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Avril 1981  
April 1981

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COMMISSION DE LA QUALITE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT KATIVIK ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMISSION

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## INTRODUCTION

L'article 24 des règles de régie interne de la Commission stipule que le Président doit préparer et soumettre un rapport annuel des activités de la Commission. Le présent rapport est le premier rapport annuel du Président et il contient des renseignements complémentaires décrivant brièvement la nature de la Commission et le rôle qu'elle joue dans le Territoire de sa juridiction.

## INTRODUCTION

Section 24 of the Rules of internal management requires the Chairman to prepare and submit an annual report on the activities of the Commission. This is the first such report. As such, it will be found to contain complementary information briefly describing the nature of the Commission and the role it plays in the Territory over which it has jurisdiction.

FIRST ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN

April 1981

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## 1. Mandate of the Commission

The Kativik Environmental Quality Commission was established under Section 23 of the James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement and is governed by sections 181 and following of the Environment Quality Act, R.S.Q. c. Q-2.

The mandate of the Commission is to examine and evaluate the environmental and social impact of projects proposed for the territory of Quebec located north of the 55th parallel. The Environment Quality Act provides for two classes of projects : those which are automatically subject to the assessment and review procedure and those which are automatically exempted therefrom. Each class is respectively listed in Schedule A and Schedule B of the Act. The Government may exempt a project from all or part of the assessment and review procedure where it deems it necessary in the public interest.

The proponent of a project subject to the assessment and review procedure must transmit to the Deputy-minister of the Environment preliminary information on the project. The Deputy-minister transmits the preliminary information to the Commission and, after having consulted the Commission, decides on the scope and contents of the environmental and social impact assessment statement that must be prepared by the proponent of the project. The proponent then delivers the impact assessment statement to the Deputy-minister who, after having required the proponent to carry out any supplementary research or studies judged necessary, delivers to the Commission the impact assessment statement and the results of such supplementary research and studies as he receives them. When he deems the file complete, the Deputy-minister informs the Commission thereof.

The Commission then decides whether the Deputy-minister must authorize the project or not and, as the case may be, under which conditions. The Deputy-minister carries out the decision of the Commission unless the Minister authorizes him to substitute a different decision. The Government may, for cause, modify the decision of the Deputy-minister.

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## 2. Composition

The Commission is composed of nine members, including the Chairman. The Government appoints and replaces, at its pleasure, five members of the Commission, among whom it designates the Chairman. The appointment of the Chairman must, however, be approved by the Kativik Regional Government, which appoints and replaces, at its pleasure, four other members, two of them at least being Inuit residing in the territory of Quebec situated north of the 55th parallel.

The current members of the Commission are :

- for Kativik : Bernard Arcand, anthropologist  
Peter Jacobs, landscape architect  
David Ookpik, hunter  
Daniel Weetaluktuk, research worker
- for Quebec : Michel Beaulieu, biologist  
Bertrand Bouchard, engineer  
Alain Gariépy, geographer  
Michel Lagacé, biologist

Mr. Alain Gariépy joined the Commission on 14 July 1980, replacing Mrs Marie Le Rouzès.

The first Chairman of the Commission was Dr. Pierre Dansereau, whose mandate ended on 11 January 1980. A new Chairman has not yet been appointed and Mr. Peter Jacobs has been acting Chairman until such an appointment is made.

## 3. Secretariat

In conformity with the provisions of the Act which require the head office to be located in the territory, the Commission decided, at its third sitting, to establish the Secretariat in Kuujuaq. It was further decided to appoint Mr. Jean-Pierre Rostaing, legal advisor to the Kativik Regional Government, as permanent Secretary of the Commission. An agreement was concluded to share Mr. Rostaing's time with the Kativik Regional Government and to provide office space and services to the Secretariat.

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The Secretariat, in addition to maintaining a register of the Commission's decisions and of the data connected therewith, has assumed the functions of coordinating meetings and transportation, drafting minutes and correspondence as well as other Commission documents and generally assisting the Chairman and members in the accomplishment of their task.

#### 4. Administration

##### a) Internal management

At the first sitting of the Commission, guidelines were agreed upon concerning the form of the minutes as well as their distribution and translation. At its seventh sitting, the Commission adopted official rules of internal management. These provide, among other things, that the proceedings of the Commission are held in French, English or Inuttitut, with the necessary translations, and that the minutes of proceedings are drafted in the three languages.

In practice, though not required by the rules, the complete files of the Secretariat, with the exception of voluminous documents, are maintained in the three languages.

##### b) Sittings

The Commission held ten sittings between January 1980 and March 1981. Although it had been decided to alternate between northern and southern locations, there is a growing tendency to favor northern sittings in the summertime, when rivers and terrain are more visible, and southern sittings during the winter. The commitment to a balanced policy with respect to sitting locations remains in force.

The following is a list of the dates and locations of the Commission's sittings through March 1981 :

1st sitting	: 16 and 17 January 1980, Kuujjuaq
2nd sitting	: 23 May 1980, Montreal
3rd sitting	: 19 June 1980, Montreal
4th sitting	: 14 to 16 July 1980, Kuujjuaraapik
5th sitting	: 4 and 5 October 1980, Radisson

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6th sitting : 4 and 5 November 1980, Montreal  
7th sitting : 1 and 3 December 1980, Kuujjuaq  
8th sitting : 27 January 1981, Quebec  
9th sitting : 17 February 1981, Montreal  
10th sitting : 10 and 11 March 1981, Montreal

The present members attended the following proportion of sittings :

Bernard Arcand : 8/10  
Michel Beaulieu : 9/10  
Bertrand Bouchard : 10/10  
Alain Gariépy : 5/7  
Peter Jacobs : 8/10  
Michel Lagacé : 10/10  
David Ookpik : 8/10  
Daniel Weetaluktuk : 9/10

On the occasion of the fourth sitting, the Commission visited the area of the future Great Whale Complex and discussed certain elements thereof with Hydro-Quebec experts. The Commission also held an information and consultation meeting with the Inuit Community Council of Kuujjuaraapik concerning the project.

The fifth sitting, in Radisson, also allowed the Commission to visit and obtain information on the La Grande Complex. The Commission benefited from ground and aerial tours of the complex.

At its seventh sitting, the Commission made a short visit to Kangirsualujjuaq (George River) in order to examine the waste disposal site and discuss the problems connected thereto with members of the municipal council.

c) Expenses

The Commission's expenses for the year ending on 31 March 1981 were as follows :

● Secretariat

Remuneration	\$ 3,451.52
Fringe benefits	414.36
Typing	900.00
Office	1,320.00

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Photocopy	\$ 200.00
Paper and communications	720.00
Telephone	1,080.00
Airfares and charters	3,916.57
Travel expenses	1,774.82
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SUB-TOTAL	\$ 13,777.27

● Chairman

Remuneration	\$ 6,100.00
Travel	850.00
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SUB-TOTAL	\$ 6,950.00
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TOTAL	\$ 20,727.27

The members of the Commission formally acknowledge with appreciation the use of aircraft provided by the Government of Quebec to facilitate the need of the Commission to travel to various meeting sites and for field visits associated with these meetings.

5. Projects

Between January 1980 and March 1981 the following projects were submitted to the Commission :

- Great Whale Complex, 21 January 1980
- Salluit waste disposal site, 9 July 1980
- Lake Fagnant bush strip, 1 October 1980

a) Great Whale Complex

The proponent of this project is Hydro-Quebec. The preliminary information concerning the project was transmitted to the Commission by the Deputy-minister of the Department of the Environment, Dr. André Caill  , on 21 January 1980. As of 31 March 1981, the Commission had received the following documents :

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- Complexe Grande-Baleine - Rapport préliminaire sur les études d'avant-projet.
  - VOLUME 1 - Les variantes d'aménagement, Septembre 1980
    - TOME 1 - Choix de la variante
    - TOME 2 - Description technique
    - TOME 3 - Analyse environnementale
    - TOME 4 - Dossier cartographique
  - Volume 1 - Les variantes d'aménagement, Résumé, Octobre 1980
  - Volume 1 - The Development Options, Summary, October 1980
  - VOLUME 2 - Les Accès, Juin 1980
  - Volume 2 - Les Accès, Résumé, Juin 1980
  - Volume 2 - Transportation infrastructures, Summary, June 1980
  - VOLUME 3 - L'approvisionnement en eau potable de Poste de la Baleine, Avril 1980
  - Volume 3 - Idem, Résumé, Avril 1980
  - Volume 3 - Drinking water supply for Great Whale River, Summary, April 1980

The Commission also received the following information documents :

- Complexe Grande-Baleine - Mesures correctives, document d'information, Novembre 1980  
Great Whale Complex - Corrective measures, information document, November 1980
- Complexe Grande-Baleine - Choix du site aéroportuaire pour desservir les chantiers GB 1, document d'information, Mars 1981

Following initial discussions concerning the exact mandate of the Commission and the documents to be studied, the Commission decided, at its fourth sitting, to produce a "directive" on the project, addressed to the Deputy-minister of the Environment. The directive requested that the Minister instruct the proponent as to the contents of the impact assessment statement on the project. The Chairman prepared a draft directive based upon the commentaries and recommendations of the members.

At the sixth sitting, it was decided that a directive providing the proponent with guidelines concerning the scope and contents of the preliminary reports on the complex would be

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of limited value in light of the fact that the preliminary reports had already been published by Hydro-Quebec. The Commission reassessed and reoriented its work in order to prepare its recommendations for the proponent's final environmental and social impact statement.

Following the study and examination of the preliminary reports, the members found it necessary to request additional information from the proponent in order to be able to take a decision on the preliminary reports.

The Commission informed the Deputy-minister of this decision and of the fact that, even if there had been delays, it was not prepared to see the proponent's final report prepared until the Commission's recommendations had been submitted. As of the tenth sitting, the Commission had formulated nine questions concerning the choice of options for the Great Whale Complex.

b) Salluit waste disposal site

On 9 July 1980, the Deputy-minister transmitted to the Commission the preliminary information concerning a project for a new waste disposal site in Salluit and requested the Commission to begin the study of the project. The proponent, the Community Council of Salluit, had originally requested permission to establish a waste disposal site in October 1978.

The Commission invited the Deputy-minister to ascertain whether the proponent wished to maintain the request in view of the fact that two years had lapsed since the initial application and that, in the meantime, the Kativik Regional Government had mandated a firm of consultants to study the waste disposal sites of the territory and suggest alternate sites where needed. The Deputy-minister wrote to the Council of Salluit on 12 December 1980. As of the tenth sitting, there had been no response.

c) Lake Fagnant bush strip

Preliminary information on this project was transmitted to the Commission on 1 October 1980. The same letter requested a response by 15 October 1980. The Commission responded that the proponent, S.E.B.J., was not the same as that of the Great Whale Complex, Hydro-Quebec, and, given the fact that

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the Lake Fagnant project was a part of the Great Whale Complex, requested clarification. The Commission further noted that the planned bush strip was related to the construction of access roads which had not yet been authorized. It was concluded that the project was unacceptable at that time.

On 19 February 1980, S.E.B.J. informed the Deputy-minister that it was withdrawing, for the time being, the application for authorization of the project.

## 6.      Prospectives activities

### a)      Projects

In addition to the projects under study, the Commission can expect the submission of several more in the coming year. In a letter dated 9 March 1981, Dr. Caillé informed the Chairman ad hoc that, within one of two years, the Commission might be requested to study the following projects :

- a mining project in the area of Kangirsujuak;
- construction of a fish processing plant in Povungnituk;
- construction or improvement of airstrips in northern villages;
- installation of solid waste disposal sites in certain northern villages.

The Great Whale Complex, which must still pass several essential review phases, is expected to remain the principal object of study and review by the Commission.

### b)      Administration

The experience of the past year has revealed the need for a more active Secretariat. As of 1 April 1981, the Secretary is expected to spend 2.5 days per week on Commission business.

The Commission hopes to be able to increase contacts with northern residents and organizations in the coming year through more frequent visits as well as written and verbal communications.

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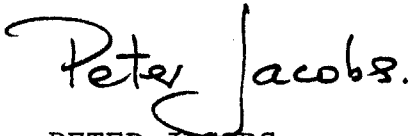
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c) Budget

The Commission requested a budget of \$ 103,944.00 for the fiscal year 1981 from the Department of Environment to cover the remuneration and expenses of the Chairman and the Secretariat, including such items as printing, translations, office space and services, travel and consultants.

The Deputy-minister responded, on 9 March 1981, that the 1981/82 budget of the Commission would total \$ 55,000.00.

This report is respectfully submitted by :

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Peter Jacobs." The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

PETER JACOBS  
Chairman, ad hoc  
Kativik Environmental  
Quality Commission