

Kamloops Air Quality Roundtable

Draft Meeting Summary as at May 3, 2019

Location: New Afton Mine, Kamloops

Meeting Date: April 30, 2019, 10:30AM to 1:00PM

Present

Tiffany Cobb, Domtar
Luke Coldstock, New Gold
Andrew Cooper, New Gold
Daniel Crossingham, New Gold
Kristin Dangelmaier, Domtar
Korah DeWalt-Gagnon, New Gold
Fiona Goorman, First Nations Health Authority
Chris Higgins, New Gold
Emily Lomas, City of Kamloops (Environmental Services)
Sam Numsen, New Gold
Melissa McGarry, School District 73 (SD73)
Mike Simpson, Fraser Basin Council (FBC) (facilitator, recorder)
Aaron Wiebe, Thompson Rivers University

1. Welcome, Introductions, Review Agenda and Objectives

Mike Simpson welcomed everyone, Secwepemc territory was acknowledged, and introductions were made around the room. The agenda was approved as presented. Regrets were noted from many, including those sick today who intended on attending the tour.

Note that quorum was not met without First Nations present, but that Mike got Raynell's approval of the previous meeting summary in advance of the meeting.

Mike noted that Nicole MacCulloch has finished her position with KGHM Ajax Mine, James Loughton is the new representative on KAQR.

2. Previous Meeting Summaries

Meeting summary from February 28, 2019 was approved (see note above about quorum).

Old action items from the previous meeting summary were reviewed. Many are on today's agenda; those complete have been removed; those not complete will be carried forward (see end of this summary):

- Domtar's wood ash is useful for biosolids, soil amendments, and odour control
- Mike will get a one-pager about the Kamloops Air Quality Roundtable to Glen or Jaimi
- Melissa spoke to two principals about being involved in education initiatives
- Education subcommittee to meet before end of June
- TRU's biomass burner plans are still being explored
- Emily contacted Jamie Vieira of TNRD, he is busy and not committed to joining KAQR, but is interested in the woodstove exchange program

3. New Gold - New Afton Mine

Daniel, Andrew, Korah and Luke gave an overview of New Gold as a company, and the operation of the New Afton mine. Mining predominantly copper with some gold and silver, the original Afton mine was operated by Teck from 1978 to 1987, with New Gold beginning production in 2012. Mining is underground using block-cave techniques, and it is the largest underground hard rock mine in Canada based on throughput. Agreements have been in place with Stk'emlupsemc te Secwepemc Nation (SSN) since 2008, and currently 23% of the workforce is Indigenous. Carbon emissions are tracked, only 14% of their energy use is from diesel fuel, 79% is electricity which has limited emissions due to its hydropower source. Idling reduction measures have been put in place, but monitoring and measuring outcomes is challenging. Fugitive dust from exposed tailings and other sources are actively monitored and managed. Partisol monitors for PM_{2.5} are installed around the mine property, and vegetation monitoring and monitoring of heavy metals is ongoing. Revegetation of exposed areas also addresses particulate matter. New Gold works closely with numerous professors and students at Thompson Rivers University, including the NSERC Industrial Research Chair in Ecosystem Restoration Dr. Lauchlan Fraser. New Gold also has numerous initiatives underway to monitor health of employees.



After the meeting adjourned, KAQR members undertook a surface and mill tour.

4. Information Sharing

Thompson Rivers University - Aaron noted the continuing initiatives to encourage transportation other than cars to, from and on campus, including incentives and discounts on electric bikes. A bike share program that is being explored. Aaron is also starting a master's degree program looking at environmental impacts of electric bikes.

City of Kamloops - Emily noted that Josie is off on maternity leave, Glen will likely be filling that position soon. The woodstove exchange program is progressing, and the City is also offering a pilot to enable residents to scrap their old woodstoves without cost and without replacing it. The City is moving forward with forest fuel management projects to reduce the wildfire hazard risk in key locations such as Barnhartvale, Juniper, Pineview and Kenna Cartwright Park.

Domtar - Kristin noted that Earth Week is coming up at Domtar, promotion of air quality initiatives and demonstrations of electric bikes will be part of the program.

First Nations Health Authority - Fiona noted that they are preparing for wildfire season by working with communities on their clean air shelter plans.

Association of BC Forest Professionals Annual General Meeting - Mike relayed something learned at the recent AGM in February: that controlled ecosystem burns, prescribed burns and burning of cured material from forest fuel reduction projects has significantly less PM_{2.5} content than wildfires. The analogy provided was compared to burning dry kindling compared

to wet wood; controlled or prescribed burns are under good venting conditions burns much cleaner than wildfires that burn live, green trees of all sizes and higher moisture content.

5. Financial Contributions

Mike reported that Fraser Basin Council labour and expenses for the year ending March 31, 2019 were \$6000. The \$2000 committed from Thompson Rivers University will be carried forward to the current fiscal year. An additional \$4000 is needed to maintain current levels of activity; potential commitments were noted from City of Kamloops, New Gold and Domtar.

6. Next Steps

Future meeting dates and draft agendas

- **September or October** - Mike to seek a date in early September
- Winter 2020 meeting - it was suggested to coordinate around webinar of the BC Lung annual conference, a webinar can be purchased for \$125 which can be shown to a large group

List of Action Items

Task	Responsibility	Timing
Follow up with Tk'emlups te Secwepemc and City of Kamloops on next steps for industrial tax incentive bylaw ; Glen suggested to connect with him and other city staff as well before any further action is taken	Mike, Raynell	Before next meeting
Ask Kristin (Domtar) if you need a supply of wood ash	Everyone	Ongoing
Share plans for the proposed wood biomass system at TRU, including fibre requirements, air quality emissions, and more	Jim Gudjonson or Aaron Wiebe	At future meetings
Follow up with Glen Cheetham at City regarding public engagement, wood boiler bylaw issue	Jim, Aaron	Ongoing
Follow up with Glen, Josie about some material on KAQR at the City booth at Green Living Expo May 11	Mike	Before May 11
Connect SD73 principals with Mike	Melissa	ASAP
Create an Education Subcommittee : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Subcommittee to consist of Gina, Ralph, Melissa, Jim, Kristin, Jaimi Garbutt (suggested) and supported by Mike ▪ Key task is to look at existing educational resources, identify gaps and opportunities ▪ The subcommittee can further define the scope (e.g., curriculum material, what gets developed by TRU teacher candidates, public education material) ▪ Build off content of 28feb19 meeting 	Mike, Gina, Ralph, Melissa, Jim, Kristin, Jaimi Garbutt (City)	Meet at least once before June 30
Follow up with TNRD about interest in participating in this roundtable, and the woodstove exchange program	Emily, Mike	Ongoing
Finalize financial contributions for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2020 (charitable tax receipts are available)	Domtar, City, New Gold	Before end of June
Apply for grants (if needed)	Gina	As needed
Talk to each other, share resources, collaborate between meetings	Everyone	Ongoing