

Introduction to the Participant Involvement Advisory Panel

Background

The Participant Involvement Advisory Panel is a multi-stakeholder collaborative group with a mandate to assist the AER to develop enhanced participant involvement requirements for the Integrated Decision Approach (IDA). The panel provides a leading-edge collaborative forum for people from across Alberta, with diverse perspectives and experience in participant involvement, to cooperate in generating well-rounded and practical advice for regulatory development.

Between February and April 2018, panel members will meet regularly to provide their advice on participant involvement requirements to the AER based on their review of input gathered from the IDA PI engagement sessions.

Looking back, the comprehensive process of engagement on IDA PI was launched in January 2017, when AER began meeting with stakeholders and indigenous communities to build awareness about IDA, and to ask people about their interest in and preferred methods for engagement on the topic of participant involvement.

Following this pre-engagement period, from October through December 2017 the AER gathered input across the province on potential new participant involvement processes through a creative combination of engagement events and online portals. Fifteen planned engagement events were held, with specific sessions offered for the general public (8), indigenous and Métis communities (4), and energy development industry operators (3). Following on the heels of the 2017 events, and at the request of various communities and groups, the AER hosted thirteen additional responsive engagement events in January and February 2018.

The feedback from all of the engagement events was captured in summary reports and posted on Talk AER, providing a rich base of input for the Participant Involvement Advisory Panel to build upon in shaping their advice for enhanced participant involvement requirements. In this way, the engagement event input will inform any potential changes to Directive 56, and to participant involvement requirements across the regulatory life cycle, including specified enactments where appropriate.

Advisory Panel Selection

Participant Involvement Advisory Panel members were identified through an open public application process using criteria designed to ensure the panel includes diversity of perspectives, knowledge and experience, geography, demographics and culture. The final make-up of the panel reflects the different audiences that are affected by and have an interest in the IDA PI initiative, and the development of participant involvement requirements for energy development in Alberta.

The selection of panel members followed an inclusive staged process which included:

- notification of opportunity for participation;
- development of selection criteria and application questions;
- submissions of applications;
- scoring, vetting and shortlisting of applications;
- interviews of shortlisted individuals; and
- final selection of panel members.

Initial notifications about the opportunity to participate in the panel were shared with all audiences during the IDA PI engagement events, where sign-up sheets captured the contact details of those interested in further information.

People who indicated interest were sent an Expression of Interest application, with questions based on criteria developed to attract applicants who reflected the key demographics of: landowners, indigenous and Métis communities, energy industries, rural municipalities, and environmental non-government organizations. Applicants were asked to indicate where they live in the province, and to describe their unique combination of interest and content knowledge in relation to participant involvement, their collaborative approach and cross-cultural experience, and their ability to give substantive time to attend panel sessions.

The impressive response to the Expression of Interest yielded 54 applications, which were objectively scored and vetted by a group of AER staff to produce a short-list of 19 people. Each of these people participated in a phone interview with the panel facilitators to share further information, discuss the panel Terms of Reference, and achieve clarity with roles and expectations. Following interviews and offers, 15 panel participants were confirmed.

A critical commitment of panel members is that they each participate as an individual rather than as a representative of any particular group, organization or constituency. In turn, panel members are not expected to share results of panel sessions with or gather feedback from any particular group, organization or constituency. Panel members are committed to bringing their own individual perspectives, knowledge and experience to the discussions, and to review and reflect the feedback from Albertans, and indigenous and Métis communities as provided through the IDA PI engagement events.

IDA PI Advisory Panel Members

- Bryanne Aylward
- Rick Anderson
- Lana Bulger
- Jaymie Campbell
- Michele Del Colle

- Amberly Dooley
- Paul Ferenowicz
- Craig Hallden
- Shane Koss
- Benjamin Misener
- Rick Palmer
- Denise Parsons
- Don C Ratcliff
- Ron Sturgess Sr.
- Clara Wildcat

Disclaimer for Biographies

IDA PI Advisory Panel members have agreed to participate on the panel as individuals, rather than as representatives of a particular sector, organization, municipality, Nation or community group. The contribution of panel members reflects their personal experience, knowledge and perspectives, and cannot be attributed to their community of residence or affiliation, or their place of employment.

Biographies

Bryanne Aylward

Bryanne Aylward was born and raised on a mixed farm in central Alberta where she developed a strong connection with and appreciation for the natural world. Currently, she spends her days working for a conservation land trust and finding ways to make a better world for plants, animals, and people. With a background in environmental consulting, Bryanne recognizes the importance of protecting the environment in the context of a strong and sustainable economy. She believes that the best path forward is through sharing knowledge and bringing together varying viewpoints to create a collective solution.

Rick Anderson

Rick Anderson has a wide range of experience in oil and gas development in this province. His roles have ranged from cowboy to corporate advisor; from community ombudsman to stakeholder group leader; (with lots in between). Years of working on the landscape have instilled strong values around having a sustainable environment and respect for the people that live on the land. Rick believes that effective planning and supporting the ability to make informed decisions are key factors in achieving these objectives. His current focus is on developing and supporting synergistic approaches to how we manage resources on our landscape.

Lana Bulger

Lana Bulger is a third generation rancher in Southwestern Alberta. She and her family have had several oil and gas developers on their property and has experienced firsthand the complexities involved with an operator on her property going into receivership. She is focused on ensuring that landowners are provided with the right information so they can get what they need when an oil and gas representative knocks on their door.

Jaymie Campbell

Based in Grande Cache, Alberta, Jaymie Campbell has spent her career specializing in First Nations consultation in Alberta. Jaymie has developed a strong understanding of how industrial activity and government policy impacts Indigenous communities and how to apply this knowledge when developing policy, and when negotiating and building relationships with industry and government. She has focused on finding innovative ways to include Traditional Knowledge in planning and policy, working to improve effective communication and meaningful consultation practices. Jaymie received two Bachelor Degrees from Lakehead University in 2010 - Honours Bachelor of Outdoor Recreation, Parks and Tourism and Bachelor of Science in Natural Sciences and Biology. She had completed the Certificate of Indigenous Leadership, Governance and Management at the Banff Centre in 2014. Jaymie is Anishinaabe from Curve Lake First Nation in Ontario.

Michele Del Colle

Michele Del Colle works in an advocacy role to ensure that the rights and interests of rural Albertans are recognized, understood and protected. Raised on a grain farm in rural Alberta, Michele brings with her an understanding of the rural lifestyle and a wealth of relevant experience. She has worked for the provincial government, industry and the provincial energy and utility regulators. With land agent training from Olds College and her national Chartered Mediator designation, Michele has skills in conflict resolution, negotiation, facilitation, and stakeholder engagement. She is able to provide information on legislation and policy and advise all stakeholders on their rights and responsibilities. She is enthusiastic to engage with various communities in Alberta and work with affected landowners to help resolve disputes for energy and utility related issues. Michele was recently appointed to a three year term on the Land Agent Advisory Committee (LAAC). She recognizes the importance of assuring land agent licensing qualifications are met, standards for conduct are achieved, and the profession is held to the highest standard.

Amberly Dooley

Amberly Dooley is a Professional Engineer and registered Environmental Professional with over 15 years of experience in the oil and natural gas industry. Amberly has engaged in participant involvement on behalf of industry for numerous projects, including in situ oil sands projects in Alberta, and is able to offer a unique, broad lens perspective on participant involvement. As a member of the Advisory Panel, Amberly will contribute to developing a balanced and comprehensive participant involvement process, while ensuring a flexible and scalable approach to meet the needs of all involved.

Paul Ferenowicz

Paul is a born and raised Calgarian. He has been a regulatory practitioner for nearly thirty years. Paul holds a Master's degree in Political Science. He enjoys biking, international travel, gardening and reading. Experiencing and learning from other cultures is unique and exciting. Paul is very proud of his heritage. He is the recipient of a Presidential Gold Medal of Merit for international cooperation.

Craig Hallden

Craig comes to the IDA PI Advisory Panel as an environmental professional who has worked across a wide range of positions in the energy sector. Craig has been involved in the AER's participant involvement process from varied perspectives over the course of his career and has a desire to see the process adapt to the changing industry, and the growing expectations of Albertans. Craig is keen to support the improvement process and believes now is the time to better understand the needs of Alberta's landowners, and Indigenous communities so that a clear and effective process can be implemented.

Shane Koss

Shane Koss is a Senior Surface Landman with a mid-sized exploration and production company which has a significant oil and gas presence in Western Canada. Shane is an accomplished, performance-driven professional with 22 years of industry experience in surface land, stakeholder relations, regulatory processes, and indigenous relations. He has an established track record of meaningful contributions, corporate representation, and success driven deliverables. As an industry representative and landowner in Alberta, Shane is known for a fair, open-minded and balanced approach to working collaboratively with landowners, Indigenous communities, and stakeholders when developing the province's resources. Shane is looking forward to the opportunity to review the public's feedback and provide transparent recommendations for a streamlined participant involvement process that outlines the full impact of a project to Alberta stakeholders while delivering a level of certainty for all parties involved.

Benjamin Misener

Benjamin Misener is currently the Manager of Land & Environment for a small rural municipality in central Alberta. After graduating from Olds College in 2013 with a diploma in Rural Land Use Planning, he started off as a Development Officer and gradually transitioned to his current position. Benjamin oversees development permits and subdivisions for the County along with managing County owned lands including haying and grazing leases, oil and gas leases, and reserve lands. He is also the Alternative Land Use Services Coordinator. Amongst the many external committees he is involved with are the North Saskatchewan Watershed Alliance, Pembina Area Synergy Group, Pembina Sentinel Airshed Monitoring Society and the Agroforestry & Woodlot Extension Society. These groups have provided the County with an opportunity to connect with landowners and resource operators in an engaging open forum that works towards resolving issues and bringing forward new ideas in an inclusive space.

Rick Palmer

Rick's extended family has farmed/ranched in Southern Alberta since the early 1900's and through this he developed a connection to the land and the environment. Rick works in energy and over his 40+ year career he has been actively involved in the environmental, stakeholder and regulatory disciplines. The first fourteen years were with a provincial energy regulator; the next ten were as a senior consultant in the engineering and construction business both locally and globally; and the last fifteen years have been with a Canadian based multi-national producer. Rick has been involved in all aspects of licensing, engineering design and construction, stakeholder relations (including indigenous communities), private lands/landowners, and health and safety.

Denise Parsons

Denise Parsons is a graduate of the University of Alberta and has been a community engagement practitioner since 2000. She has worked with indigenous communities, the provincial government, resource developers, oil field service companies and regulators in a variety of capacities. Denise promotes the importance of planning and decision-making as informed by the values and inputs of indigenous communities and stakeholders. From her perspective, meaningful engagement supports better decisions and enhances the credibility of organizations.

Don C Ratcliff

Don is an experienced surface land manager/partner and Alberta Licensed Land Agent, employed at a surface and mineral land services consulting firm. Don has over 30 years of experience working in the upstream, downstream, linear transmission, and renewable energy industries. He is skilled in negotiation, stakeholder engagement, First Nation consultation, conflict resolution, and the surface land acquisition process in Western Canada. Don is a strong operational professional with a focus on building positive relationships, exceptional customer service, and bringing excellence to the surface acquisition process.

Ron Sturgess Sr.

A long term resident of the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo, Ron calls Anzac, Alberta home. Ron has been engaged in business for more than 25 years, including oil sands developments, as an entrepreneur and small business owner. A graduate of business from NAIT and the University of Alberta Faculty Extension, Ron prides himself on the experience gained in the region. Attending the Banff Centre, where he is enrolled in the Indigenous Leadership program, gives Ron added value in his role as Business Development Administrator for a Metis organization in Alberta. A trapper and longtime land user, Ron stewards to the land and is engaged with youth, sport and community.

Clara Wildcat

Clara Wildcat is a First Nations woman in Alberta. Her formal training is in Archaeology and she has extensive working experience in oil and gas consultation with Treaty First Nations since 2009. She is passionate about treaty rights and the impacts to aboriginal people when it comes to our land and water and how it is going to affect our future generations.