



Press Release

Friday, December 18, 2015

CEMA BOARD APPROVES INDIGENOUS TRADITIONAL KNOWLEDGE FRAMEWORK

Fort McMurray, Alberta: Members of the Cumulative Environmental Management Association voted on December 2, 2015 to approve the Indigenous Traditional Knowledge Framework. The Framework will be forwarded to the Provincial and Federal Governments along with recommendations for implementation.

This project is the result of input from representatives of Indigenous communities, industry, government and non-government organizations. Efforts were supported by CEMA and its Traditional Knowledge Working Group (TKWG) to identify gaps, challenges, benefits and solutions for the meaningful and successful inclusion of Indigenous Knowledge in environmental decision making.

CEMA believes that its Indigenous Traditional Knowledge Framework represents a sound and defensible approach for addressing the necessity of including Indigenous Traditional Knowledge in all facets of environment stewardship, as outlined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

“Indigenous Knowledge is knowledge gained from the past and present, and should be applied to our future. It is part of the fabric of time,” said Melanie Dene, TKWG co-chair, who is very pleased with the finished product.

A copy of the Framework can be found through the Aboriginal Portal on the CEMA website, <http://bit.ly/1RtB5kM>

CEMA is a multi-stakeholder society that is a key advisor to Government and is committed to respectful, inclusive dialogue in the development of recommendations to manage the cumulative environmental effects of regional development on air, land, water and biodiversity.

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