

TWS Manitoba Chapter Conservation Affairs Committee Meeting Agenda

Date: July 10, 2019

Conference Call

Present: 6 members

Regrets: 4 members

- 1) Discussion on previous minutes
 - a. No minutes from September 2018 meeting
 - b. Action: Committee member to post agenda from meeting on website

- 2) Agenda additions/approval
 - a. Likely to be Minister change post-September election, due to either government change or Minister shuffle (below)
 - b. Federal Indigenous Guardian Program (below)
 - c. Agenda approved

- 3) Overview of CAC activities since last meeting (September 2018)
 - a. Bill 29 – Shared Management and Safe Hunting
 - i. Nothing new released by MB government
 - b. Water Rights Regulation
 - i. Concerns about mitigation and ratios expressed by several conservation organizations. Conflicting concerns being expressed by agricultural organizations.
 - ii. Ducks Unlimited Canada working with Water Resources staff on wetland mapping project to better assist enforcement of the regulation. Note, enforcement was a question posed in TWS MB comments.
 - iii. Release of final regs has stalled due to upcoming election
 - c. Lake Winnipeg Measures to Enhance Sustainability
 - i. Positive to see additional data collection and transparency. Will want to monitor progress.

- 4) Ongoing Topics
 - a. Water Rights Regulation – ongoing issues?
 - i. Above

 - b. Topics for Wildlife Management course students
 - i. Projects completed in 2018/19?
 1. No one attending meeting had heard of any specific projects being completed

- ii. Update for Fall 2019
 - 1. To send out again to TWS MB post-secondary contacts
 - 2. Action: Committee member to send out 2018 topics to group for updating
- c. Lake Winnipeg Walleye Working Group –
 - i. Future TWS MB CAC participation?
 - ii. Committee member recently stepped down as TWS MB rep on this group due to conflicts with work. Still sees fit for TWS in group, but unknown who from membership would be a suitable addition.
 - iii. Action: Committee member to brainstorm ideas on replacement member
- d. Black Bear Rehab Centre – Letter re-sent, to Rob Olson
 - i. Awaiting response
- e. Qamanirjuaq/Beverly caribou survey
 - i. Move to tabled items for next meeting
- f. Moose management in province
 - i. Recent moose survey results from 2018/19 winter not posted to website yet. Previous results were posted by this time last year.
 - ii. Transparency was mandate of this government.
 - iii. Action: Committee member to draft inquiry email from TWS MB to Wildlife and Fisheries Branch Director
- g. Canadian Section CAC Update
 - i. CWD
 - 1. Potential “letter of support” coming from Canadian Section for recent letter sent to Canadian government by 30+ biologists, academics, lawyers, Indigenous communities, health specialists, etc.
 - a. Letter shared with MB CAC
 - b. MB waiting for Canadian Section outcome and to potentially send own letter and MB specific concerns to provincial/federal governments. Could incorporate growing Indigenous concerns too through partnership with leaders as co-signers.
 - 2. Committee member indicated that there may be a lack of action on CWD at Minister level, but Rick Wowchuck (MP) does plan to discuss regional CWD concerns at pre-election public meetings
 - ii. Role of Indigenous Peoples in Wildlife Management
 - 1. Canadian Section working on position statement and/or action plan. Much different system of harvest management in Canada compared to U.S.A., especially considering rights based harvest. Attempt to merge

North American Model of Wildlife Conservation with Indigenous views and practices. Likely will involve partnerships with Indigenous groups to develop.

2. Members requested more info on NAMWC

3. **Action: Committee member to send out information on North American Model of Wildlife Conservation**

iii. Federal Migratory Birds Regulation changes

1. Not much discussion at Canadian Section level. Submission not a necessity.

iv. Neonicotinoid pesticides

1. Inquiry on any response from Feds to Canadian Section letter, however acknowledgement that changes are still in progress and appear to be moving in right direction.

2. **Action: Committee member to check with Canadian Section on response**

5) Tabled items - Issues on hold, waiting for the appropriate moment to make MB Chapter TWS position policy known.

a. Pellet feeding and CWD; Owl baiting; City of Winnipeg "Shape Winnipeg for Tomorrow"; Feral cats; Wildlife feeding; Neonics and effect on wildlife; White-nose syndrome in Manitoba.

b. Others?

i. Add Qamanirjuaq/Beverly caribou survey

6) New Item: Brainstorm list of topics for potential TWS MB meeting with new Minister following September election.

a. Shared management – fisheries and moose

b. Water Rights Regulation – final version released?

c. CWD – if CDN/MB letters not moved forward by then

7) New Item: Federal Indigenous Guardian Program

New program where indigenous groups monitor and potentially self-regulate harvest. Active program started in Grand Rapids fishery. Positive movement related to shared management, something to monitor.

8) Next Meeting Date/Adjourn

a. **Tentative Date: Tuesday - October 1, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.**

Action Items

Action – Committee member to post agenda from meeting on website

Action: Committee member to send out 2018 topics to group for updating

Action: Committee member to brainstorm ideas on replacement member

Action: Committee member to draft inquiry email from TWS MB to Wildlife and Fisheries Branch Director

Action: Committee member to send information on North American Model of Wildlife Conservation

Action: Committee member to check with Canadian Section on response