

## 2018-2019 Action Plan

### Continuing with innovation

Since 1979, the members of COMEX have been keen to take the necessary action to enable them to rise to all new challenges in reviewing the environmental and social impacts in the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Territory. Over the last few years, concrete steps have been taken to ensure transparency in the general review process so as to foster more-informed participation by the people affected by projects and, more recently, to ensure better integration of climate change into the review of projects subject to the environmental and social impact assessment and review procedure.

Be it in terms of data availability, collection and processing, methodology or merely the recognition of climate change, the myriad challenges posed by climate change in the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Territory and the relative complexity of integrating the issue into the review process is such that COMEX will be continuing this initiative in the coming year (and no doubt for years to come).

Like all regions of the world, Eeyou Istchee James Bay is currently seeing the impacts of climate change in various forms and varying degrees of intensity, which are threatening the lives and environment of the Territory's inhabitants as well as compromising development projects. It goes without saying that development projects in the Territory can generate additional impacts with both local and global consequences for climate change effects.

**COMEX is currently reviewing projects that will continue to exist  
beyond the available climate projections**

In 2017-2018, the members took the opportunity to tackle the climate change issue by calling on experts to help develop an approach for integrating climate change considerations into the review of environmental and social impacts in the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Territory based on the best available knowledge. This year will be the time to validate the scope and effectiveness of the recently adopted approach and identify future needs related to data, methodology and an overall understanding of climate change in the design of projects carried out in the Territory.

The majority of actions defined in the 2017-2018 Action Plan were implemented and some of them will be continued in 2018-2019.

COMEX's 2018-2019 Action Plan includes the following actions, which were specifically selected with the aim of continuing and strengthening the initiative to **ensure better integration of climate change into** the project review process and communicating COMEX's achievements related to its mandate:

**1) Ensure better integration of climate change into the review process**

**Action 1.1:** Continue adopting approaches and measures for considering climate change issues in the environmental and social impact review of projects in the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Territory.

**2) Communicate COMEX's achievements**

**Action 2.1:** Communicate, to all stakeholders, the measures related to COMEX's new approach for ensuring better integration of climate change into the environmental and social impact review of projects in the Eeyou Istchee James Bay Territory.

2.1.1 Write focused articles

2.1.2 Take part in conferences

**Action 2.2:** Write focused articles on various aspects of COMEX's mandate

### 3) Previous actions to be completed

- Action 3.1:** Render an account of the timeframes for reviews over a period to be determined and, based on the results, identify and implement possible solutions that will make the overall review process more effective.
- 3.1.1 Report on this action in writing
- Action 3.2:** Develop a protocol for translation of COMEX documents.
- Action 3.3:** Continue working with the JBACE on its plan to prepare a best practices guide for proponents.
- Action 3.4:** With the JBACE and during sectoral meetings, raise the issue and consequences related to Cree terminology used during consultations, where the interpretation sometimes muddles the original meaning. Identify ways to develop or refine Cree terms used in the review process.