-3566
Greg Van Dolah	FLNRO Manager, Resource Stewardship	<a href="mailto:greg.vandolah@gov.bc.ca">greg.vandolah@gov.bc.ca</a>	250-787-3418
Carl Gitscheff	BC Trappers Association, President ??? / BC Wildlife Federation	<a href="mailto:cowboy@pris.ca">cowboy@pris.ca</a>	250-719-8260
Chris Breckenridge	Tumbler Ridge avid outdoorsman, hunter	<a href="mailto:chrisbreckenridge@gmail.com">chrisbreckenridge@gmail.com</a>	
David Harris	Ft St John agricultural producer, various associations	<a href="mailto:dhharris@pris.bc.ca">dhharris@pris.bc.ca</a>	250-827-3503
Jim Fulton	NE BC Wildlife Fund	<a href="mailto:jim.sma@awink.com">jim.sma@awink.com</a>	250-261-3885
Leif Olsen	NE BC Guides Association	<a href="mailto:stonemtsafaris@hughes.net">stonemtsafaris@hughes.net</a>	
Steve Hewitt	North Peace Rod and Gun Club	<a href="mailto:steve@backcountryfsj.com">steve@backcountryfsj.com</a>	250-785-1461
David Vince	MOE, Conservation Officer Service, Sergeant	<a href="mailto:david.vince@gov.bc.ca">david.vince@gov.bc.ca</a>	250-787-3394
Murray Clark	Ducks Unlimited Canada, Swan Lake Enhancement Society	<a href="mailto:md_clark@telus.net">md_clark@telus.net</a>	
Mark Phinney	Dawson Creek biologist, bird specialist	<a href="mailto:mark.phinney@lpcorp.com">mark.phinney@lpcorp.com</a>	
Ray Jackson	NE BC Guides Association	<a href="mailto:horseshoecreek@xplornet.ca">horseshoecreek@xplornet.ca</a>	
Inga Jean Mattson	Rolla, biologist, naturalist	<a href="mailto:ingebjorgjean.mattson@alumni.unbc.ca">ingebjorgjean.mattson@alumni.unbc.ca</a>	
Justin Harmacek	Chetwynd Rod and Gun Club	<a href="mailto:tjharmacek@persona.ca">tjharmacek@persona.ca</a>	250-788-9206
Kevin Delawski	Ft St John avid angler and hunter	<a href="mailto:kdelawsky@hotmail.com">kdelawsky@hotmail.com</a>	