

## The Environmental and Social Impacts Review Committee (COMEX) begins consultations on its public participation procedure

Québec, November 20, 2014 – The Environmental and Social Impact Review Committee, which is responsible for the assessment and review of the social and environmental impacts of projects located in the James Bay Territory governed by the *James Bay and Northern Quebec Agreement*, has today released its new *Directive on public participation* and is seeking the comments of all interested parties.

The purpose of this draft directive is to update the Review Committee's public participation process, and in particular, to improve the current procedure, which was adopted in July of 2004. It is also intended to bring the procedure in line with the *Preliminary Recommendations and Initiatives concerning the Public Participation Process for the James Bay Territory*, the progress report issued by the James Bay Advisory Committee on the Environment in September 2012.

Additional information can be obtained by contacting Mélanie Chabot, Secretary of the Review Committee, Édifice Marie-Guyart, 6<sup>th</sup> floor, Box 83, 675, René-Lévesque Blvd E., Québec (Québec) G1R 5V7, telephone: (418) 521-3933 ext. 4674; or fax number (418) 644-8222.

Anyone wishing to provide comments is asked to submit them before January 29<sup>th</sup> inclusively, 45 days after publication of this notice, either directly to the Review Committee Secretariat at the same address as above, or by visiting the website page set up for this purpose at the COMEX website at [www.comexqc.ca](http://www.comexqc.ca). All comments received will be forwarded by the Secretariat to the Review Committee members; they may also be forwarded to the relevant Quebec departments and to the Government of the Cree Nation.

A copy of the proposed directive is attached. It is also available in French and English at the following web address: [www.comexqc.ca](http://www.comexqc.ca)