

Human Health Risk Assessment (HHRA) - Flin Flon / Creighton Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)

February 4, 2008
Teleconference

Attendance

MB Conservation:	Dave Bezak, Mike Gilbertson, Geoff Jones, Dean Kasur
MB Health:	Marcia Anderson, Susan Roberecki
MB STEM:	Doina Priscu
MB Water Stewardship:	Dave Green
SERM:	George Bihun
SK Health:	James Irvine, David Sampson
Health Canada:	Margaret Yole
HBMS:	Ian Cooper, Alan Hair, Steph West, Shirley Neault
Intrinsic Environmental:	Adam Safruk, Elliot Sigal
Observer:	Tom Lindsey
Facilitator:	Sheldon McLeod

Introduction

- Margaret Yole was introduced to the group. She is replacing Lindsay Smith on the TAC and holds the same role as Lindsay at Health Canada.
- The following items were added to the agenda:
 - An update on Manitoba Health inquiries related to health data;
 - Update from the Communications Working Group.
- TAC Members were asked if there were any further comments on the notes from earlier meetings. A request was made for future notes to include the details of the actions completed. The request was accepted (see action tables throughout the notes). No other comments were received, and the notes will be uploaded to the HHRA website.

#	Action	Responsibility	Target Date	Status
017	Final comments on the HHRA TOR to be submitted.	Susan Roberecki	2007-12-14	2007-12-06, updated 2008-02-04, ongoing
022	Conduct a broader survey of drinking water to confirm that the current sites are representative.	Alan Hair	2008-01-15	2007-12-06, new 2008-02-04, ongoing
023	Update table of comments / responses related to the HHRA TOR to include SK comments and latest discussions.	Elliot Sigal	2007-12-14	2007-12-06, new 2008-02-04, Complete
024	Provide references for adjustment factors to TAC.	Elliot Sigal	As factors arise	2007-12-06, new 2008-02-04, ongoing
025	Develop a flow sheet of the HHRA process for the TAC / CAC.	Elliot Sigal	2007-12-14	2007-12-06, new 2008-02-04, ongoing
026	Provide an interim report on the results of the problem formulation stage.	Adam Safruk	2008-02-28	2007-12-06, new 2008-02-04, ongoing

Update on Sampling – Soils, Dust

- The preliminary analysis of soil samples appears to be consistent with MB Conservation’s results. The main chemicals of concern are in the “same ballpark” and there are no surprises in the data. The report is expected within the week.
- After the TAC members review the data, the report can be shared with the members of the CAC.

Question: Is the data going to be available specific to the residences where samples were collected and if so, when?

Response: The homeowners were promised confidentiality and so selected TAC members may be provided the data, if they need that specific information. A means of communicating the data needs to be determined (see actions #035 & #036).

Question: If people want their street / area information, how can they get it?

Response: That detail cannot be released due to confidentiality agreements. General locations on the map will be provided in the report. The map and sampling campaign divided the area into East and West Flin Flon, Creighton and Channing. Ranges for these areas may be possible. Homeowners may, however, choose to share their data with their neighbours.

- The indoor dust data is expected soon. The group was reminded that dust has less to rely on as far as baseline comparisons / criteria go, with the exception of lead.
- The food questionnaire has been polished by the Communications Working Group and is ready for final review by the TAC (see action #037). The questionnaire will be mailed to all area residents and contain postage-paid envelopes addressed to Intrinsic.

#	Action	Responsibility	Target Date	Status
027	Provide comments on the draft local foods questionnaire to Sheldon McLeod.	All	2007-12-21	2007-12-06, new 2008-02-04, Complete
028	Revise questionnaire to include a description of the survey goal.	Elliot Sigal	2007-12-12	2007-12-06, new 2008-02-04, Complete
029	Distribute copies of the dust survey update presentation.	Elliot Sigal	2007-12-10	2007-12-06, new 2008-02-04, Complete
030	Provide report on consumption levels in northern Saskatchewan aboriginal communities.	James Irvine	2007-12-21	2007-12-06, new 2008-02-04, Complete
035	Determine proposal / strategy for communication of sampling data	HBMS / Gartner Lee	2008-02-11	2008-02-04, new
036	Attend teleconference(s) to resolve sampling data communication strategy	All	2008-02-11	2008-02-04, new
037	E-mail food questionnaire for final TAC review	Shirley Neault	2008-02-04	2008-02-04, new

Update – Human Health Risk Assessment

- The Terms of Reference document will become the basis for problem formulation.

- A methodological approach to bioaccessibility is being developed. Existing data, including standard operating procedures from bioaccessibility study labs, is being reviewed to develop the approach (see action #038).
- Toxic profiles of chemicals of concern are being drafted. A few drafts will be circulated for comments regarding the general approach and content used (see action #039).

#	Action	Responsibility	Target Date	Status
038	Provide bioaccessibility study to TAC members	Elliot Sigal	2008-02-07	2008-02-04, new
039	Circulate an example toxic profile of chemicals of concern for comments regarding content / approach	Elliot Sigal	2008-02-22	2008-02-04, new

Snow Sampling

Question: How helpful will snow sampling data be relative to the Human Health Risk Assessment? Is there data available about children eating snow?

Response: Although no data about eating snow has been found, the snow samples may still provide interesting data. Location of sampling will be key, especially to protect against potential other sources of contaminants in snow that is collected. The data will also help relative to soil exposure. This will provide qualitative data relative to lowered soil exposure due to winter snow cover.

- It was decided to proceed with development of a snow sampling plan (see action #040).

#	Action	Responsibility	Target Date	Status
040	Ask Jacques Whitford to draft a snow sampling plan	Alan Hair	2008-02-07	2008-02-04, new

Health Data

- The Health Departments are working on further information, beyond what was distributed in a table previously, which will combine Flin Flon and Creighton data. They want to make another presentation at the next CAC meeting. The presentation will be process-based not data-based, as the data will take months to collect and report on. The presentation will also be via teleconference, as none of the Health Department personnel can appear in person.

Question: Will there be linkages to the studies completed in the '90s?

Response: Yes, although there will slight differences (i.e. more detail and data).

#	Action	Responsibility	Target Date	Status
031	Investigate legal issues related to release of HBMS employee monitoring data.	Susan Roberecki	2008-01-31	2007-12-06, new 2008-02-04, ongoing

Information Sharing Needs

- The media queries and subsequent news articles were discussed. It was proposed that notification to the other members would be appropriate if the press is making contact with personnel involved in the HHRA process. Data should be made available to the TAC first. A commitment was made by all members to be in touch with all others when and if contacted by the media.

Update - Communications Working Group

- The CWG is working on making information boards for various locations around town.
- The food survey polishing was completed.
- An open house concept is being explored. The session will tentatively be held on April 12 from 3:00 – 8:00 pm in the Creighton Community Hall.

Technical Advisory Committee – Terms of Reference (TOR)

- This item was not discussed at this meeting, however there are some actions remaining as noted in the table below.

#	Action	Responsibility	Target Date	Status
032	Revise TAC TOR to reflect latest discussions.	Sheldon McLeod	2008-01-15	2007-12-06, new 2008-02-04, ongoing
033	Include CAC Feedback item on future TAC meeting agendas.	Sheldon McLeod	2008-01-15	2007-12-06, new 2008-02-04, ongoing
034	Determine the TAC representatives to the CWG.	Alan Hair	2007-12-31	2007-12-06, new 2008-02-04, Complete

Other Issues

- A request was made and accepted that the next conference call be used to deal with specific items and that minute reviews, etc. occur only at the next face-to-face meetings.

NEXT MEETING: **Tentatively Monday, February 11th, 2:30 pm**
 Conference call – agenda: communication of data