

Pan-Territorial EA & Regulatory Board Forum

Collaborating across the Canadian Territories



Arctic Environmental Impact Assessment Workshop
Yellowknife, NWT, April 24-26, 2018

What is this all about?

- The objective of the Pan-Territorial Environmental Assessment and Regulatory Board Forum is to create a space for practitioners from EA and Regulatory Boards across Yukon, Northwest Territories, and Nunavut to meet, expand professional networks, share best practices and discuss opportunities for collaboration.



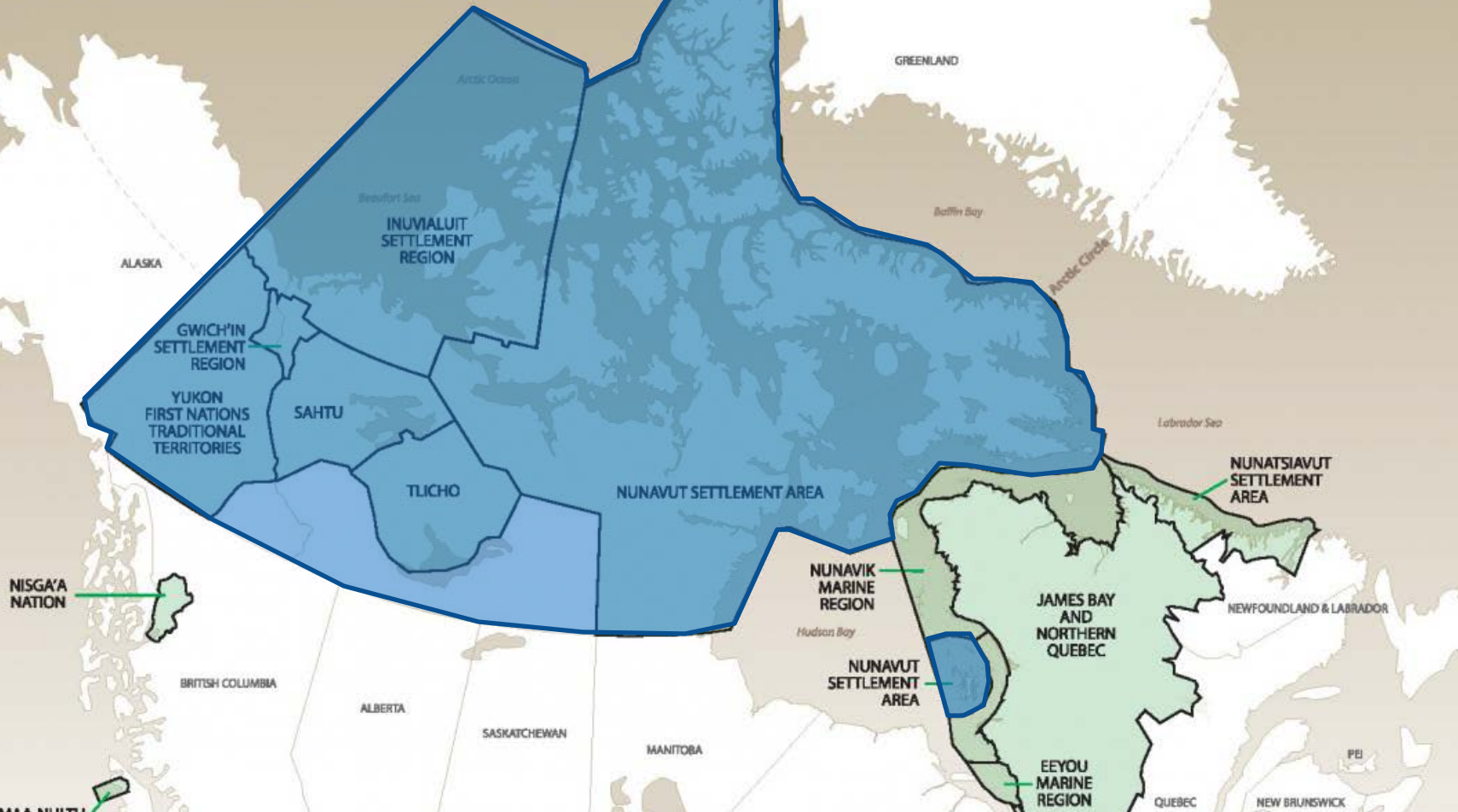
Who is involved?

- Co-management Boards from across Northern Canada



- Limit participation to Boards from YK, NWT, NU with mandates for impact assessment and land/water licensing
- Mandates derived from land claims agreements
- Administer processes with strong public engagement
- Similar capacity challenges and operational realities
- Participation at forums includes a focus on senior level operational staff and board members

MODERN TREATY TERRITORIES



Who is involved?



Who is involved?

- Co-ordinator role
 - Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency – Northern Project Management Office
- Steering Committee
 - Yukon Environmental and Socio-economic Assessment Board
 - Inuvialuit Environmental Impact Review Board
 - Inuvialuit Water Board
 - Mackenzie Valley Environmental Impact Review Board
 - Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board
 - Nunavut Impact Review Board
- Facilitation
 - Stratos: Strategies to Sustainability



What's been done?

- Three (3) in-person forums have been held so far:
 - January, 2016 – Yellowknife, Northwest Territories
 - October, 2017 – Whitehorse, Yukon
 - September 2017 – Cambridge Bay, Nunavut



What was the focus?

- Prior to each workshop, the forum facilitator engaged with the group remotely
 - teleconferences, questionnaires, and surveys
 - to develop the agenda, interest in possible topics was gauged
- Participants prepared overview presentations on selected topics, focusing on specific themes or issues
 - e.g. each Board presented a best practice and a discussion of how it had helped the Board

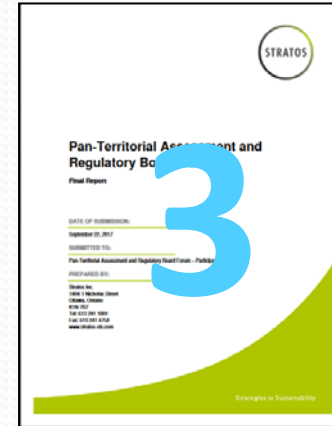
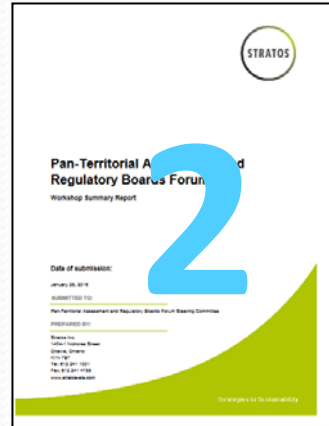
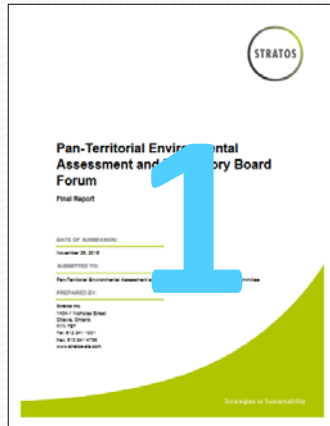


What was the focus?

- Some of the key expectations of forum participants included:
 - acquire new ideas on best practices from other Boards that have the same basic processes
 - begin to dismantle barriers to effective participation in Board processes
 - strengthen connections and encourage more dialogue amongst Boards
 - find out what other Boards are doing to improve their processes or operations
 - gain support from working together instead of working in silos
 - acknowledge the distinct processes and similar objectives of each Board
 - ensure that we learn from the past while building the future
 - see what's going on around us instead of only focusing on our own issues

What were the results?

- As each forum is completed, a report is produced which details outcomes of discussions, next steps
 - Available online at member websites
 - www.nirb.ca/content/external-reports



What were the results?

- Forum agendas and selected discussion items focused on identifying challenges, best practices and collaboration for:
 - Environmental Assessment and Regulatory Processes
 - Relationships with Government, Industry, Stakeholders
 - Board Administration



What were the results?

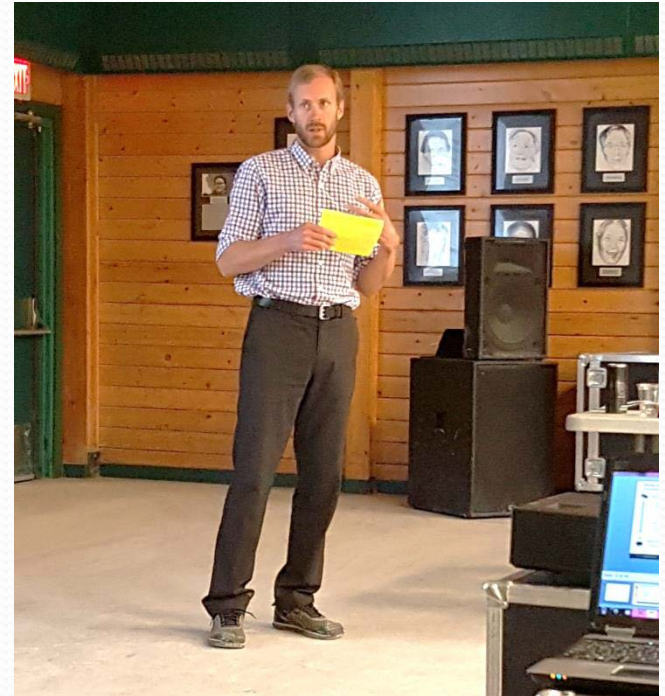
Created space for discussions of technical items:

- **EIA Boards**
 - Guidance on submission requirements
 - Guidance on consultation/engagement requirements
 - Follow-up for implementation of EA measures



What were the results?

- **Licensing Boards**
 - standardized terms and conditions
 - compensation structures
 - training initiatives
 - capacity gaps for communities
 - guidance for proponents/reviewers
 - pre-submission engagement/consultation requirements
 - process map of regulatory approval processes



What were the results?



- Focus on deepening participant expectations regarding:
 - Networking & collaborative learning
 - Engaging unique perspectives
 - Supporting each other
 - Improving regional co-management coordination
 - Better understanding roles & responsibilities of other stakeholders, such as Crown's consultation obligations.

What were the results?

- More recent priority topics included:
 - Linkages between Impact Assessment and Licensing
 - Adaptive management strategies
 - Coordination between the EIA review and regulatory phases
 - Orphaned terms & conditions
 - Engagement and Consultation
 - Logistical challenges visiting remote communities
 - Capacity challenges, organizational stability



What comes next?

- Increasing frequency of communication
- Joint guidelines and/or policy development
- Joint training program development
- Information sharing technology
- Temporary learning assignments/staff exchanges
- Demonstrating transboundary preparedness
- Post-project sharing
- Other knowledge sharing



What comes next?



- Forum Terms of Reference
- Sharepoint site under development to allow easier sharing of resources
- Formal coordination agreements under development, MOUs
- Sharing our experiences with broader audiences
- Fourth forum planned for Fall, 2018 in Yellowknife

Questions?

