

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Kivalliq Socio-Economic Monitoring Committee (SEMC or ‘the committee’) gathered in Baker Lake for its annual general meeting on December 6, 2016 to discuss and review resource development activity in the Kivalliq and related socio-economic changes in surrounding communities. Due to a number of extenuating circumstances only 3 of the 7 Kivalliq communities were represented and a similar low level of participation was seen amongst Government of Nunavut (GN) departments and agencies. Fortunately, training organizations and industry were well represented, which produced some good discussions around employment opportunities. The future of the Kivalliq SEMC meetings was also a focal point of discussions. Unfortunately, due to weather issues, the meeting was cut short and took place over the course of one full day.

The morning began with a Government roundtable introduction and discussion from various departments and agencies in attendance. The conversation touched on some of the different services and opportunities offered in the region with emphasis on funding for education programs, employment and training. Due to weather, the Nunavut Bureau of Statistics (NBS) was unable to attend and participate in the meeting. Additionally, Agnico-Eagle Mines (AEM) representatives were forced to withdraw from the meeting early to return to the mine site and the agenda was adjusted to a single day.

In the afternoon, (AEM) provided updates on the Meadowbank and Meliadine projects, as well as the Baker Lake Wellness Program. A large part of the day focused on how to increase participation by regional organizations at the Kivalliq SEMC meetings as the number of participants has been dwindling in the last few years. Not only is this causing issues for the meetings themselves, but AEM is finding it difficult to obtain data from certain GN departments.

Following AEM’s presentation, the meeting proceeded with the community roundtable where Rankin Inlet, Baker Lake and Chesterfield Inlet were represented. Again, due to weather the Chesterfield Inlet representative arrived late and was only able to participate in the last few hours of the meeting. Fortunately, the representatives were able to provide valuable input on behalf of their communities, discussing their concerns and general observations surrounding resource development.

A common theme throughout the day was the importance of better GN representation. It was agreed that this will ensure more informed discussions take place and allow AEM to more meaningfully satisfy the terms and conditions as part of their project certificates. It will also ensure that all relevant data is being shared and distributed to committee members.