

## **SECTOR FORMATION CONSIDERATIONS**

Based on preliminary discussions there appears to be a need for clarification on how sectors organize themselves. Key items for sector ratification include:

- Selection of sector representative(s) - Table member and alternate
- Sector membership (groups represented and individuals)
- Sector members identified for working group meetings
- Sector communication strategy
- Means of maintaining sector accountability (i.e. support of individuals and groups being represented)

The above key items should be drafted into your Interest Statement and will ultimately be presented to the Process Manager and the planning table. If you have any questions please contact Gayle Nelson at 250-384-5405 or e-mail: [nagada-consultants@shaw.ca](mailto:nagada-consultants@shaw.ca)

At this point in time (Dec 28<sup>th</sup> 2001) there is variation in the degree of organization among Sectors. If your Sector has not yet defined its Interest Statement, communication process and the parameters for accountability, please take a pro-active approach to make sure these aspects of LRMP participation are effectively organized.

### **Proposed Sectors for the North Coast LRMP**

- Community Economic Development
- Conservation and Environment
- Major Forest Companies
- Small Business Forestry
- Fish and Wildlife Habitat
- Federal agencies (1 seat)
- Haisla (one seat)
- Tsimshian (four seats)
- Labour
- Mining and Exploration
- Tourism
- Recreation
- Provincial agencies (1 seat)
- Local government (2 seats)
- Nisga'a (one seat)
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### **Involvement of all relevant groups that have a stated interest in the LRMP**

- Sectors should make every effort to contact and discuss the LRMP and Sector membership with all organizations, groups and individuals that may have Sector specific interests in the LRMP. If there is uncertainty about which individuals and groups are on Sector contact lists, please get in touch with Gayle at the number/ e-mail above. The key is to be inclusive to be sure those directly affected by the outcome of an LRMP are, to various degrees, part of the process.
- Sector representatives may also choose to get in touch with groups, organizations or individuals that are in other Sectors but may have considerable overlapping interests. This will help to ensure that no groups are left out and will also start discussions of common interests between sectors. Examples (and among others) of Sectors that may have overlapping interests are:

- Environment and Conservation Sector with Recreation Sector;
- Community Economic Development Sector with Tourism Sector;
- Fish and Wildlife Habitat Sector with Recreation Sector and Environment and Conservation Sector.

### **Sector Representative Selection**

The BC Government has indicated that Sectors should work among themselves to select Table Members and Alternates. For Sectors that are made up of groups with a wide diversity of interests, the best way to select a representative is to hold a meeting of all groups and individuals who may be interested in the Sector to discuss, clarify and confirm Sector participation in the LRMP.

While the early convening stage discussions (Jan – June 2001) may have resulted in assumptions about who will act as the Sector Representative at the LRMP Table, those assumptions should be re-checked with all members of the Sector and those members must agree and support the nominees for Table Member and Alternate.

The people chosen to represent the Sector, who become the Table Member and Alternate, should not use their seat at the table to represent only the views of their own organization. It is critical that the Table Member represent the views of the ‘Sector as a whole’ at the Table. This means that the Table Member, once she or he is selected, must actively liaise with all Sector organizations, groups and individuals through a set communication process to ensure that the views and interests put forward at the LRMP Table meetings are agreed on by the whole Sector. Sector membership (both individuals and groups) should also be confirmed at this stage.

In addition to the Table Member and Alternate, Sectors can identify key resource people from the Sector who may participate in working groups as ‘expert’ or ‘local knowledge’ resource people.

### **Communication**

Sectors must identify communication processes and mechanisms that will be used to keep all their members informed about the LRMP. These processes and mechanisms should facilitate two-way communication. The Sector representatives who are the Table Member and Alternate should inform the Sector of issues and decisions arising and forthcoming at the LRMP and seek input and feedback on how to best articulate and negotiate for the interests of the Sector at the table.

Communication processes and mechanisms that may be useful include (among others)

- Organized direct communication with key sector contacts at defined intervals – e.g. monthly or weekly, depending on frequency of meetings and issues arising
- Use of organizational newsletters;
- Sector website (linked to existing websites or newly created);
- Discussion at Board of Director meetings of member organizations within the sector;

- Email, fax and/or telephone lists or trees;
- Sector meetings at defined intervals (e.g. just prior to or just following LRMP meetings)

### **Accountability and Authority**

As discussed above under the section on selection of Sector Representatives, it is critical that the Sector Representatives (Table Member and Alternate) are accountable to the Sector as a whole and have the authority from the Sector to participate in consensus negotiations on behalf of the Sector.

Accountability means that the Table Member for each Sector is clear on what commitments he or she can make on behalf of the Sector without specific discussion and approval. The Table Member must also know in advance what issues require discussion and specific agreement prior to consensus. Ideally Sector members should reach agreement among themselves on key issues that are relevant to their mandates prior to those issues being discussed at the LRMP Table.

The Sector should clarify how the Table Member and Alternate are accountable, and what authority they have to make decisions on behalf of the Sector and include this information in the Interest Statement Template. This Sector Interest Statement should be filled in and returned as soon as possible. These Interest Statements will be circulated for information at the first LRMP Table.