

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

November 18, 2008

Teleconference

Attendance

MB Conservation: Dave Bezak, Geoff Jones, Dean Kasur, Scott Nicol
MB Health & Healthy Living: Lawrence Elliott
MB STEM: Doina Priscu
MB Water Stewardship: Dave Green
SERM: George Bihun
SK Health: James Irvine, David Sampson, Brian Quinn
Health Canada: Lindsay Smith
HBMS: Alan Hair, Shirley Neault
Intrinsic Environmental: Elliot Sigal, Adam Safruk
Facilitator: Sheldon McLeod
Observers: None

Introduction

- The agenda was reviewed and accepted.
- The notes from the previous meeting (October 20) were reviewed and approved.
- The action items from the previous meeting were not reviewed. Items that were complete at the end of the last meeting were removed from the action tables that follow.

Community Health Assessment

- The Provincial Health Department personnel reviewed the material that they plan to present at tomorrow evening's CAC meeting. The material covers a general health assessment of Flin Flon and Creighton over a 10-year period compared to Manitoba, Saskatchewan, NOR-MAN and Mamawetan Churchill River Regions. The highlights are:
 - There is a higher mortality rate from respiratory disease among the older population but a lower rate for premature deaths.
 - Two statistical differences were noted in cancer rates. Both prostate and breast cancer rates are significantly lower in Flin Flon and Creighton compared to the larger regions. There are no statistical differences for any other type of cancer.
 - There is a higher incidence of premature death due to injuries in Flin Flon and Creighton.
 - The overall health status of the population is generally as good as or better than the provincial averages for most indicators studied.

Question: Were causes used in the interpretation of the data (e.g. smokers vs. non-smokers)?

Response: No causes are able to be addressed.

Comment: There is no reference to occupational impact (e.g. current practice regarding the use of respirators versus the practices of the past).

Response: The increased mortality rates observed for the older population due to respiratory diseases may be because of various exposures throughout their lives.

Question: Can Intrinsic summarize this report for use in the HHRA?

Response: Yes and the Health Departments are also preparing a one-pager to be used as a handout at the CAC meeting.

Peer Review Panel

- The mechanism for selecting who to send the RFP to was discussed. It was decided that a preliminary list of potential organizations to send the RFP to could be developed as a starting point (see actions #091 and 092)

#	Action	Responsibility	Target Date	Status
089	Revise draft RFP for peer review and recirculate for final comment	Alan Hair	2008-10-31	2008-10-20, new 2008-11-18, Complete (see new action #090)
090	Provide comments on the latest draft RFP	George Bihun / Dave Bezak	2008-11-28	2008-11-18, new
091	Put together a list of organizations that the RFP for peer review could be sent to	Elliot Sigal	2008-11-21	2008-11-18, new
092	Add to peer review RFP list	TAC Members	2008-11-28	2008-11-18, new

HHRA Update

- The draft report is not going to be ready for this Thursday. The target date is now December 5. The Gantt chart therefore needs to be updated (see action #093). As a result of the delay, the web-based session scheduled for November 20 is cancelled and rescheduled (tentatively) for December 9. The peer review date will therefore be March 1, 2009.
- TAC members have now received the draft fish and berry report for review and comment (see action #094).

#	Action	Responsibility	Target Date	Status
093	Update the Gantt chart	Elliot Sigal	2008-11-21	2008-11-18, new
094	Provide Intrinsic with comments on the draft fish and berry report	TAC Members	2008-11-28	2008-11-18, new

NEXT MEETINGS / PRESENTATIONS:

**HHRA web-based presentation
Face-to-face meeting (tentative)**

**December 9 at 10:00
January 15 from 10:00-2:00 in Winnipeg**