FINAL ACTIVITY REPORT

2020-2021 FY

EEYOU MARINE REGION IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

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EEYOU MARINE REGION IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

COMMISSION DE LA RÉGION MARINE D'EEYOU CHARGÉE DE L'EXAMEN DES RÉPERCUSSIONS

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FINAL ACTIVITY REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

EEYOU MARINE REGION IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

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EEYOU MARINE REGION IMPACT REVIEW BOARD
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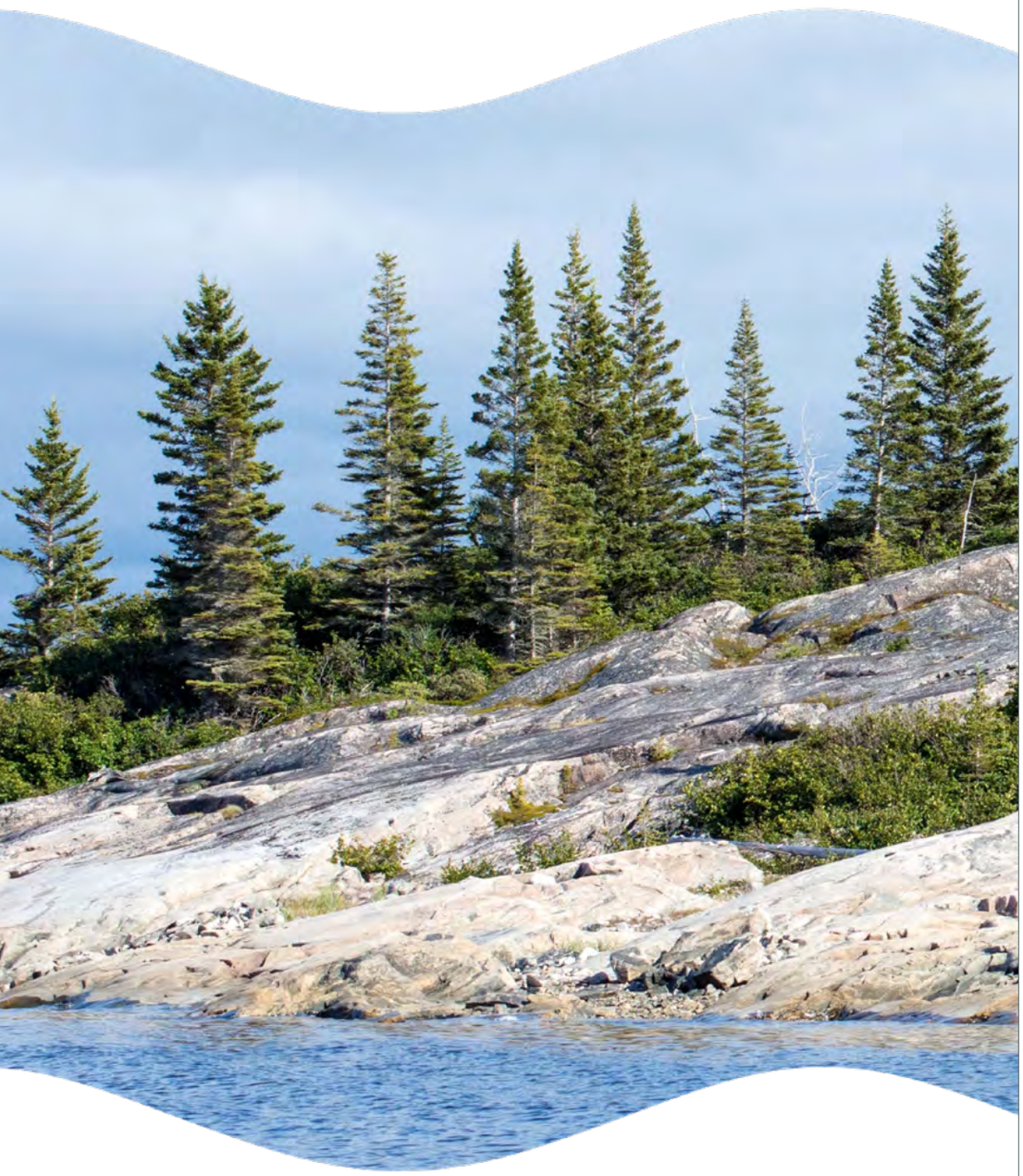

Photo credit: Felix Boulanger

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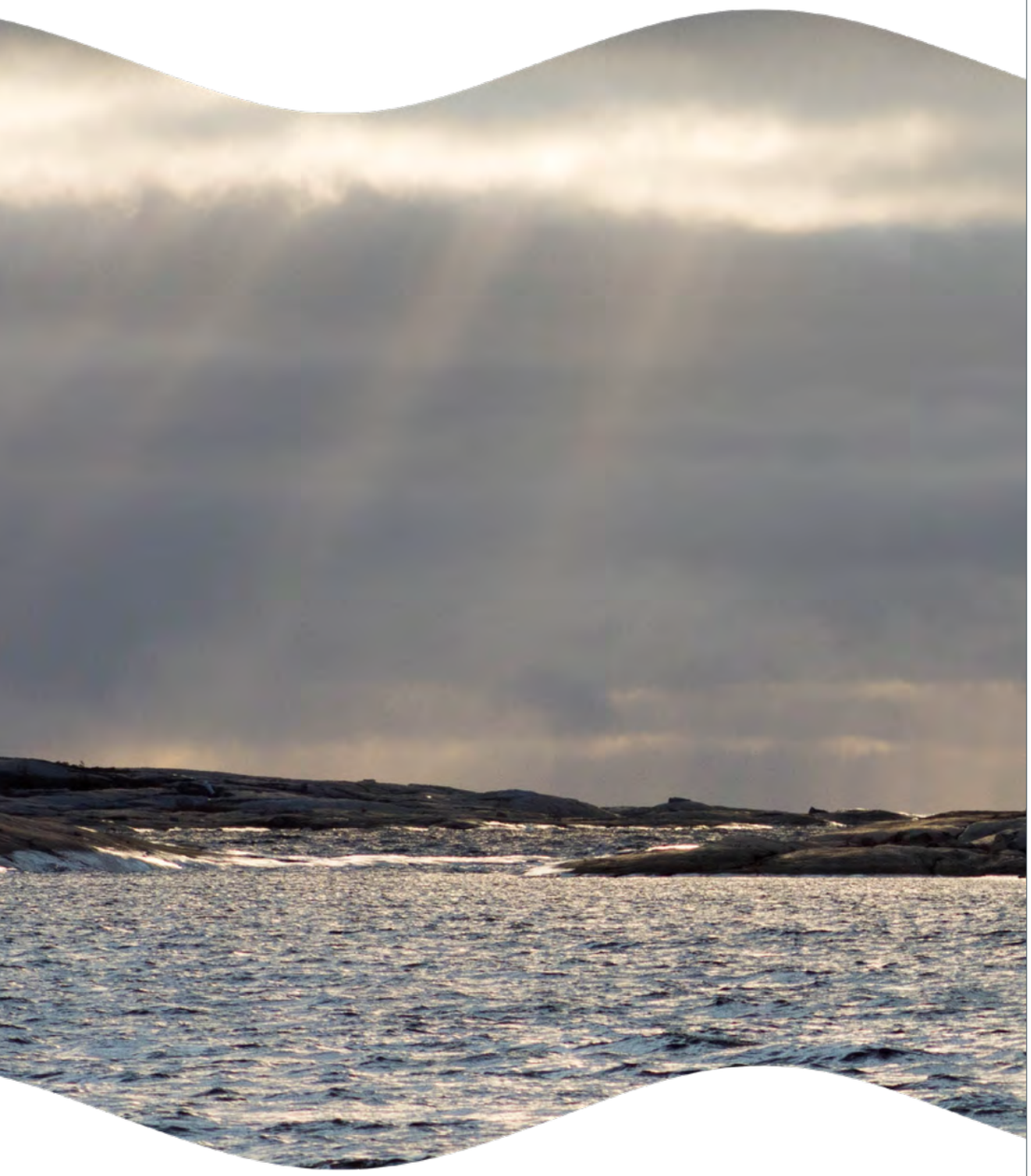

Photo credit: Felix Boulanger

INTRODUCTION

I. ANNUAL REPORT

This annual report of the Eeyou Marine Region Impact Review Board (EMRIRB) covers the period from April 1, 2020, to March 31, 2021, subsequently referred to as 2020-2021 FY. This report provides details on the progress of activities, revenues, and expenditures during the 2020 – 2021 FY and is intended for Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada (CIRNAC), in fulfillment of EMRIRB's mandate as set out in the Eeyou Marine Region Land Claims Agreement (EMRLCA).

II. MANDATE

The EMRIRB is an Institution of Public Government (IPG) that was established pursuant to the provisions of the *Agreement between the Crees of Eeyou Istchee and Her Majesty the Queen in Right of Canada Concerning the Eeyou Marine Region,* also known as the Eeyou Marine Region Land Claims Agreement (EMRLCA), which was signed by the respective parties on July 7, 2010.

The mandate for the EMRIRB is set out under Chapter 18 of the EMRLCA, which specifies that the EMRIRB is to screen, and if required, review project proposals determining the extent of regional impacts including ecosystemic and socio-economic factors. The provisions of the EMRLCA, including the establishment of the EMRIRB with the capacity, rights, powers and privileges of a natural person, were given effect by the *Eeyou Marine Region Land Claims Agreement Act* and came into force, by Order of the Government of Canada, on February 15, 2012.

III. BOARD MEMBERSHIP

The EMRIRB consists of five (5) members, including the Chairperson. Two (2) members are nominated by the Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government; one (1) member is nominated by Canada through the federal Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada; one (1) member is nominated by the territorial Minister of Environment of the Government of Nunavut (GN). The nomination of the Chairperson is decided by consensus amongst the members and must be jointly approved by the federal Minister of Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada and Grand Council of the Crees (Eeyou Istchee)/Cree Nation Government.

Photo credit: Felix Boulanger

Table 1 - EMRIRB Membership

Nominating Party	Position	Incumbent	Length of term (years)	End of Term
CIRNAC[1]/ GCC(EI)[2]/ GN[3]	Chairperson	Isaac Masty	3	Sept. 17, 2021
GCC(EI)	Vice-Chairperson	Brian Craik	3	Term ended Feb. 15, 2020 Re-appointment process currently underway
GCC(EI)	Member	Fred Tomatuk	4	Term ended Jan. 18, 2020 Re-appointment process currently underway
GN	Member	Lucassie Arragutainaq	3	June 24, 2022
CAN	Member	Brendan O'Donnell	3	Aug. 23, 2022

[1] Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada
[2] Grand Council of the Cree of Eeyou Istchee
[3] Government of Nunavut

EMRPC

- **Tina Petawabano** — Chairperson
- **Chris Beck** — Vice-Chairperson GCC(EI)
- **Lorne McNeice** — Member Government of Canada
- **David Alagalak** — Member Government of Nunavut
- **Chantal Tetreault** — Member (GCC(EI))

EMRIRB

- **Isaac Masty** — Chairperson
- **Brian Craik** — Vice-Chairperson GCC(EI))
- **Fred Tomatuk** — Member GCC(EI))
- **Lucassie Arragutainaq** — Member Government of Nunavut
- **Brendan O'Donnell** — Member Government of Canada

- **Pailin Chua-oon Rinfret** — Director
  - **Leona Siaw** — Environmental Program Officer
  - **Melvin Wesley** — Director
    - **Susan Esau** — Accounting Administrator
    - **Priscilla Wesley** — Adminsitrative Assistant

EMRWB

- **Angela Coxon** — Director Wildlife Management
  - **Felix Boulanger** — Wildlife Management Biologist
- **Gordon Blackned** — Chairperson
- **Aurélie Bourbeau-Lemieux** — Member GCC(EI))
- **Robbie Tapiatic** — Member GCC(EI))
- **Fred Tomatuk** — Member GCC(EI))
- **Peter Hale** — Member Government of Canada
- **G. Daniel Caron** — Member Government of Canada
- **Eliiassie kavik** — Member Government of Nunavut

CTA-EMR

- **Natasha Loutit** — Wildlife Liaison Officer
- **Sanford Diamond** — EMR Officer Waskaganish
- **Derek Okimaw** — EMR Officer Eastmain
- **George Natawapineskum** — EMR Officer Wemindji
- **John Lameboy** — EMR Officer Chisasibi
- **Roy Mamianscum** — EMR Officer Whapmagoostui

1. BOARD MEETINGS

A. Arrangements for Board Meetings

The Eeyou Marine Region Impact Review Board held three operational board meetings during the 2020 – 2021 FY: July 28, 2020; October 26-27, 2020; and February 24-25, 2021. Due to COVID-19 and the related travel restrictions, the EMRIRB meetings were not held in person and were shortened in length. For this reason, the EMRIRB held more Board Meetings this year than in previous years. The EMRIRB also held a special meeting on August 5, 2020, to discuss a project proposal (see section 9-F of this report).

2. ORGANIZATIONAL PLANNING

A. Annual work plan 2021–2022 FY

The 2021 – 2022 FY annual operating work plan was reviewed and approved by the Board on March 14, 2021. The work plan was submitted to CIRNAC on March 15, 2021, and approved on March 25, 2021.

B. Annual Activity Calendar

The Board is currently using the online calendar "TeamUp" in combination with the EMR Planning Commission and Wildlife Board for a "one-stop shop" to view meetings, events, and staff whereabouts.

3. ADMINISTRATION AND OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT

A. Human Resources

The Administrative Assistant and the Accounting Administrator duties are shared between the three EMR Boards – Wildlife Board, Planning Commission, and Impact Review Board. The members of the three Boards made the joint decision to combine staff to promote collaboration between the EMR Institutions of Public Government and to optimise Board budgets and resources.

The Board receives I.T support services through a company named BGR. It provides online support and keeps an inventory of software and computer hardware to maintain software licences. The EMRIRB also relies on the legal support of Gowlings LLP in various projects throughout the year. The EMRIRB seeks Gowlings' advice on interpretations of the EMRLCA, project screenings, and other legal matters.

The three EMR entities underwent an Organizational Review in the 2020-2021 FY to identify new support staff requirements and to compare alternative co-management structures. The EMRIRB received the final report on March 22, 2021. The results of this review will be used by the EMRIRB in its 10-year projection plan, which will be developed in the 2021-2022 FY for the EMRLCA renewal negotiations.

Environmental Program Officer

The EMRIRB was able to hire an Environmental Program Officer for a 3-month contract from January-March 2021. Due to the budget adjustment at the mid-year, funds that were originally to be used on consultants for the screening process were used to create an Environmental Program Officer position. On December 21, 2020, the EMRIRB passed a resolution to approve this minor budget change. The Environmental Program Officer was tasked with:

- Developing a "Technical Procedures Manual" for internal staff use and ensuring conformity with the Eeyou Marine Region Land Claims Agreement, Implementation Plan, Bylaws, and Policies;
- Discuss the development of a collaboration protocol at the staff level with the Nunavik Marine Region Impact Review Board for projects in the Overlap Zone;
- Liaising and communicating with our legal team, Government departments, and other Institutions of Public Government;
- Consulting the Nunavut Impact Review Board, Nunavik Marine Region Impact Review Board, EMR Planning Commission, and EMR Wildlife Board;
- Consulting our programmer to write clear directions for staff on how to use the Public Registry portal;
- Consulting the EMRPC to write clear directions on how projects will undergo pre-screening and be transferred to the EMRIRB for screening;
- Working with the Cree Nation Government and Makivik Corporation to discuss how projects requiring an Entry/Access permit will be processed.

Photo credit: Felix Boulanger

B. Board/Staff Insurance

Board and staff insurance, including liability, travel and content insurance, is renewed on an annual basis.

C. Policy documents

This year the EMRIRB planned on adopting a new set of HR policies alongside the EMRPC and EMRWB. However, there have been delays in this undertaking and it has been postponed to the 2021-2022 FY as revisions are still being made.

4. FINANCIAL REPORTS

A. Annual Budget 2021 – 2022 FY

Core funding for the EMRIRB in 2021-2022 FY is a total of $299,780. The carry-over of unspent funds from 2020-2021 FY was estimated to be $87,441. Detailed justifications for this amount were submitted with the 2021-2022 FY Budget, which mainly outlines underspending due to meetings being held virtually, board vacancies, reduced travel, and postponing activities like the 10-year projection business case.

B. Funding Agreement 2021 – 2022 FY

The 2021 – 2022 FY funding agreement was reviewed and signed by the EMRIRB on March 23, 2021, for a total of $299,780. The funding agreement was signed and returned by CIRNAC on March 30, 2021.

C. Financial reporting

The annual audited financial statement is provided with this report (see Appendix B), as well as the 2020 – 2021 FY financial variance report. Financial statements were also provided to the Board's insurance provider.

The Accounting Administrator provided quarterly (July, October, January and March) financial reports to the Board, including: budget actual and statement of financial position and statement of operations during the 2020-2021 FY. The 2020 – 2021 FY was closed on March 31, 2021.

5. ACTIVITY REPORTS

A. Annual (final)/interim activity report

The 2020 – 2021 FY interim (mid-year) activity and expenditure report was submitted to CIRNAC on October 30, 2010. The interim report also included a revised budget due to the travel restrictions related to COVID-19.

The final activity report and annual audited statement is being submitted on July 29, 2021, in accordance with annex 5, reporting requirements and due dates, of the 2020 – 2021 FY funding agreement.

B. Activity Report

Regular activity reports were sent to members of the Impact Review Board, keeping them current with events and activities occurring in the EMR offices.

6. ANNUAL AUDIT

A. Annual Audit

The 2019 – 2020 FY financial audit was conducted by BDO in May-July 2020. BDO worked with the Accounting Administrator to coordinate the audit schedule and gather the required documentation. It was determined that that the auditors did not find anything of concern for the 2019 – 2020 FY.

The 2020-2021 FY financial audit was conducted by BDO in May-July 2021. The auditors did not find anything of concern for the 2020-2021 FY (see Appendix B for audited financial statement).

7. CONFERENCES/EVENTS

Arctic Net

The conference was held online this year on December 7-10, 2020. The EMRIRB registered for a virtual booth jointly with the EMRWB and EMRPC. The Director of the EMRIRB was a student poster judge for the Natural Science (marine) category of research.

2021 East Hudson Bay/James Bay Regional Roundtable Meeting

A virtual round table meeting for the Hudson Bay Consortium was scheduled for the end of January 2021. However, the event was postponed, and the Hudson Bay Consortium Summit will be happening in 2022. The Director of the EMRIRB continues to participate in the activities of the Research & Monitoring Working Group.

Pan-Territorial Assessment & Regulatory Board Forum Meeting

The EMRIRB has not yet participated in the Pan-Territorial Assessment & Regulatory Board Forum Meeting. The event was scheduled to occur online in October 2020 but was postponed.

Indigenous Mapping Workshop

The EMRIRB was invited to participate in a workshop led by Indigenous mapping experts. The purpose of the workshop was to develop hands-on skills using Geographic Information Systems software. The event occurred virtually between November 16-18, 2020.

McGill Sustainability Research Symposium

The Director of the EMRIRB was invited to speak at a university conference on topics related to sustainability and the green economy on January 28, 2021. A presentation was given discussing the Impact Assessment process in the Eeyou Marine Region.

IAIA

The annual International Association for Impact Assessment conference was postponed to May 2021.

8. COMMUNICATION

A. Dissemination of Board Mandate and Responsibilities to the Public

The Board purchased promotional items – mouse pads, cups, mini storage contains, jointly with the EMR Wildlife Board and Planning Commission, to cost share on these items, while promoting the EMR Institutions of Public Government mandates and roles and responsibilities.

The EMRIRB has been utilizing various social media accounts, such as the EMR Facebook Page, where activities are continually posted. It also has translated its "comment form" used in the screening process into Cree, and has translated its "Guide 1: Introduction to the Impact Review Board" into French.

B. Website

The EMRIRB released a new website, found at www.emrirb.ca. This is the first time the EMRIRB has its own website which is separate from the www.eeyoumarineregion.ca website. The website includes process diagrams and information booklets that can guide both proponents and interested parties in better understanding the work of the EMRIRB. The website has a page dedicated to public participation, where you can find step-by-step instructions on how to participate in EMRIRB screenings and reviews. The website also provides access to resources such as annual reports, meeting minutes, and maps of the EMR. The development of the website occurred throughout March 2021, and the website went live in May 2021.

C. Relationship Building

Relationship strengthening

There is an open line of communication between EMR Institutions of Public Government Directors and the staff of the EMR through monthly conference calls. In the 2020-2021 FY, there were several undertakings occurring among the three entities:

- Review of HR policies
- Organizational review (structural review)
- EMRPC Pre-screening questionnaire integration into the EMRIRB Public Registry
- Coordination of shared work plan and budget items

Relationship with the Nunavik Marine Region and Nunavut Boards continues to occur through frequent emails, phone calls, project coordination when required, and side meetings at other events such as ArcticNet and the Hudson Bay Summit. This year the EMRIRB made joint decisions with the NMRIRB regarding project proposals in the Joint Zone (see section 9-F of this report).The EMRIRB staff (Director and Environmental Program Officer) also underwent training with senior staff at NIRB. The staff were able to discuss operational issues and obtain advice from the experiences of the NIRB.

EMR Institutions of Public Government have been collaborating with the CNG to discuss matters of "Entry and access" authorizations, as stated in s. 7.1.1 of the EMRLCA. The EMRIRB is working to formalize its process for referring projects involving Cree islands to the CNG. On November 27, 2020, the EMRIRB received a presentation from the CNG on the "Entry and access" permitting system, as non-Crees require permission from the Cree Nation Government to enter and access Cree Lands. Under this new system, the EMRIRB will continue to send the CNG the results of its screening and potential reviews before such authorizations are granted. Section 18.10.1 of the EMRLCA states "No licence or approval that would be required in order to allow a proposed project to proceed shall be issued in respect of a project that is to be screened by the EMRIRB until the screening has been completed and, if a review pursuant to section 18.5 or 18.6 is to be conducted, until after that review has been completed and an EMRIRB project Certificate has been issued by the EMRIRB pursuant to this Chapter."

9. IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

A. Internal Technical Procedures Manual

This manual was developed by the Environmental Program Officer under the direction of the Director. It will be reviewed and implemented in the 2021-2022 FY. It contains screening procedures, review procedures, and monitoring procedures, as well as templates, timelines, and process diagrams.

B. EMRPC Pre-screening

This year, the EMRIRB worked with the EMRPC to improve the project proposal application process. Under **18.3.2** of the EMRLCA, "Project Proposals falling within Schedule 18-1 shall be exempt from the requirement for screening by the EMRIRB. The EMRPC shall not forward such Project Proposals to the EMRIRB." Under **18.3.1** of the EMRLCA, "Where the EMRPC determines, pursuant to subsection 8.5.12, that a Project Proposal is in conformity with the land use plans, or a variance has been approved, the EMRPC shall, subject to subsections 18.3.2, 18.3.3 and 18.4.3, forward the Project Proposal with its determination and recommendations to the EMRIRB for screening." Because of these provisions, proponents who are interested in submitting a project in the EMR will now have to first fill out the pre-screening questionnaire for the EMRPC to determine 1) whether the project is in conformity with the EMR Land Use Plan, and 2) whether the project falls under Schedule 18-1. If the EMRPC determines a project is in conformity and requires screening, the EMRPC will send the project to the EMRIRB, and the Proponent will be directed to complete the information requirements in the Public Registry for an EMRIRB Screening. This new pre-screening process was integrated into the existing Public Registry and went live on June 18, 2021.

C. Traditional Knowledge

The Director of the EMRIRB created an internal guide on use of Traditional Knowledge in Impact Assessment based on desktop research. This resource will help train new staff and act as a repository of available knowledge on this topic, which will be updated over time.

D. Screening Exemption Agreement Request

On August 18, 2020, the EMRIRB received an Exemption Agreement Pursuant to Schedule 18-1 (Item 7) of the EMRLCA from The Government of Nunavut as represented by the Minister of Culture and Heritage (GN CH). The proposed exemption agreement was not with the entire GN but rather only the Department of Culture and Heritage who undertakes the archaeological permitting. This proposed exemption agreement was proposed to apply only to Class 1 and 2 archaeological research permits for archaeological work that occurs independent of a development project i.e. academic archaeological research. The EMRIRB met on October 26-27, 2020, to discuss the draft agreement, and was of the view that there is no need at this time for an Exemption Agreement regarding Class 1 and 2 archaeological research permits.

E. Collaboration protocol with NMRIRB

The EMRIRB was not able to develop a detailed collaboration protocol due to scheduling constraints with the NMRIRB director. Collaboration will continue to occur on a case-by-case basis, and there continues to be a strong relationship among Directors.

F. Project Screening

- **Malcolm SW Hodgskiss' "Testing the Orosirian Carbon Cycle: Long Island Sound, Nunavut"** was first received on March 14, 2019. On October 16, 2020, the EMRIRB received a request from the proponent to delay the planned field dates by one year, to July 1st-August 31st, 2021. On October 26, 2020, the EMRIRB passed a resolution to approve the change of dates. The EMRIRB continued to recommend that a review is not required pursuant to paragraph 18.4.2 of the EMRLCA and issued a revised screening decision report on November 6, 2020. On November 10, 2020, the EMRIRB issued a letter to the Proponent, the CNG, Makivik, and the Nunavut Research Institute explaining the revised screening decision report and the EMRIRB's decision.

- **Wiinipaakw Tours Solidarity Cooperative's** "Wiinipaakw Tours Solidarity Cooperative" Project was received on January 6, 2020, and the screening process was formally initiated on January 28, 2020, after the Proponent submitted additional information. The EMRIRB issued a Screening Decision Report on March 9, 2020, stating that the EMRIRB is recommending that a review is not required pursuant to paragraph 18.4.2 of the EMRLCA, and pursuant to its discretion under Section 18.4.4(a) of the EMRLCA, included specific terms and conditions that are appropriate for this project. On October 13, 2020 the proponent informed the EMRIRB that the project could not take place due to COVID-19 confinement. The proponent worked with the EMRWB on a Best-practices guide for wildlife observation in James Bay to be used by Wiinipaakw Tours captains.

- **Phase 1 of Kativik Regional Government's "Eastern Arctic Underwater Fiber Optic Network (EAUFON)"** project proposal was received on July 31, 2018. KRG submitted an application for Phase 2 of the project on March 20, 2019, however the EMRIRB deemed the project application incomplete and issued an information request on April 4, 2019. On July 30, 2020, the EMRIRB received the missing information. The EMRIRB met on August 5, 2020 to discuss the project application. To determine whether any Department of Fisheries (DFO) and Oceans Canada permits were required for the project, the EMRIRB and NMRIRB instructed the proponent to make a "Request for Review" with the DFO Fish and Fish Habitat Program on September 21, 2020. On May 7, 2021, DFO confirmed no permits were required for the project. The EMRIRB and NMRIRB issued a letter on July 5, 2021, to the proponent indicating that the project proposal is exempt from screening at this time.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED MARCH 31, 2021

EEYOU MARINE REGION IMPACT REVIEW BOARD

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EEYOU MARINE REGION IMPACT REVIEW BOARD
COMMISSION DE LA RÉGION MARINE D'EEYOU
CHARGÉE DE L'EXAMEN DES RÉPERCUSSIONS
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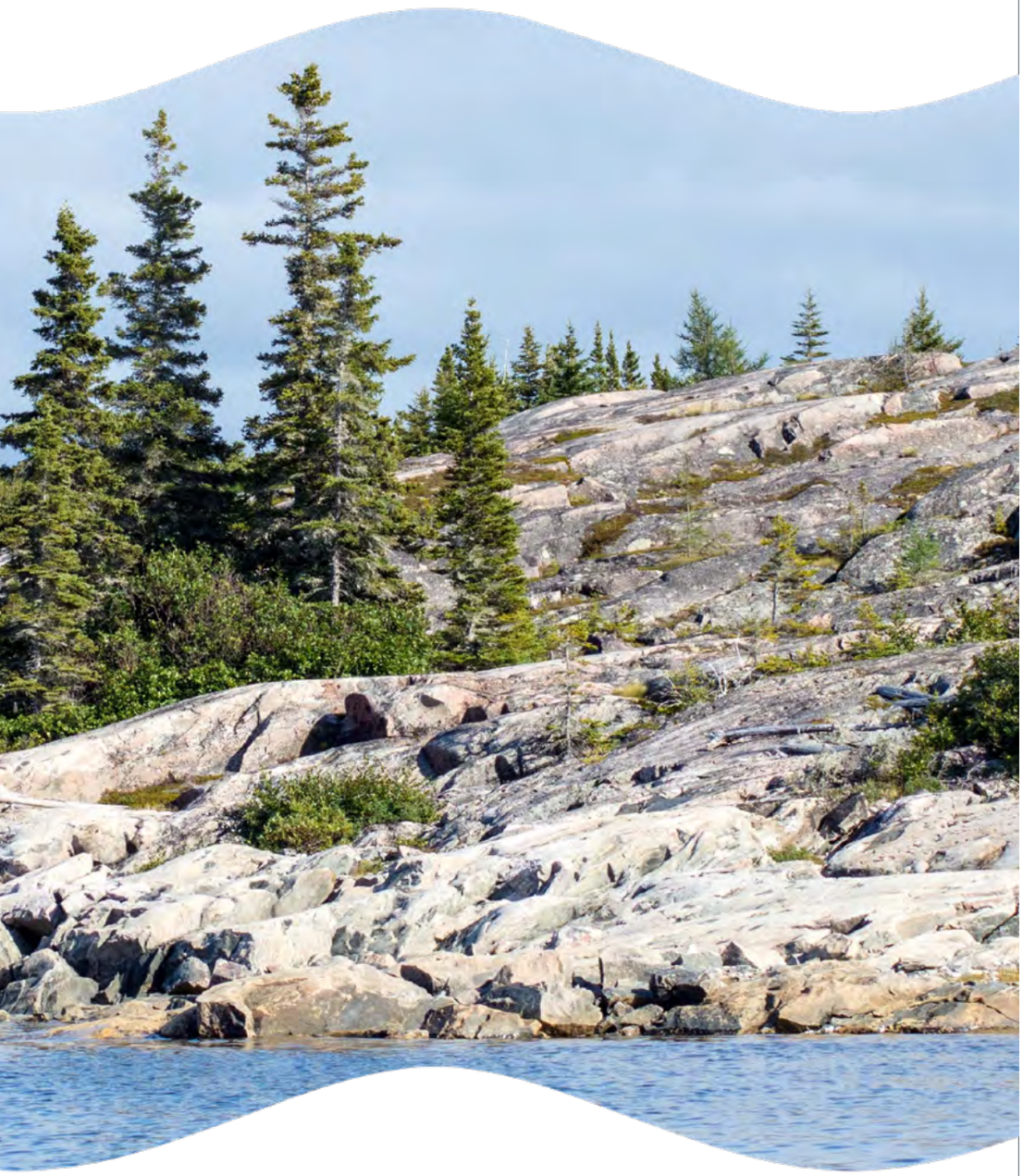

Photo credit: Felix Boulanger

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

EEYOU MARINE REGION IMPACT REVIEW BOARD FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended March 31, 2021

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Members of
Eeyou Marine Region Impact Review Board

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Eeyou Marine Region Impact Review Board (the "Organization"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2021, and the statements of revenue and expenditures and changes in net assets and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Organization as at March 31, 2021, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Organization in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

BDO Canada s.r.l./S.E.N.C.R.L., une société canadienne à responsabilité limitée/société en nom collectif à responsabilité limitée, est membre de BDO International Limited, société de droit anglais, et fait partie du réseau international de sociétés membres indépendantes BDO.

BDO Canada LLP, a Canadian limited liability partnership, is a member of BDO International Limited, a UK company limited by guarantee, and forms part of the international BDO network of independent member firms

Independent Auditor's Report

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Organization or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Organizaiton's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Orgnaization's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.

BDO

Independent Auditor's Report

- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Organization's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Organization to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

BDO Canada s.r.l./S.E.N.C.R.L./LLP

Montréal, Québec
July 20, 2021

[1] CPA auditor, CA, public accountancy permit No. A128349

Eeyou Marine Region Impact Review Board
Statement of Financial Position

March 31	2021	2020
Assets		
Current		
Cash	$ 146,803	$ 191,354
Short-term investments (Note 2)	15,000	15,000
Sales taxes recoverable	14,371	3,643
Prepaid expenses	6,155	940
	182,329	210,937
Capital assets (Note 3)	23,816	19,481
	$ 206,145	$ 230,418
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	$ 44,250	$ 25,063
Due to related parties (Note 5)	75,066	91,665
	119,316	116,728
Deferred contributions (Note 4)	86,829	113,690
	206,145	230,418
Net assets	-	-
	$ 206,145	$ 230,418

Uncertainty due to COVID-19 (Note 8)

On behalf of the Board

_____ Director

_____ Director

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these financial statements.

Eeyou Marine Region Impact Review Board
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures and Changes in Net Assets

For the year ended March 31		2021	2020
	Budget	Actual	Actual
Contributions			
Indigenous Services Canada	$ 294,267	$ 294,267	$ 289,040
Deferred contributions, beginning of year	49,798	113,690	115,238
Deferred contributions, end of year	-	(86,829)	(113,690)
	344,065	321,128	290,588
Expenditures			
Salaries and benefits (Note 5)	158,513	180,249	100,425
Travel, meals and accommodations	71,711	292	59,011
General and administrative (Note 5)	44,135	60,143	56,188
Professional fees	25,629	35,696	38,695
Honorarium fees	36,375	30,875	27,625
Amortization	-	5,074	4,872
Advertising and promotion	7,702	8,799	3,772
	344,065	321,128	290,588
Excess of revenue over expenditures for the year and net assets, end of year	$ -	$ -	$ -

Eeyou Marine Region Impact Review Board
Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended March 31	2021	2020
Cash flows from operating activities		
Excess of revenue over expenditures for the year	$ -	$ -
Amortization of capital assets	5,074	4,872
Changes in non-cash working capital balances		
Sales taxes recoverable	(10,728)	12,253
Prepaid expenses	(5,215)	-
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	19,187	(14,302)
Deferred contributions	(26,861)	(1,548)
	(18,543)	1,275
Cash flows from investing activity		
Purchase of capital assets	(9,409)	(1,968)
Cash flows from financing activity		
Due to related parties	(16,599)	(145,260)
Decrease in cash during the year	(44,551)	(145,953)
Cash, beginning of year	191,354	337,307
Cash, end of year	$ 146,803	$ 191,354

1. Significant Accounting Policies

Nature of Activities and Incorporation

The Eeyou Marine Region Impact Review Board was established upon the coming into force of the *Eeyou Marine Region Land Claims Agreement Act* on February 15, 2012. The organization started its operations on February 19, 2013. The Eeyou Marine Region Impact Review Board is a non-profit organization, without share capital and without pecuniary gain to its members. The Board was established to review the eco-systemic and socio-economic impacts of project proposals.

This Agreement covers the offshore area of eastern James Bay and part of southeastern Hudson Bay known as the Eeyou Marine Region (EMR). The Board is comprised of five members, composed of four members (two nominated by the Grand Council of the Crees of Eeyou Istchee and one each appointed by the Government of Nunavut and the Government of Canada) plus a Chairperson nominated by the Board and appointed by the Minister of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada.

The Board shall, at all times, use its assets only for its stated purposes. No part of its income shall be payable to or otherwise available for the personal benefit of any person.

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared using Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations ("ASNPO") under Part III of the CPA Canada Handbook - Accounting.

Recognition of Contributions

The Eeyou Marine Region Impact Review Board follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions. Restricted contributions are recognized as revenue in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue when they are received or receivable if the amount receivable can be reasonably estimated and its collection is reasonable assured. Endowment contributions are recognized as direct increases in net assets in the year.

Financial Instruments

Measurement of Financial Instruments

The organization initially measures its financial assets and financial liabilities at fair value. The organization subsequently measures all its financial assets and financial liabilities at amortized cost.

Eeyou Marine Region Impact Review Board
Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2021

Financial assets measured at amortized cost include cash and short-term investments.

Financial liabilities measured at amortized cost include accounts payable and due to related parties.

Impairment

Financial assets measured at amortized cost are tested for impairment when there are indicators of impairment. The previously recognized impairment loss may be reversed to the extent of the improvement, directly or by adjusting the allowance account, provided it is not greater than the amount that would have been reported at the date of reversal had the impairment not been recognized previously. The amount of impairment and any reversal is recognized in the statement of revenue and expenditures.

Transaction Costs

The organization recognizes its transaction costs for financial instruments at fair value in the statement of revenue and expenditures in the period incurred. However, financial instruments that will not be subsequently measured at fair value are adjusted by the transaction costs that are directly attributable to their obligation, issuance or assumption.

Capital Assets

Capital assets are stated at cost less accumulated amortization. Cost is net of related investment tax credits and government grants. Amortization based on the estimated useful life of the asset is calculated as follows:

Software and licences	30% diminishing balance basis
Furniture and equipment	20% diminishing balance basis

Long-lived Assets

Long-lived assets are tested for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that their carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognized when their carrying value exceeds the total undiscounted cash flows expected from their use and eventual disposition. The impairment loss is measured as the amount by which the carrying amount of the long-lived asset exceeds its fair value.

March 31, 2021

2. Short-term Investments

During the year, the organization invested in a Guaranteed Investment Certificate of $15,000 (2020 - $15,000) which bears interest at the prime rate at time of purchase - 2.3% (2020 - 2.7%) and matures in December 2021 (2020 - December 2020).

3. Capital Assets

	2021			2020
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Net Book Value	Net Book Value
Furniture and equipment	$ 43,950	$ 21,791	$ 22,159	$ 17,113
Software and licences	5,941	4,284	1,657	2,368
	$ 49,891	$ 26,075	$ 23,816	$ 19,481

March 31, 2021

4. Deferred Contributions

2021	Operations	Community Information Sessions	Community Stakeholder Visits	Program Officer	Total
Funding received	$ 294,267	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 294,267
Plus: deferred revenue, beginning of year	25,861	9,275	25,582	52,972	113,690
Less: deferred revenue, end of year	(19,424)	(9,275)	(25,582)	(32,548)	(86,829)
Total revenue	$ 300,704	$ -	$ -	$ 20,424	$ 321,128

2020	Operations	Community Information Sessions	Community Stakeholder Visits	Program Officer	Total
Funding received	$ 289,040	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ 289,040
Plus: deferred revenue, beginning of year	18,116	9,275	34,875	52,972	115,238
Less: deferred revenue, end of year	(25,861)	(9,275)	(25,582)	(52,972)	(113,690)
Total revenue	$ 281,295	$ -	$ 9,293	$ -	$ 290,588

March 31, 2021

5. Related Party Transactions

The related party transactions consist of expenditures incurred by other entities under common control on behalf of the organization. The following table summarizes the organization's related party transactions for the year:

	2021	2020
Expenditures		
Eeyou Marine Region Planning Commission		
Salaries and benefits	$ -	$ 97,668
General and administrative	$ 20,995	$ 26,850
Eeyou Marine Region Wildlife Board		
General and administrative	$ 148	$ 10,173
Salaries and benefits	$ 614	$ 2,824

These transactions are in the normal course of operations and are measured at the exchange value (the amount of consideration established and agreed to by the related parties), which approximates the arm's length equivalent value for services.

At the end of the year, the amounts due from or to related parties are as follows:

	2021	2020
Due to related parties		
Eeyou Marine Region Planning Commission	$ 79,493	$ 85,585
Eeyou Marine Region Wildlife Board	$ (4,427)	$ 6,080

These balances are interest-free, payable on demand and have arisen from the provision of services referred to above.

Eeyou Marine Region Impact Review Board
Notes to Financial Statements

March 31, 2021

6. Commitments

The organization has an operating lease for its premises at $667 per month, under a lease expiring in September 2022.

The minimum annual lease payments for the next two years are as follows:

2022	$ 8,000
2023	4,000
	$ 12,000

The organization also has a commitment for professional services amounting to $500 per month. This agreement is for an indefinite period of time.

7. Risks Arising from Financial Instruments

Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument will cause a financial loss for the other party by failing to discharge an obligation. The organization is exposed to credit risk with respect to cash and short-term investments from the potential default by counterparties that carry the organization's cash. The organization mitigates the credit risk for cash by dealing with only large financial institutions with good credit ratings. The organization's cash is held with one financial institution.

Liquidity Risk

Liquidity risk is the risk that an entity will encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The organization is subject to liquidity risk on its accounts payable and due to related parties, which arise from its daily operations. The organization manages this risk by monitoring working capital and cash flows needs.

There has been no change to the organization's exposure to any of the above mentioned risks since the previous year.

Photo credit: Felix Boulanger

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EEYOU MARINE REGION IMPACT REVIEW BOARD
COMMISSION DE LA RÉGION MARINE D'EEYOU
CHARGÉE DE L'EXAMEN DES RÉPERCUSSIONS
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