

COMPREHENSIVE INTEGRATED EA FOR CANADA? Some NOTES on WHO SHOULD BE DOING WHAT TO GET THERE FROM HERE.

PROJECT-SPECIFIC EA

- consider leaving project-specific EA processes alone with Provinces & Territories or local/regional authorities as now

- but also, ramp up or revitalize in jurisdictions where gotten stale or become *pro forma* for churning fees, bureaucratic aggrandizement, etc

REGIONAL/STRATEGIC EA DATABASE

- begin to develop regional EA database or background by building on the best we have from the past

- Berger started it all in 1977 with Mackenzie Valley pipeline review; still = **THE BEST**

- other good practice examples since include Alberta cumulative effects, BC regional land use, and Ecojustice **GETTING IT RIGHT IN ONTARIO'S FAR NORTH (2015)**, Great Bear Rainforest, 2016

- **SEEK OUT** other examples and build comprehensive database – e.g. Arctic Beaufort Sea; offshore Newfoundland, NS; mining somewhere (other than Ring of Fire?); Québec examples (?); prairies + other studies by Bram Noble, Saskatchewan

- **DO NOT** reinvent the wheel;

- **DO** update methodologies given all the new data collection and manipulation tools now available (satellites, GIS, computer data management etc)

AGREE NATION-WIDE PROTOCOL/Framework

- seek some way from all of the above to establish a nation-wide protocol for doing regional/strategic/integrated EA through one Agency going forward (perhaps? = CEAA reinvented and renamed?)

- starting with existing examples and updating and filling gaps as needed to give comprehensive picture of what's going on

- obviously has to be based regionally on the basis of regional ecosystems or ecotones and peoples

- needs to be **financed jointly** by Feds + provinces/territories probably from existing budgets + (First Nations?) + resource industries that utilize those ecotones/ecosystems
- needs multi-jurisdictional management boards to oversee based on lessons learned from failures of co-management boards that have apparently fared so poorly when only First Nations and other governments design them
- management boards **MUST** include local people who are not representatives or proxies for any of the above groups; plus **MUST** include NGOs working in the area; plus **MUST** include First Nations if not already included within from above

PRACTICALITIES OF DOING IT

- begin with one example for the whole country (First Nations + development in mid-North, perhaps?)
- **OR BETTER:** begin with perhaps 5/6 regional examples across the country to account for diversity of ecosystems and social systems in Canada:

Atlantic

Québec

Ontario

Prairies

BC & Alberta

North

- **CONTENT: MUST** be **INTEGRATED** regional + strategic + cumulative effects + any other ‘higher level’ above individual project in its specific setting.

- while these have different names and slightly different foci, technically, they are in effect all doing the same thing; must be integrated into one **SINGLE FRAMEWORK SYSTEM** that allows – even encourages - regional variations.

- **SOCIAL** and **BIOPHYSICAL** (‘environmental’) must **BOTH** be considered with equal weighting at the beginning though the study itself ay ‘force’ emphasis in one direction or another, as long as such directionality is broadly agreed, intentional and unbiased. Sustainability over the medium-to-long term is the objective. We want to survive this together.

MULTI-MANAGEMENT BOARDS

-MULTI-MANAGEMENT BOARDS' membership must be sector-balanced:

- public vs private sector**
- NGOs and concerned public**
- First Nations**

- M-M BOARDS' membership MUST EACH BE **sexgend balanced (40/60 ratio = max deviation from 50/50) with CHAIR rotating between ♂ and ♀ every 3 years (provision for recognition of non-binary sexgend IDs, as well).**

- Technical teams must reflect all the above diversity but must also actually represent expertise that addresses social/eco system sustainability needs of the region. Capture by one or a small subset of players from any one sector or direction CANNOT be tolerated.

TIME AND MEMBERSHIP LIMITATIONS

- First round of studies MUST be time-limited – say, 5 years for the first round of studies and membership and then successive and rotating 3 year terms for ALL players; these are not open-ended assignments or sinecures.

- NO ONE at any level can serve more than two terms; **NO EXCEPTIONS**

- Concerted and ongoing attempts must be made to nurture next generations of young people for ALL areas – particular attention (special funding) for Indigenous youth at least for the first 10 years.

- Canadian upper level is multi-funded and multi-directed as outlined but has the political clout of a Federal process so it can override or at least challenge local work should the latter become too local or captured by one group or otherwise not contributing to the national effort's objectives.

SUNSET CLAUSE AND OVERSIGHT

- Overall oversight of upper level AND overall function of system lies with Federal Commissioner of Enviro and Sustainability.

-FEDERAL Commissioner of Enviro & Sustainability reports INDEPENDENTLY to the Federal PARLIAMENT every TWO YEARS on this upper level EA process's implementation.

- EVERYTHING but including at the very least substance of studies' framework and FUNDING MODEL must be reviewed regularly – top to bottom - at (say?) 10-year intervals; SUNSET CLAUSE to that effect.

BOTTOM LINE:

- adding just ONE more INTEGRATED level of EA for the land now known as Cda while continuing, updating and improving single project EA at provincial/territorial and local levels as determined there.

- NO NEW AGENCIES or groups (if we use reconstituted CEAA in good faith for overall implementation). This will need new CEAA membership and tough leadership to shift course to this. Must happen within CEAA w/i **ONE YEAR, otherwise NEW AGENCY to be established by Minister Of Environment & Climate Change on the advice of and monitored by Fed Commissioner of Enviro & Sustainability.**

- NO NEW TAX burdens (b/c funding comes from multiple existing players, including the public). This IS going to cost resource industries more b/c they are the new kids on the funding block. Their biz associations need to recover costs from global campaign(s) that position Cda as THE most responsible EA country in the world once again (Back to the '70's!). Come here! Work here! Learn here! ... if you want to experience the **best of enviro-social sustainability anywhere on planet Earth. Such realities, if we can pull them off together, will speak to everyone else's bottom lines, as well, of course.**

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