

WORKING WITH THE PEOPLE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT



Meeting Notes – April 28-30, 2026
Yellowknife Boardroom and by teleconference / Zoom

Present:

Charlie Catholique, <i>Chair</i>	Łutselk'e Dene First Nation
Marc Whitford, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	North Slave Métis Alliance
Violet Camsell-Blondin, <i>Secretary-Treasurer</i>	Tłıchq Government
Baba Pedersen, <i>Director</i> (by zoom April 28 & 29, in person April 30)	Kitikmeot Inuit Association
Tara Marchiori, <i>Director</i>	Diavik Diamond Mine

Staff:

John McCullum, <i>Executive Director</i>	EMAB (minutes)
Karina Kramer, <i>Environmental Specialist</i>	EMAB (minutes)

Absent:

Adi Adiele, <i>Director</i>	Yellowknives Dene First Nation
Sarah Elsasser, <i>Director</i>	GNWT-ECC

Guests:

Allan Twissell, *Consultant* (Day 1 & 2)
Greg Look, *ECC* (Day 1 & 3)
Chris Shapka, *ECC* (Day 1)
Mark Nelson, *Diavik* (Day 1 by zoom)
Matt Breen, *Diavik* (Day 3)
Pete Cott, *ECC* (Day 3)

Tuesday April 28, 2026
Meeting started at 9:10 a.m. at EMAB Boardroom
Video Conference started at 9:30 a.m.

Opening prayer – Marc Whitford

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Charlie, Marc, Tara, Violet, John and Karina were present in EMAB's conference room at 9:00 a.m.; Baba joined the meeting by zoom at 9:30 a.m.

Item 1 – Approval of Agenda

Chair reviews agenda

Discussion:

- Q: How is the audit coming along?
- A: Will contact auditor
- Discussion regarding agenda item 8
 - Diavik has made position clear to Minister about shutting EMAB down
 - EMAB never had a thorough conversation with Diavik
 - EMAB invited the Minister and Diavik to speak together, but Minister said for only Diavik and EMAB to converse
 - Diavik COO will attend to listen

ACTION ITEM: ED will contact auditor

Motion: To approve agenda as presented

Moved: Marc Whitford

Second: Violet Camsell-Blondin

Carried

Item 2 – Conflict of Interest

No conflict declared



Item 3 – Minutes of Previous Meeting

ED presents draft minutes from Feb 10-11'26 meeting

ACTION ITEM: DDMI rep will forward email regarding Diavik's actions about Feb 10th video to ED

Motion: To approve minutes of February 10-11, 2026 as presented

Moved: Marc Whitford

Second: Tara Marchiori

Carried

ED presents draft minutes of April 7, 2026 conference call

Motion: To approve minutes of April 7, 2026 conference call as presented

Moved: Marc Whitford

Second: Baba Pedersen

Carried

ED presents outstanding action items

- Suggested KIA contact GN about re-establishing Kugluktuk water quality monitoring station.

ES presents outstanding recommendations

- Revisions of yellow haze letters are pending
- Diavik response to EMAB recommendations on 2024 EAQMP report was received
- Letter for Board review regarding TK Fish Camps comments and responses

Item 4 – Finance

ED presents income statement and proposed budget revisions

Income statement to March 31, 2026

- EMAB will rollover about 44.5K to 2026-2027

Variance report and budget adjustments: Apr'26

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Proposed budget revision: 2026-27

- A few unbudgeted reports will be coming in the next year, so a few revisions needed to budget (plume study report, plume study design, FCRP v1 revisions, TK Monitoring plan)
- Audit and bookkeeping costs went up
- Q: Why are the honorarium rates higher than the GNWT rates?
- A: Board has always set their own rates, and in the early 2000s Board has allowed it to increase by inflation
- Changes to revenue budget: the only change is rollover from 2025-26 of 44.5K

Discussion on community engagement

- Concern budget to engage with communities is too low. One evening in a community is not enough
- ED mentions wanted to go to the AGM this year
- EMAB could create a video for communities
 - Could be effective and not expensive (e.g. a video summary of the annual report)

ACTION ITEM: ED will discuss with website developers to ensure website is functioning

ACTION ITEM: ED will send budget spreadsheet regarding community engagement to Board members

Motion: To approve revised budget for 2026-27 as presented

Moved: Marc Whitford

Second: Baba Pedersen

Carried

Staffing: meet Karina Kramer

- Karina, new ES, introduces herself
- Expects ES role will be impactful work
- Background is in environment and development; first time working on mining projects

ED performance review

- ED and ES step out to allow Board to discuss

Motion: to approve the Personnel Committee recommendation regarding ED performance evaluation

Moved: Marc Whitford

Second: Baba Pedersen

Carried

One abstention

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BREAK

Item 5 – Inspectors Update

Inspector was not available; KIA rep would like to view the reports when he is present in the boardroom

Item 14 - Board Member Update and Community Concerns (Roundtable)

North Slave Metis Alliance

- Actively seeking to replace loss in staff
- Copper project is going well
- Working with Burgundy on IBA payments
- FB2 is the building under construction – anticipates it will be operating in July
- Has had meetings with Canada regarding the claim – hope to have more progress in the end of June or August

LKDFN

- Community is in the middle of an election for Chief & Council
- Taltson expansion project will include a winter road from Lutselk'e to the dam for four years
- Still going to barrenlands, Artillery Lake
- There is a new wildlife manager

Tłįchq Government

- TG is supporting the Arctic environmental corridor project; two committees were formed: the TK and socio-economic committees
 - Committees identify the best route for the proposed road through TG lands.
- Fortune Mineral is in development
 - TG just presented at Fortune Minerals' water license hearing
- Mines are closing and people are seeking alternate employment
- People are worried about the proposed road impact on caribou migration
- TK activity with Fortune Minerals: conducting engagement consultation with community
- Boots on the Ground program are involved in reviewing both projects.

Item tabled until ECC staff have finished presentation.



Item 6 – WMMP Follow-Up

Greg Look and Chris Shapka from ECC arrive.

Greg updates the Board on the status of Diavik's Closure WMMP

Closure WMMP status

- On July 25, 2025 they received the tier two WMMP which completed public review in December. Responses came back in Jan-Feb, 2026 – some mis-alignment between comments on WMMP, Final Closure Plan and TK Monitoring Plan.
- Had recent meeting with Diavik to discuss Diavik response to comments
 - Three of the five comments are easy to update, but the issue is the camera monitoring for closure criteria 8, and inclusion of TK monitoring.
- Going forward: ECC recommends Diavik submit detailed camera monitoring addendum; incidental observation is unsatisfactory.
- Condition of tier two WMMP approval is for Diavik to provide a camera monitoring plan.
- TK monitoring plan is unsatisfactory – ECC doesn't think it should be connected to the WMMP approval, although it could be mentioned in the WMMP.
- Diavik said they expect to submit the revised closure WMMP by end of next month.
- Final operation WMMP tier 3 annual report to be submitted end of next month.
- Diavik will be operating under the Operational WMMP without some of the advanced monitoring (eg. wolverine DNA program) until Closure WMMP is approved.

Discussion

- Difference between Operation WMMP and Closure WMMP is less regional monitoring in Closure WMMP.
- Possible increase in predation at Diavik due to infrastructure and less activity. One new thing is that cameras are supposed to monitor areas where increased predation could occur eg. cliffs created by blasting. Diavik may submit Closure WMMP without camera monitoring plan, but it will not be approved until that is included.

Q: camera monitoring is just terrestrial animals? Not birds or fish?

A: yes. Terrestrial animals only.

- Diavik states that it plans to submit the revised Closure WMMP as soon as possible, although the camera monitoring plan will come later.

Q: Where will cameras be set up? How many?

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A: Still developing plan. Cameras will only be set up when there are no people on site anymore. Before then staff on site will record incidental observations. There are staff active 24/7/365 and they are required to report any wildlife sightings to the Environment Dept.

Q: Incidental monitoring is unacceptable, yet it's still in place until the closure tier is implemented. Has ECC agreed to this?

A: ECC wants to see proposal first, then decide. If no camera monitoring plan, approval would be conditional.

Q: Review of closure WMMP was completed in December. Letter to Diavik went out on April 1. Why such a long period between review and contact with Diavik?

A: ECC can't comment. It took some time to get back to Diavik.

- Concern is that closure has started and Closure WMMP has not been approved. Still running Operational WMMP.

Q: Is ECC developing a system that can respond more quickly?

A: In the case of the WMMP, not a bad thing that Operational WMMP is in place. It is more inclusive. Working to increase efficiencies with ECC's processes. Trying to work with proponents to decrease delays/gaps. Doing what we can.

- Risk is mitigated by Operational WMMP.

Q: Is your section adequately resourced to carry out all this work? EMAB may want to consider a recommendation about this.

A: ECC believes they are adequately resourced to handle revisions and deal with the amount of work to be conducted. Workload varies, so sometimes responses take a bit longer than others.

Q: EMAB made some comments that were not included in the letter ECC sent to Diavik requiring responses to some of the Closure WMMP review comments on the ORS. Why were these comments not included?

A: Some comments relate to closure criteria, some overlap with other WMMP comments, and some comments are addressed through the FCRP. ECC was focused on the camera monitoring. Note vegetation and lichen monitoring is not part of Closure WMMP; it's a separate program. Revegetation comments should be part of FCRP, not WMMP. Offers to respond with an email on why some EMAB comments weren't included.

- ED suggests that ECC implement a reasons for decision as part of reviews, so that EMAB can understand why comments are not or are sent in – ECC says this is doable.

Q: does ECC have discussions with the WLWB about which areas fall under ECC reviews and which are FCRP reviews, in relation to wildlife issues?

A: no formal process. Reach out on individual issues. The WMMP review was quite complicated and a lot of organizations were not sure how and where to address their wildlife comments.

- It would be helpful if this could be clarified.

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Q: How much vegetation that is food for animals was lost during mine development and how much will be replaced? And how long will it take for the vegetation to be edible? Which animals will feed on it? Definitely related to the WMMP.

A (Mark Nelson): Revegetation is part of FCRP. Habitat units lost are reported in the WMMP reports; loss to date is below EA predictions. Revegetation strategy eg. scarification and reseeding will kickstart natural succession in those areas. Full natural succession could take quite a while. Have seen some areas where natural revegetation has started already. Natural succession could take 20-100 years – don't have a firm grasp on how long. Once gravel pads are revegetated that will make up for a lot of the vegetation that was lost when they built the pads. Revegetation is also integrated more in the FCRP.

- Several questions about wildlife-related issues have not been addressed. People shouldn't have to go to the WMMP reports and closure reports to find out about revegetation. This is about food for wildlife, so it's a wildlife issue.
- The FCRP is the one reference document. Diavik focused on revegetation in FCRP.

There are some draft recommendations to discuss. Postpone until after strategic planning workshop.

LUNCH

Item 7 – Strategic Planning Workshop

This is a separate workshop from the Board meeting rather than a meeting item. This is a summary for Board reference only.

Allan Twissell – Northways Consulting joins meeting

- Chair introduces the Board and EMAB's connection with Diavik
- Allan gives an overview of the strategic planning workshop. This is an ideal time to do strategic planning.

Discussion

- EMAB needs to provide a "value proposition" to continue. The reality has changed now that Diavik has stopped mining.
- If DDMI ramps down, should EMAB ramp down? Monitoring needs to continue.
- EMAB's role does not change. Benefit of EMAB is for all Indigenous parties to come together and provide a unified response; the closure of Diavik is only a phase; just because mining has stopped doesn't mean activities on the land have not stopped; reclamation of land is crucial. Don't want a mess left behind. Board is not done yet. Diavik must follow EA. EMAB needs to see the closure activities: pits filling, PKC, demolition, revegetation.

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Item 7 – Strategic Planning Workshop (continued)

Discussion continues:

- EA continues through to full and final closure. EMAB is an EA requirement to implement EA. No need for additional value proposition.

Allan confirms that the strategic planning discussion will be based on a five-year plan. The discussion will ignore the external processes and decisions related to EMAB's continued existence. This was generally agreed.

- Board members speak to how the strategic plan is the same as what EMAB has always been doing (overseeing and monitoring closure and reports)
- Board members speak to how EMAB's role is to provide a unified forum for different parties – that is why EMAB was formed
- The challenge is advocating what EMAB specifically offers that others do not Q: Does EMAB want to start thinking about its legacy? How do we want to honor its history?
- EMAB should not need to justify its existence. EMAB does not need to be justified, it was an agreement by all parties.

BREAK

Item 7 – Strategic Planning Workshop (continued)

Allan gives an overview of the EMAB mandate

- Board may want to cross-reference priorities and actions, and mandate.

Discussion

- What the Board should be focused on answering: "We are supposed to do this, and this is how we are doing it"
- EMAB should think about its vision
- Are the strategic mandate and the vision statement the same?
- "Collaboration" should be a key word
- Returning site as close as possible to original condition
- DDMI rep suggests a statement: "EMAB should work collaboratively with all parties as per the EA for generations to come"

Adjourn for the day

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Wednesday April 29, 2026 Meeting started at 9:00 a.m. at EMAB Boardroom Video Conference started at 9:00 a.m.
Charlie, Marc, Tara, Violet, John and Karina were present in EMAB's conference room at 9:00 a.m.; Baba joined the meeting by zoom at 9:00 a.m.
Item 7 - Strategic Planning Workshop (continued) Allan gives an overview and summary of what was discussed in yesterday's workshop Discussion • Need a focus on TK. • Discussion of terminology (e.g., Aboriginal vs. Indigenous, and conflict of loyalties vs. conflict of interest) – Use "Aboriginal" since this is the definition in the Environmental Agreement. • Board will need to negotiate an adequate budget with DDMI so that EMAB operates sufficiently until the mine's closure Review of previous Action Plan from 2019-24 • Does anything need to be changed? • Can anything be removed? • Ensure land is returned to a natural state • EMAB sets a precedent for mines; result is a report card on industry • Need clear indicators of success for each objective • Avoid getting bogged down in process. Discussion regarding Board's priorities: 1. Leadership and Governance: • Leadership needs to understand role of members • Combine priorities about well-informed Board members. Will involve orienting new Board members so that they become well-informed ○ Noted EMAB has an orientation package that all new members receive. • Add sound administration
BREAK



Item 7 - Strategic Planning Workshop (continued)

1. Oversight and Monitoring

- Make sure Elders can understand
- Information to Board members for briefing communities/leadership
- Add workshops for Board members, training for hearings

2. Aboriginal Peoples and Community Involvement Goals and Objectives

- Community updates – provide 2-page summaries
- Have a record of interactions between Board members and community members.

Violet Camsell-Blondin called away to TG meeting in Wekweeti until April 30

LUNCH

Item 7 - Strategic Planning Workshop (continued)

2. Aboriginal Peoples and Community Involvement Goals and Objectives

Discussion

- Discussion on need for Board meetings in communities. Community updates are adequate.
- Q: Has the Board considered creating a visual presentation which each Board member can circulate to their respective parties?
- A: Staff provide these as requested
- Develop a powerpoint to the Annual Report to be provided to each Board member
 - Need to ensure information is timely
 - Communities need to know what EMAB is doing and providing feedback
 - Some feedback provided at AGM; can be provided other ways too.
 - Consider including an item on each meeting agenda for feedback from Parties
- All Parties are struggling to keep up with regulatory processes. Can we invite wildlife committees to sit in on technical briefings?
- Q: Should EMAB consider re-establishing a TK/IQ Panel, and with what funding?

Discussion

- Emphasis on importance of TK

Board should determine EMAB's stance on re-establishing a TK/IQ Panel

BREAK



Item 7: Strategic Planning Workshop (continued)

Discussion:

- Training for environmental monitoring is important
- This is Diavik's responsibility, not EMAB
 - EMAB can make recommendations
 - Communities want to be involved in monitoring
 - If there is an information gap, Diavik can provide info
- Diavik says ship has sailed on jointly establishing TK Monitoring implementation
- WLWB directed Diavik to develop TKMP
- Should EMAB establish a TK Panel?
 - Diavik controls funding for projects like this.
 - Board could re-allocate funding within budget.
 - EMAB needs to be involved in TKMP. Part of EMAB's mandate.
 - EMAB has tried to work with Diavik on this.

Action Item: Follow-up on information request regarding training for Indigenous people for scientific monitoring.

BREAK

Item 7: Strategic Planning Workshop (continued)

3. Communications
 - Add Facebook / social media

Allan states that this discussion is a good start on the strategic plan. He will prepare a draft and circulate. He will include options for a vision and mission statement based on the discussion. He will revise based on Board feedback.

Discussion regarding ranking of pillars

- Oversight and Monitoring pillar should be first – Board agreement
- no one pillar is a priority
- Integrate Communications pillar into Leadership and Governance pillar

End of strategic planning workshop (at 3:35 p.m.); Allan goes over next steps regarding the result of the strategic planning workshop

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Discussion regarding Diavik mine visit dates

- Flight schedule has changed
- Day trips not possible.
- Preference of overnight stays rather than a day trip

June 8-10, 2026 mine visit dates are tentative

Adjourn for the day

Thursday April 30, 2026

Meeting started at 9:00 a.m. at EMAB Boardroom

Baba, Charlie, Marc, Tara, Violet, John and Karina were present in EMAB's conference room at 9:00 a.m.

Move follow-up for agenda item 6 to the end of today's agenda

Item 8 - Diavik request to shut down EMAB

ED gives overview of EMAB's response to Minister and timeline proposal. Expects Minister's response will come end of June;

- Discussion on intent for the meeting
- Talk about EMAB role during closure and reclamation

Item 14 – Board Member Update and Community Concerns (continued)

KIA

- Has a new CEO
- Election for vice president of economic development (8 candidates)
- KIA has nominated Baba for the Nunavut water board and he has accepted. Process can take about one year and a half to conclude
- MMG was in the community talking about their project
- Today, WKRC is giving a talk about their project



Item 9 – Discussion with Diavik on EMAB continuation during closure and post-closure

Diavik COO Matt Breen joins at 9:30 a.m.

Chair opened discussion

- Have met many Diavik Presidents over the years; Matt was appointed in 2023.
- History of Diavik and EMAB.
 - In the late 1990's Diavik came to community with a model of the mine to ask permission to mine. People from Lutselk'e used the area. Diavik needed First Nation's support to allow the mine.
 - Many people from around the Great Slave Lake area use the Lac de Gras area.
 - The mine and the winter road block/shifted caribou migration.
 - LKDFN and Diavik came to an agreement before the mine was built. LKDFN wanted to ensure environment was protected.
- Mine is now entering closure
 - EMAB should continue.
 - Diavik made many promises to LKDFN. Shutting EMAB is a broken promise.
 - Elders were concerned about environmental damage; spoke during environmental assessment.
 - TK is a complex process and it is important. Science and TK must work together.

KIA rep spoke about the importance of EMAB

- Inuit have used the Lac de Gras area since time immemorial. The land is integral to the Inuit way of life. We are temporary stewards; need to pass the land on in the same condition it was received.
- Aboriginal groups work together to keep the land as pristine as possible.
- Economic development is important, but the land trumps everything.
- EA was developed after the environmental assessment to include participation from all stakeholders.
- Diavik has completed operations but the project is not finished; still long way to go in the life cycle of the mine; we need to be able to see closure right through to the end.
- It will take a long time for re-vegetation to succeed and for the animals to return.
- Want to be able to go with Matt to the mine; make tea from the water and eat fish from the lake.
- EMAB's job is not done. Full closure could take many more years.
- Water from Lac de Gras goes to Kugluktuk.

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- The mine has wide-spread effects. EMAB has a huge responsibility.
- Wants EMAB to remain to see DDMI's good work followed through.

Vice-Chair spoke about the need for EMAB and that shutting down EMAB is a breach of the EA.

- Diavik member on EMAB does a great job.
- Not here to argue about Diavik's request, or EMAB's response.
- Want to know why Diavik is trying to dismantle EMAB instead of engaging.
- Shutting EMAB down leaves out an important part. Diavik should be respectful.
- EMAB wants to improve relations with Diavik; find another path to pursue.
- Shut down of EMAB breaches the EA.
- Diavik should keep an open mind and work to find mutual agreement.

ED presented EMAB's alternative proposal for winding down EMAB including a preliminary workplan based on expected activities and reporting from Diavik (see item background from meeting kit).

- Transition year – 2026-27: EMAB's role would be similar to the operational phase, with monitoring, community involvement and communication of EMAB's activities and findings. There will be many monitoring reports that EMAB needs to review during this year as part of our independent oversight, including final reports on operational monitoring for water quality and aquatic health, wildlife, and air quality, and initial reports on closure monitoring. There will also be plans and reports related to TK Monitoring and Cultural Use Criteria, and revisions to the closure plan and closure designs that need to be reviewed during 2026-2027 as part of EMAB independent oversight.
- Active Closure – 2027-29: there will continue to be a requirement to review reports, involve communities in EMAB's work and communicate our findings. There will continue to be many reports on results of closure monitoring during the active closure period; these will be for both scientific monitoring and TK Monitoring. We will also be reviewing additional closure designs such as plume studies for collection pond discharges.
- Post 2029 (after active closure): EMAB proposal is to re-assess a wind-down schedule for the Board after the Active Closure period is complete with a second re-assessment the year prior to the expiry of the current water licence in 2035. There will continue to be community involvement and communication requirements, as well as review of monitoring reports and revised plans and designs during this period, but we expect the volume to be reduced.
- When asked, Diavik's COO indicated he did not see value in reviewing EMAB's preliminary draft budget for 2027-29.

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Diavik COO responded

- Money is not the key driver for Diavik's request.
- Diavik is proposing to wind down EMAB, not to end the Environmental Agreement (EA).
- The EA envisages a wind-down schedule for EMAB; Diavik has requested the Minister set the schedule.
- Diavik wants to see the Future Role of EMAB report implemented. They haven't heard any reports on how the recommendations have been implemented.
- All the activities proposed by EMAB are carried out by other agencies. EMAB is duplicative. What does EMAB offer that is not duplicating regulatory processes?
- The Minister will decide on the wind-down schedule; it is the Minister's decision.
- There is too much regulation in the NWT.
- Diavik heard from Joe Rabesca about how positive Diavik has been socio-economically.
- EMAB's activities will be covered by the TK Monitoring Program.
 - The TKMP will be independent through Diavik's Request for Proposals.
 - Diavik can't be seen to be influencing the TKMP. Diavik has chosen a TK facilitator.
- Diavik does not see EMAB as part of the future.

KIA rep responded

- EMAB has all Indigenous groups in one board.
- The WLWB and the GNWT does not represent us (the EA's Indigenous Parties); EMAB is the only avenue for representation.
- Diavik funds TKMP, and therefore cannot be viewed as independent .
- It is difficult to trust people who come into roles for a limited number of years and then leave.

Diavik COO

- Will step down as COO in October.

BREAK

Item 10 – Board follow-up to discussion with Diavik

Discussion

- Diavik COO's position was not swayed (not entertaining other alternatives)
- Decision is up to the Minister, but Diavik is driving this.
- Minister's consultation process is not meaningful
- Explain the effect of his decision to the Minister; EMAB should meet with Minister.



Item 10 – Board follow-up to discussion with Diavik (continued)

Discussion

- EMAB had a good faith meeting with Diavik; COO was not prepared to consider EMAB's proposal.
- Update the Minister with Diavik COO meeting notes
- TKMP is not doing the same thing as EMAB. EMAB is the only and best possible avenue for collaborative representation of all Indigenous parties
- KIA does not feel represented by the WLWB or GNWT.
- Shouldn't anger the Minister
- Put a statement on the website; avoid pointing fingers. Note Aboriginal membership and Chair.
- EMAB doesn't want to see problems after the mine closes.
- EMAB's job is not done.

Q: Who was involved in the negotiation of the EA? Would be interesting to look at the clause in the EA regarding commercial production

Discussion of next steps

- There is currently no public awareness of this issue
- make issue public
 - Contact a couple MLAs (there will be a Legislative Assembly sitting in May) which can help with the Minister's info
 - Contact the Minister and set up a meeting with his Executive Assistant
 - Possible media release
- Chair and Executive members should be in-person rather than online for meetings with MLAs
- Suggestion of getting GNWT-ECC rep's opinions regarding media releases, meeting with MLAs, etc.

ACTION ITEM: ED will draft and send media release by email to Board for review and approval by Monday, May 4, 2026

ACTION ITEM: Load Minister Consultation and EMAB response letters to EMAB website

ACTION ITEM: ED will contact MLAs

ACTION ITEM: ED will contact the Minister and attempt to set up a meeting with EA

ACTION ITEM: Convene Parties to discuss Diavik's request

ACTION ITEM: Update Minister on discussion with Diavik COO by May 13

LUNCH



Item 11 – Community Updates Planning

EMAB has not conducted a community update since COVID

Discussion

- In regards to KIA, Tuesdays and Wednesdays are the best days for meeting. Possible avenues also include going on the local radio and doing a call in, and meeting leaders
- It would be good if EMAB can be in the community when KIA is meeting there.
- EMAB could make a generic presentation and send to parties so that Board members can also share with communities
- North Slave Métis Alliance rep suggests doing a town hall or Zoom
- Wait until after Lutselk'e elections before trying to arrange a meeting there.
- Use community radio to get information out to communities.

ACTION ITEM: Each Board Member should decide on a date to go to their respective communities and let ED know (a couple week's notice before proposed date should be sufficient).

ACTION ITEM: ED and ES will prepare PowerPoint presentations and/or script for radio and send to Board.

Item 12 – TK Monitoring Plan

Violet Camsell-Blondin returns from TG meeting in Wekweeti

ED presents item from kit

1) Update on WLWB Decision on Diavik proposed TK Monitoring Framework

- WLWB didn't approve TK Monitoring Plan submitted by Diavik
- Submission of revised TKMF - May 2027
- Overview of the TKMF revisions required by WLWB
- Overview of EMAB comments on the TK Monitoring Plan
- WLWB mentioned there is not a consensus on how to proceed
- Cultural use criteria is to be submitted by September 2026 and might influence the TKMF
- Overview of potential recommendations EMAB can make: 3 recommendations

ACTION ITEM: ED will draft 3 recommendations on TK Monitoring Plan and send it to Board for approval by email motion.



2) Discussion regarding TK Monitoring Planning Workshop

- ED makes suggestions of sending Diavik a letter recommending they:
 - Send us workshop materials from the TK Monitoring Planning Workshop in May
 - Allow EMAB to send an observer to the workshop
 - Make the TK Monitoring reporting transparent

Motion: To approve draft recommendations regarding the TK Monitoring Planning Workshop

Moved: Baba Pedersen

Second: Marc Whitford

Abstention: Tara and Violet

Carried

3) Update regarding EMAB letter on Diavik TK Implementation RFP

- Diavik refused to provide EMAB with a copy of the RFP
- no recommendations at this time, but if refusal to provide information continues in other aspects, EMAB could consider invoking the dispute resolution process in the EA (section 16)
 - keep track of this; is there a pattern?
- Diavik hired Det'on Cho with Naakah as a sub-contractor

Discussion regarding independent governing body for TK Monitoring

- Companion document from TKMP workshops last year said that participants wanted an independent governing body for TKMP, like the TK Panel, with reps from Diavik and EMAB. Diavik ignored the workshop input and came up with its own approach.
- Seems like Diavik is choosing which comments made during the TKMF workshop they address
- Community participants' input should be the basis for the TKMF.
- Diavik feels its role is to participate as an observer
- It would be good if any Board members participating in the upcoming TKMP workshop could put forward EMAB's views on TKMP, and take notes to update Board.
- Parties wanted a TK Panel to run the TKMP; Panel should be independent.
- WLWB trying not to direct Diavik on how to implement TKMP
- Concern noted about Diavik replacing original consultants that worked with the TK Panel.
- Noted that the TK Fish Camp is different than the TK Panel
- Without funds, TK can't go forward. Process needs to be independent, not controlled by the funder.



Item 13 – FCRP Decision Update

ES presents item

- FCRP Version 1.1 was approved by WLWB with revisions
- Main unresolved items include:
 - North Inlet closure
 - Revegetation Approach
 - Post-closure Monitoring and Evaluation of the PKCF
 - TKMF and Cultural Use Criteria

Discussion

- need to track unapproved reports and make sure they get done
- Elders gave permission for the development; at the 11th hour it seems Diavik still has much to do. This is bad for industry's credibility
- Don't feel like industry lived up to its promises.
- WLWB said they have confidence in Diavik's adaptive management
- EMAB could have a special meeting with WLWB to discuss what Diavik said when they were asking for support to develop the mine.

Q: how deep are dike breaches? Fish must be able to swim in and out through the breaches under ice.

Q: Should these comments be submitted to Diavik?

A: these are just for the Board's information.

BREAK



Item 14 – Winter Road Update

Pete Cott and Greg Look from ECC joined the meeting.

ECC update

- Road was finalized December 5
- Feb 9 – Feb 11: Deployed traffic loggers
- CIMP has taken over the traffic loggers project and will use results for other projects (ECC-Wildlife will not lead anymore)
- One logger failed; ECC has requested results from CIMP but is still waiting.
- There is talk that next year there will not be a winter road, but if there is one they will deploy the traffic loggers
- Results from this study could also potentially look at how traffic patterns align with caribou patterns

Q: What is the main reason behind the potential winter road closure?

A: Gahcho Kue and Diavik have both said they won't need a winter road next year. Diavik will need a road in 2028 and 2030.

Q: What was winter road harvest like compared to previous year?

A: Seems like less harvest this year. There have been some instances of wastage but seems like less than last year. Request information from Seth Bohnet at North Slave Regional Office

Q: What is the status of the notes regarding harvester's meeting?

A: Don't think they are approved yet. Appropriate to contact Deputy Minister, or might be faster to contact Seth.

ACTION ITEM: Contact Deputy Minister (or contact Seth Bohnet at North Slave office) or Pete Cott to request "Respected Harvesters" meeting notes and winter road harvest stats

WORKING WITH THE PEOPLE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT



Item 6 – WMMP Follow-Up (continued)

ED proposes recommendations that can be made to ECC regarding approval of Closure WMMP and review/approval process for WMMP reports.

Motion: To approve WMMP recommendations in kit

Moved: Baba Pedersen

Second: Charlie Catholique

Carried

Noted that new winter road director is Howard Newell from Gahcho Kue. They have taken over administration of the winter road.

Closing

Next meeting

- Tentatively: June 8-10, 2026 (including site visit)

Meeting Adjourned

Closing Prayer: Marc Whitford