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## MEETING MINUTES

**Topic:** Emergency Response Working Group

**Date/Time:** 2:00-3:00 pm ET, Friday, November 1, 2024

**Location:** Zoom Meet Video Conference Call, <https://zoom.us/j/91516878726>

**Chairs:** HBC Secretariat

### Participants:

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### Agenda Items:

#### 1. Introduction of members

#### 2. Review of proposed structure for the Working Group & Meeting Frequency

- Proposed: Overarching high-level WG - to meet three times a year (propose Oct/Nov, Feb - in person, April)
- Smaller operational-level groups focusing on emergency response and environmental response (to meet more frequently/as required, and feed-up into the WG)
- Group 1: Environment and Incident Response
- Group 2: Marine Safety and Response

### Discussion

- Community members and government representatives who want to be involved in the two subsections, marine safety and response/environmental and incident response, expecting to meet 3 times a year
- Potential in-person meeting in February at Roundtable
- Lauren Hogan - possible to give a one line breakdown of the two groups to understand the difference in focus?
- Emergency response more focused on search and rescue, safety and regulations on vessels
- Camille - similar question, but logistics is it the same group or different people... I will likely sit on both
- It would tend to be different people from within CCG and different departments with expertise in each area. Expecting to have some overlap within community members, but have heard back that about half only expect to sit on one or the other and would offer someone else.
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- Jackie chairing this meeting on behalf of the Secretariat and expecting that Peter Kikkert will help as co-chair, hoping others will take up the mantle as the Working Group gets established
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- TOR to come late Spring/early Summer to ensure its reflective of how the group wishes to proceed

### 3. Review priorities

#### Marine Safety:

- Hunting of beluga (weight on boats)
- Traditional medical practices: teach each other what medical practices are
- Reporting/Coordination/Collaboration: how to best work with JRCC, more reporting
- Sustain Coast Guard Auxiliary: best practices, encourage more volunteerism, look after the boats (public works, CGG mechanics?)
- Learning Technology: iPhone SOS - emerging trend (Communication Portal for Integrated Response)

#### Environmental Response:

- Sea ice, tides
- Spill response and training
- Additional caches

#### Discussion

- These are all community priorities save for 1 which was a joint priority, brief overview of each by Jackie
- Peter: Beluga on boats: weight distribution (e.g. during harvesting) and vessel safety
- Rare opportunity to create a community of practice
- Michael Cameron: a lot of our hunters overload the freighter canoes and speedboats with homemade cuttys/cabins (throw off center of gravity) which have not been inspected by TC and throw off their weight distribution. We're already at 20 missions this year. Hope to have all 14 boats operational (green) by next year with improvements (e.g. Flare systems). In Salluit we were tasked by JRCC to go assist a sinking canoe overloaded with beluga meat... There's something that we can all work on, providing a pamphlet of weight limits for different vessels (these vessels don't have weight limit stamps/plates). Raise public awareness

through social media, posters, etc.

- Wilbert: looking at our different regions and locations, we have to understand and respect treaty rights and harvest... Used educational programs with youth to teach how to harvest properly with their vessels/vehicles (through reconciliation funding from government) which has dropped search and rescue. Have to recognize there are different government partners. We (Mushkegowuk) have seen where our needs are for our communities and developed protocols and policies which reflect this. Respect who has the right to go out on waterways and land. Our people are very visual, prefer social media and small videos for safety education.

## 4. Questions or comments

### Discussion

- Jackie: Would like to better understand how to recruit people who should be involved in these groups, timeline
- Steve: I will commit on behalf of CCG that we will have people for each working group section. We have the names and can get them to you based on the priorities that we've just reviewed. Justin will follow up with the names from CCG.
- Jackie: We have 4-5 community members that were intending to participate in this call but had conflicts, as well as TC, but they all plan to participate going forward.
- Would be good to understand if we want an in-person tag-on event with the planned HBC Roundtable in February. Would be good to have more of a focus on the environmental response section, and would appreciate any CCG response.
- Lauren: you mentioned mapping, understanding sea ice... Last Roundtable had a mapping exercise, is this an extension of the same?
- Jackie: we shared the 2018 Summit participatory mapping outputs, haven't heard back on how they've been used or where things are at. Hazard mapping, areas of safe refuge are items people wanted more info on.
- Steve: CCG will make ourselves available/work around the collective availability of others
- Jackie: expecting the Roundtable to have a research and monitoring focus, but expecting there will be DFO/CCG/TC participation, but
- Alexandre: ECCC emergency program is mostly an advisory on mystery spills, trying to understand where we might fit best seems like group one with spill response... Not completely understanding the separation with the higher level working group and whether we might be needed there. Our office is close to the Roundtable and we can expect to have good involvement.

- Lauren: want to know as soon as possible re representation at the Roundtable... Is there a deadline?
- Martin: can sign me up for the Roundtable in Montreal. This new WG is very timely with an initiative that we're leading. Next week in Yellowknife we are holding a meeting on S&R in the Arctic re: governmental collaboration. Focus on 3 territories and Inuit Nunangat... Will be pitching an expansion to the Hudson Bay James Bay area of interest. Will follow up with the agenda and what we heard so everyone is aware of what has been discussed.
- Camille: really interested in learning more and knowing if each of the land claim organizations were invited. Martin will connect directly.
- Wilbert: CCG and Mushkegowuk have hired a liaison... Is it possible to have them participate in this call (Leo). Yes.
- Jackie: will be working behind the scenes to help get the groups set up, will work with Justin to coordinate with CCG. Please be encouraged to invite or put forward anyone else that you think should be involved in these calls going forward.

#### **Invitees:**

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