**Community Information System Project Update**

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**Project Background**

The Community Information System (CIS) is designed to provide the Fort McKay Sustainability Department (FMSD) with both a public website and a confidential system for tracking consultation, industrial development, traditional land use information, and environmental data. The public website will allow industry to submit spatial data and information on proposed industrial developments. This website will also provide an easy means of communication with Community members, industry, government, and the public. A confidential series of data entry forms will allow staff and consultants to manage consultation records and enter traditional land use data. All information, reports, multimedia files and documents entered into the CIS will be easily searchable, retrievable, and archived in a secure back-up system. Through a series of secure dashboards and maps displaying industrial development, traditional land use and environmental data, the CIS will provide Fort McKay with the most up-to-date and relevant information available for land and resource management of their territory.

**Project Update**

After issuing a Request for Proposals and selecting a software development company, the CIS software development was initiated in July of 2011. The CIS provides data management and mapping support for multiple FM initiatives. There are three key components in the system: 1) Traditional Use Studies (TUS) 2) Consultation 3) Archived information.

1. The TUS component of the CIS was completed first to ensure it was available to house data from the current FM TUS study. TUS data entry into the CIS started in September 2011 and is ongoing. The CIS supports FM TUS community researchers with an easy to use system for mapping and managing data. This system is working well and allows FMSD staff and consultants to easily review Fort McKay traditional use information through interactive maps and searches.
2. The consultation component of the CIS will provide an online portal for industry and government to submit information on planned development, planned/unplanned events, and consultation activities to the FMSD. Information submitted by government and industry can be instantly viewed in a confidential consultation tracking system by FMSD staff. Information on planned developments is instantly mapped in relation to TUS sites, FM protected areas, caribou habitat and other environmental data. The CIS will flag potential issues with proposed development activities and provide editable response reports that can be sent to government and industry. A first rough draft of this consultation system was presented to the FMSD partner companies in December 2011 and two companies agreed to test and provide feedback on the initial implementation. On March 23, representatives of the FMSD, Shell and Total tested the first implementation of the consultation system and provided feedback. Industry feedback and additional FMSD requested features will be ready for roll-out to Shell, Total, and AOSC on April 16. Following feedback and refinement of consultation features, we anticipate having the consultation portal ready for all companies and FMSD staff by the end of April, 2012.
3. The Archive component of the CIS was completed in November 2011 and currently has 543 articles, reports, historic documents, and other materials available to the FMSD as a searchable digital archive. We anticipate additional documents will be added to the archive in the coming months and that this will become a central and easily accessible archive for all documents related to Fort McKay and sustainable land management.

Although the CIS was planned as a two-year project, 70% of the features that were planned for the CIS have been completed in the first 10 months. We are one month behind schedule on roll-out to industry and ahead of schedule on the development of all other features. Over the next few weeks we will be meeting with Dan Stuckless, Karin Buss, industry representatives and Alberta Ministry of Environment to discuss initial launch of the industry portal and the addition of new features to the CIS.