



IJC – Indigenous Nations

Virtual Workshop September 17 – 18, 2020

International Souris River Study Board with IJC and Tribes-First Nations-Métis Nation Participants

Exploring collaboration

- A follow-up to the November 2019 Peace Gardens Workshop

Virtual Workshop Platforms:

- GoTo Webinar (hosted by North Dakota State Water Commission)
- Poll Everywhere (hosted by US Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District)

Executive Summary

The **International Souris River Study Board (ISRSB)** undertook a number of Indigenous engagement initiatives as part of their efforts to inform the study of Indigenous rights holders' interests in the Souris River watershed and the river's flow operations. An in-person workshop was held at the International Peace Garden on the Manitoba-North Dakota border on November 6 -7, 2019 with recommendations for a follow-up workshop to advance interests in collaboration. As COVID-19 affected in-person gatherings, the next workshop was held on-line.

The virtual workshop with **Indigenous Nations** and **International Joint Commission (IJC¹)** representatives was held on September 17-18, 2020. The virtual workshop participants included Indigenous Nations with interests in the Souris River watershed, the International Joint Commission (IJC) and its **Commissioners**, the **International Souris River Study Board (ISRSB)** – a temporary board, and the **International Souris River Board (ISRB)** – a permanent river board. The goals of the workshop were to provide a brief update of the study and to determine a potential path forward for Indigenous collaboration with the IJC and the ISRB.

The ISRSB provided an update of the study and its status. The participants were presented with a high level overview of the study's main components of work: a review of operating rules, data collection and management, hydrology and hydraulic modeling, and simulation of various operating plan scenarios to see if operating rules can be improved for flood protection and water supply benefits. To date, some Indigenous Nations' input has been gathered for the study, and will be documented in the ISRSB's final study report over the course of the remainder of the study (The ISRSB is currently scheduled to deliver their final report to the IJC in spring 2021.) The ISRSB concluded that Indigenous Nations' interests in the Souris River watershed would be reported based on information received during the study; additional input from Indigenous Nations and items that may not be possible to address due to time constraints will be reported for potential follow-up with the permanent river board (the ISRB).

Most of the virtual workshop discussion was dedicated to ***gathering Indigenous participants' ideas on how Indigenous Nations could collaborate and provide input on matters relating to the Souris River, the IJC and the ISRB.*** The IJC provided an overview of its mandate which includes providing input to the

¹ A list of Acronyms is provided in the Appendices.

Governments of Canada and the United States regarding transboundary water issues on watersheds shared by both countries. The IJC presented on its organizational structure, boards, board membership, advisory groups, and committee roles. The IJC and Indigenous Nations presented on different models of engagement for effective collaboration. The facilitated workshop incorporated a chat function and polling questions for input from attendees. The detailed discussions and responses included many ideas to guide the creation of an Indigenous Advisory Group (IAG) and the selection of Indigenous representation on the International Souris River Board. Some of the main points suggested by Indigenous participants where consensus was strong included (but are not limited to):

- ***All Indigenous respondents stated there is interest in creating an Indigenous Advisory Group for the Souris River Watershed, to advise the ISRB and the IJC. [This was also reflected by Indigenous Nations at the 2019 Peace Gardens workshop, which was more broadly attended.]***
- ***An Indigenous Advisory Group should be open to include those interested Indigenous Nations with current and/or ancestral interests in the watershed (i.e. not be exclusive to Indigenous Nations that have residence in the basin). The number of members was not determined but it was acknowledged that it does not need to be restrictive.***
- ***Membership in an IAG should be selected with input from Indigenous Nations. Members' backgrounds may include water, sciences, Indigenous Science, Indigenous Knowledge, or another type of background (e.g. in Indigenous culture, women are typically the water keepers, so this may be an important consideration for membership).***
- ***Indigenous Nations expressed a desire to have representatives from the IAG sit on the ISRB, to provide Indigenous input on water and watershed issues. There was not complete agreement on how board members might be selected. Most suggested a nomination by consensus decision of the IAG or a vote by the IAG. [Board membership requires approval by the IJC.]***
- ***The majority of the Indigenous participants felt that there should be four Indigenous members on the ISRB (2 from Canada and 2 from United States).***
- ***Indigenous membership from Canada on the IAG and the ISRB will need to represent First Nations and the Métis Nation, and include representation from Nations in the provinces of Saskatchewan and Manitoba.***

A complete reporting of the Indigenous input for collaboration ideas and board membership are listed in the report under the sections entitled:

- **Indigenous Nations Models of Engagement**
- **Indigenous Dialogue: Indigenous Nations Models of Engagement for creating an Indigenous Advisory Group and Selection of Indigenous Board Members for the International Souris River Board**
- **Building the Collaborative Model Together**

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The Context of this Virtual Workshop

Canada and the United States share the Souris (Mouse) River, which originates in Saskatchewan, flows through North Dakota and Manitoba, and ultimately discharges into the Assiniboine River. Canada and the United States created the **International Joint Commission (IJC)** in 1909 under the **Boundary Waters Treaty** to prevent and resolve disputes on transboundary waters. The IJC is an independent bi-national organization that advises the Canadian and United States Governments regarding transboundary water issues.

Where dams and reservoirs exist in the Souris River Basin, the Souris River flow (i.e. releases from the dams) is managed in accordance with the **Operating Plan contained in Annexes A and B of the 1989 International Agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of the United States** (See *Figure 1 - Souris River Basin showing the Souris River and the dams where flow releases are managed*). Certain aspects of the management of the operations of reservoir releases from these dams is overseen by an established (permanent) river board, the **International Souris River Board (ISRB)**, which reports to the IJC.



Figure 1 - Souris River Basin showing the Souris River and the dams where flow releases are managed

In 2011, extreme flooding occurred after the Souris River watershed received much higher than normal snowfall over winter; these wet antecedent conditions were further exacerbated by the most significant rain events in recorded history; these rain events occurred during May and June 2011. The flooding was severe and prolonged, and caused significant social, economic, and environmental impacts. Rural and urban populations were affected, and serious damages resulted to infrastructure and the basin's riparian ecology. Partly in response to this 2011 flood, and in response to the formal July 5, 2018 reference² from the Canadian and U.S. Federal Governments, the IJC established the **International Souris River Study Board (ISRSB)** to investigate Souris River flooding and water supply issues, including risks from climate change impacts. The ISRSB was created as a temporary board to exist for the duration of the Souris River Study. Once its analysis is completed, the Study Board will report its findings to the IJC who will then provide the analysis and recommendations to the two Governments. The Governments of Canada and the United States will review the recommendations and it will then be up to the two Federal Governments to decide which of the IJC's recommendations to adopt and what determine what changes, if any, will be made to the 1989 Agreement.

The reference letter emphasised the importance of gathering input to the study from Indigenous Nations (as well as other public and resource agency advisory groups). The ISRSB Study Board initiated meetings with Indigenous Nations who have current or possible ancestral interests in the Souris Basin. These meetings initially took place with Indigenous Nations individually and in groups in the U.S. (e.g. United Tribes of North Dakota). The meetings were designed to introduce the IJC to Indigenous Nations, explain the ISRSB's work, and begin a conversation of gathering input from Indigenous Nations regarding their concerns and interests related to water management of the Souris River. The ISRSB was seeking to better understand Indigenous Nations' perspectives and interests for the Souris River and the Souris River watershed. The ISRSB then held an Indigenous Nations Workshop with attendance from both Canada and the U.S. to continue discussions and information gathering. The two-day in-person workshop included the Nations who expressed a desire to participate and discuss current or ancestral interests in the Souris River Basin. The workshop was held on November 6 and 7, 2019 at the International Peace Gardens (North Dakota - Manitoba border). Sixteen (16) Indigenous representatives participated in the November 2019 Peace Gardens workshop, representing ten (10) Indigenous Nations. It is estimated that there are over 25 Indigenous Nations with rights holders' interests in the Souris River Basin (some of these Nations currently reside outside of the Souris River Basin). (See *Figure 2 – Map of the Souris River Basin and Indigenous Nations*).

² Under the Boundary Water Treaty of 1909 between the United States and Canada, the two governments may request that the International Joint Commission (IJC) study an issue of binational interest. This request comes to the IJC in a letter, called a "reference". A "reference" is a request from governments for the IJC to investigate and report on specific topics.



Figure 2 - Map of the Souris River Basin and Indigenous Nations from U.S. and Canadian Federal Government data sources

The purpose of the November 2019 Peace Gardens Workshop was two-fold:

- to gather Indigenous Knowledge of how the Souris River flow impacts Indigenous Nations and to increase understanding of Indigenous Nations’ concerns and interests in Souris River flow operations, and
- to explore the interests of Tribes, First Nations, and the Métis Nation to engage with the IJC in an on-going relationship and collaboration.

The 2019 Peace Gardens Workshop concluded with several key takeaways:

- The Indigenous attendees expressed a strong interest in collaborating with the IJC to provide input to the short-term ISRSB.
- The Study Board will reach out to Indigenous Nations individually to determine how best to discuss technical information on Indigenous areas of interest and sites where there may be potential impacts with different flow scenarios. (This is on-going – Indigenous Nations will receive contact from the ISRSB, the ISRB and the IJC, depending on the specific context.)
- Upon discussions initiated by the ISRSB and IJC, Indigenous participants expressed interest in forming an **Indigenous Advisory Group (IAG)** to address the needs of the study and for longer-term collaboration with the IJC and the ISRB.
- Indigenous participants expressed interest in a follow-up workshop in May 2020 to continue discussions on the Souris River study and to pursue longer-term Indigenous engagement with the ISRB and the IJC more broadly.

The Sept. 17-18, 2020 Virtual Workshop: Format and Key Outcomes

As an outcome to the 2019 Peace Gardens workshop, the ISRSB and the IJC planned to hold an in-person follow-up workshop with Indigenous Nations in May 2020. However, this plan was not possible due to the world-wide outbreak of COVID-19 as travel and social distancing protocols were implemented in March 2020. Through on-going Indigenous engagement discussions, some Indigenous Nations members strongly encouraged the IJC to proceed with a follow-up **virtual workshop** for September 2020. The encouragement to proceed given by the Indigenous Nations participants were key in advancing the delivery of the virtual workshop. A joint IJC/ISRSB-Indigenous Nations planning team was formed to create and develop the virtual workshop. On-line facilitation and interactive dialogue were incorporated in the workshop to encourage attendance and active dialogue by participants. The GoTo virtual conferencing and PollEverywhere polling platforms were selected for ease of use, accessibility and to provide on-line real-time participant feedback during the workshop. GoTo features incorporated audio, video and PowerPoint presentations, and chat functions; the Video-conferencing feature was only used by presenters and a few participants while speaking (this was deliberate and chosen to reduce risk of band-width problems for attendees). Participant polling questions were prepared in advance to focus the virtual setting dialogue and to gather specific input from Indigenous participants regarding their recommendations and thoughts on potential processes and methods for future IJC and ISRB collaboration with Indigenous Nations. Platform hosts and moderators monitored the virtual workshop, its chat functions and PollEverywhere features. A key challenge with virtual workshops is the delayed audio, and discomfort with open dialogue (it is less “free flowing” than an in-person workshop). The work-around used to avoid these problems was to call upon individuals directly to ask for their input, if they were comfortable doing so, to ensure inclusive and more complete perspectives were gathered from participants.

The workshop consisted of two five-hour days, with two built-in 20-minute breaks. A significant block of time was provided for personal introductions of all participants on the first day to help people to get to know each other (the Agenda and Attendees List are in the Appendices). The virtual workshop objectives were to:

1. Update participants with the Study team’s work to date, and explain the next steps; and
2. Collect recommendations for creating a longer-term **Indigenous Advisory Group (IAG)** to inform the work of the permanent board, the **ISRB**, including suggestions for what the group wants to accomplish, who should participate, and how the group would like to work, etc. (e.g. structure, decision-making, communicating).

Virtual workshop invitations were sent to all Indigenous Nations that were invited to the November 2019 Peace Gardens Workshop, encouraging them to select additional representatives they wished to include at the Virtual Workshop. Other invited virtual workshop participants included representatives from the ISRSB, the ISRB, the IJC and its Commissioners, and some observers from other IJC boards. Read-ahead materials were sent to all invitees including pre-workshop questions for consideration and background information to provide context for any participants who had not attended the November 2019 Peace Gardens Workshop (the backgrounder document and the November Peace Gardens Workshop report are available in the link provided in the References section; all virtual workshop presentations are also provided in the link).

The Sept. 17-18, 2020 Virtual Workshop:

Attendees

The virtual platform hosted by the North Dakota State Water Commission was sufficiently large that limiting participation was not required. On Sept 17, up to 49 attendees participated while on Sept 18 attendance was up to 43. Participant numbers varied throughout the sessions, as not all could attend the full duration. Active on-line participants were around 42 on Day 1 and 35 on Day 2.

Indigenous participants numbered up to 15, representing about 10 different Indigenous Nations. The other participants were roughly broken down as ISRSB Study Board members or study team (up to 11), ISRB river board members (up to 5), IJC staff (up to 10), IJC Commissioners (up to 6), and several observers from the ISRSB Public Advisory Group (2) and other river boards (2). Attendance from the ISRSB and its study team was comprised of experts from agencies including the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), the United States Geological Service (USGS), North Dakota State Water Commission (NDSWC), Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC), Saskatchewan Water Security Agency (WSA), Manitoba Agriculture and Resource Development (ARD), and other agencies. (See the full Attendees List in the Appendices.)

Merits of the Virtual Workshop: Safety and a significant Carbon Footprint Reduction

The virtual platform was relatively easily accessible (with computer access). Pre-workshop testing was provided to participants, and instruction tips were offered each day of the workshop. A couple of attendees dialed in by phone connection. Participation was best with an internet connection to view presentations. The on-line platform performed well, and all participants valued the ability to connect. Telephone connection, while functional, was more challenging for individuals who could not view presentations.

The safety of participants was the main benefit realized from the virtual workshop, which safeguarded from risk of COVID-19 exposure. Cost savings were also a significant benefit. If travelling to a 2-day workshop, all attendees would have had to budget travel costs for about 4 days. Time savings was another major benefit. In addition, this virtual workshop resulted in a significantly reduced environmental impact from travel and associated impact on the meeting's carbon footprint. Of course, one of the key disadvantages of the virtual workshop is that there are no direct personal interactions, and this affects relationship-building, sidebar conversations, etc. The meeting encouraged input from individuals, and chat features were available, but these concepts of interacting are very different and somewhat limiting than the relational interactions that occur during in-person meetings.

Sept. 17 – a Synopsis of Day 1

Welcoming and Prayer

The workshop allowed 10 minutes at the start of each day's session for people to connect on-line, with a running display of photos of the Souris River Basin and Indigenous Nations. For this waiting period

and during breaks, **Lisa Lone Fight** provided photos showing **Mandan Hidatsa Arikara (MHA) Nation's** people, cultural events, places, and basin geography, for participants to view. Commissioner **Henry Lickers** offered cultural background music (e.g. Danny Beaton: Message from a Mohawk Child; Akwesasne Women Singers – Kontiwennhá:wi).

The workshop opened with prayer by **Elder Carol Davis, Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa**, who then presented a tobacco offering at the lake near her house for the workshop dialogue. **Darrell Corkal** offered a **Land Acknowledgement** respecting our presence in the traditional homelands of Indigenous Nations territories and offering a commitment of respect for the peoples, the land, water, air and ecology by our actions and behaviours. Condolences were extended to family and friends in honour of **Brendan Eastman** of Canupawakpa Dakota First Nation, who passed on in June 2020. Brendan contributed to and helped formulate discussions at the Peace Gardens Workshop in 2019. **Chris Korkowski** offered tips on use of GoTo for audio, video and chat functions, and **Vanessa Alberto** introduced PollEverywhere as our platform for interactive dialogue. IJC Commissioners **Lance Yohe** (US) and **Merrell-Ann Phare** (Canada) welcomed all participants, highlighting the importance of collaboration on shared water resources. IJC's **Wayne Jenkinson** (Canada) welcomed all and thanked the Indigenous participants who encouraged the IJC to proceed with a virtual workshop. IJC's **Mark Gabriel** (US) thanked all those who contributed to the planning and delivery of the workshop.

Setting the Virtual Workshop Stage

Lisa Lone Fight (Mandan Hidatsa Arikara or MHA Three Affiliated Tribes) presented welcoming videos from **MHA Chairman Mark Fox** and from her father **Elder Edward Lone Fight**. These presentations helped us understand how the Souris River is a unifier that brings us together as a community, and helped contextualize the knowledge that the river existed long before the border of Canada and the United States was created.

All attendees took time to introduce themselves, to enable all to begin the process of building relationships and getting to know each other. When participants were queried on "collaboration," the resulting word cloud from PollEverywhere was depicted in Figure 3.

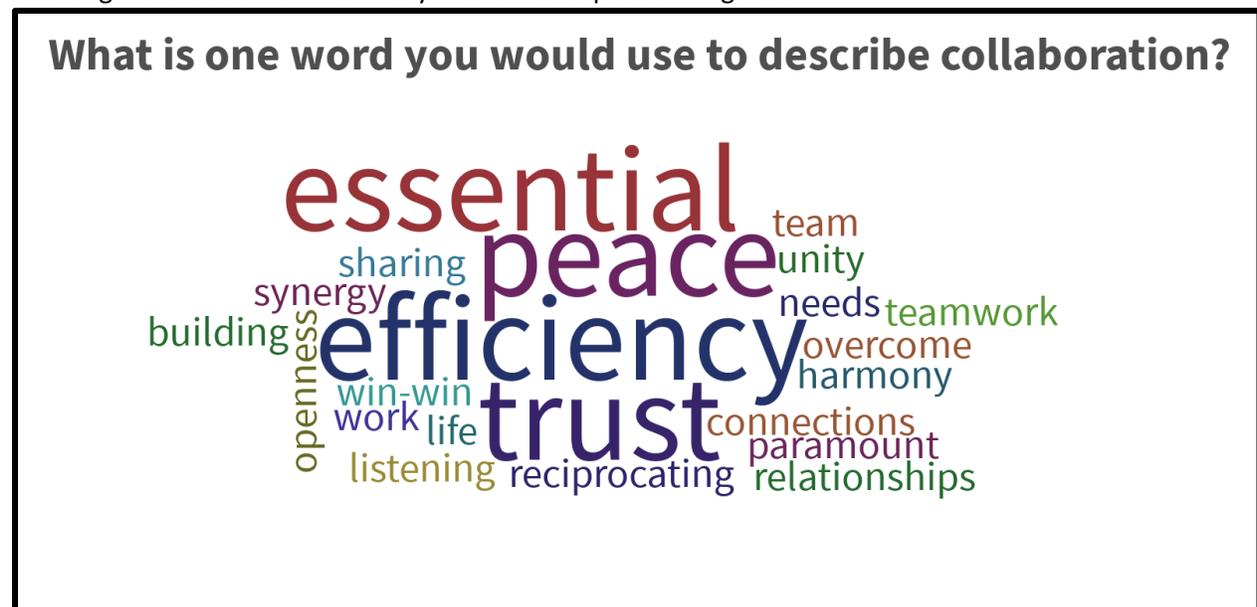


Figure 3 - Participants define "collaboration" in one word

What is the International Joint Commission and the International Souris River Study Board?

The IJC's Souris River Study: International Souris River Study Board (PowerPoint)

IJC's Engineering Advisors **Mark Gabriel** (US) and **Wayne Jenkinson** (Canada) gave an overview of:

- the **IJC**, its structure and work
- the role of the **ISRB**, a permanent board with a mandate focusing on the Souris River flow, water quality and operations of the river's dams and flow structures, and
- the **ISRSB**, the temporary study board reviewing the 1989 Agreement (the ISRB oversees the ISRSB).

Status of the Souris River Study (PowerPoint)

ISRSB Co-chairs **Michael Bart** (US) and **Al Pietroniro** (Canada) introduced why the study was initiated in response to the major flooding of 2011 and in consideration of climate change. The study will review the existing 1989 operating plan and will offer recommendations for possible improvements. ISRSB study managers **Bruce Davison** (Canada) and **Gregg Wiche** (US) presented an update of the study findings and its status. The study is reviewing the 1989 Agreement. It will consider competing or conflicting objectives such as keeping reservoirs low to provide benefits for flood control or keeping reservoirs full to offer benefits for water supply. The study has incorporated input from various stakeholders and rights holders, including input from Indigenous Nations. Bruce Davison indicated how **Performance Indicators (PIs)** were developed to evaluate the potential impacts of different operational scenarios. One PI was developed in collaboration with the Manitoba Metis Federation. **Marci Riel (Manitoba Metis Federation)** emphasised the importance of keeping Indigenous people involved. She referred to inundation of Crown Lands in Manitoba, identified in the 1:300 Year flood simulation - such flooding has a large impact on Crown Land and will affect trapping, hunting, and fishing capabilities of Métis Nation people. Indigenous voices need to be included throughout the process. There is an understanding that the ISRSB has made decisions up to this point, but this is an opportunity to engage Indigenous people more.

In his presentation, **Bruce Davison** posited a question as to whether or not the study would include sufficient time for additional Indigenous input. He noted that the ISRSB goals are to gather additional Indigenous input and data for the study within the study's time constraints, and to ensure that future Indigenous data inputs and collaboration needs are documented in the study report so that the ISRB (the permanent river board) will better understand the scope of Indigenous interests and concerns for continued inclusion in future ISRB activities. This will also be a strong case for ensuring more Indigenous engagement with the ISRB into the future.

Indigenous Nations Dialogue/Responses to the IJC/ISRSB presentations:

Lisa Lone Fight (Mandan Hidatsa Arikara Three Affiliated Tribes) indicated more, and better data and input will improve the accuracy of the study. It would be ideal to see another study with specific focus on Indigenous perspectives and engineering. **Marci Riel (Manitoba Metis Federation)** referred to concerns raised at the Peace Gardens Workshop; the study has not changed much since then. The concerns of Indigenous Nations are not separate from the concerns of others within the basin. She suggested that there needs to be a material change to the study to incorporate Indigenous voices, and that there could be a disconnect if the Indigenous information is not reflected. **Lisa Lone Fight** emphasised the need to incorporate **Indigenous Science** and **Indigenous Knowledge** in the study. **Richard Aisaican (Cowessess Cree-Saulteaux First Nation)** agreed with these comments and

emphasised that inclusion is critical, that we are “at the beginning” of gathering **Traditional Knowledge** – there is a way to receive this knowledge. He also noted that First Nations are not accustomed to being involved with the IJC initiatives, so they will need more background and more engagement and relationship building – these meetings are improving the transfer of information.

When participants were queried on their thoughts and understanding of the ISRSB, their PollEverywhere responses were depicted in Figure 4.

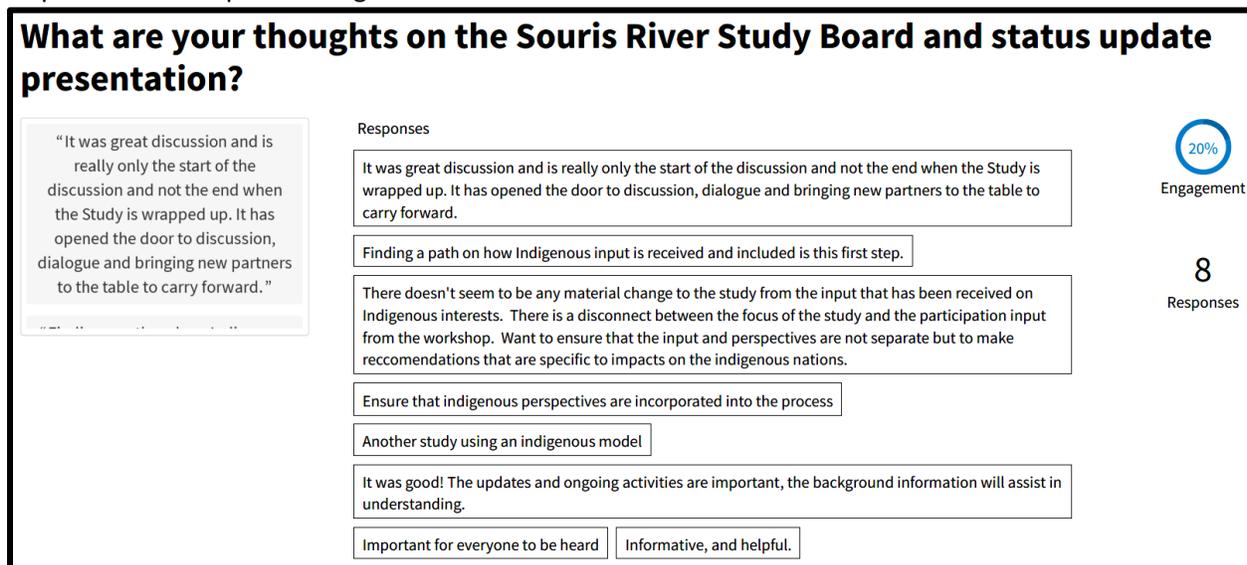


Figure 4 – Participants’ thoughts on the status of the ISRSB Study

Working Together: The IJC/ ISRB and Indigenous Collaboration

International Joint Commission and International Souris River Board (PowerPoint)

Wayne Jenkinson (IJC) provided an overview of the spectrum of IJC Boards and their engagement models. The IJC is not a large organization but has significant responsibilities and accountabilities to Canada and the United States. The IJC accomplishes its work through extensive partnerships, boards, committees, advisory groups (AGs), and studies. He provided some details on these groups:

- There are about 20 boards with equal membership from Canada and United States
- Boards range in size from 2 to over 20 members.
- Membership to IJC Boards are appointed typically for 2-3-year terms by the 6 Commissioners.
- Board members are volunteers from agencies, the public, and Indigenous Nations.
- Each Board has 2 co-chairs (one from each country).
- Boards work to deliver the IJC’s mandate for each transboundary watershed with the focus on water levels, water flows, and/or water quality.
- Some Boards are permanent (e.g. the International Souris River Board, ISRB) and some are temporary (e.g. the International Souris River Study Board, ISRSB).
- Decisions are made by consensus, and members act in their “personal and professional capacity” for the benefit of the watershed – not as a representative of their organization.
- Boards alert the IJC of water-related issues in the watershed.
- Boards may be supported by Committees and Advisory Groups to improve engagement, outreach, capacity, and expertise.
- Some examples of Boards, Committees and AGs were described in the presentation.

During the break, individuals responded with their description on engagement, including “*empowerment*” and “*understanding*” in GoTo Chat and the PollEverywhere word cloud depicted in Figure 5.



Figure 5 - Participants define positive engagement in one word

Indigenous Nations Models of Engagement (PowerPoint Presentations)

Richard Aisaican (Cowessess Cree-Saulteaux First Nation) described some **practical practices for engaging with First Nations**.

- Engagement cannot be one-sided, nor a “check-box” activity.
- While there is always a reason – usually a “business-case” for engagement, it is also relations-oriented. The human element is important.
- Engagement has a focus, but the rules of engagement may vary depending on the goal and the timeline.
- Engagement must start with information-sharing and relationship building: take time, be sincere, be prepared for difficult questions, be informal, be yourself, learn culture.
- Do not make mistakes, and when you do, correct them as quickly as possible.
- Watch out for the invisible army (Nation identity vs. individual identity, rights infringement, subject interest versus rights, etc.). In addition, watch out for political hi-jacking or stonewalling.
- Make fluid adjustments to needs and demands. Politics can be demanding.
- Build leaders versus followers.
- An Individual committee or group member sits at your table. They have the freedom to act and make decisions based on their experience and skill; or, they can sit attached to a larger group or another individual and must check in and move an agenda forward from outside the immediate circle.
- Good committee/board members will check their ego and anger (but it may occur at times); they will treat each other as equals, adjust conduct and behaviour, participate in a team atmosphere, speak to the subject and will be task-oriented.

- History, however, must be acknowledged no matter how unpleasant it may be. Reconciliation is for everyone.
- Solutions require compromise, collaboration, commitment, and co-ordination.
- Be brave in moving forward, stay positive and remain in good standing and in good relationship.
Meegwetch/Thank You

Marci Riel (Manitoba Metis Federation) summarized highlights of her presentation, “**Better Understanding the Relationship: Canada and the Métis Nation**”. The Métis Nation was born in the Red River Settlement, at the confluence of the Red River and the Assiniboine River. Marci Riel provided a brief historical overview of the Métis, its people, culture, historic leaders, treaties, governance, and recognition in the Canadian Constitution. The Métis Nation has collective Aboriginal rights, is recognized for land claims, and has interests in land use (hunting, fishing, trapping, harvesting, cultural, and ceremonial sites). The Manitoba Metis Federation works to ensure governments and industry abide by environmental and constitutional obligations to the Métis Nation. Métis Traditional Land Use considers gathering information from traditional activities such as hunting, gathering, fishing, and trapping. Métis Occupancy Land Use gathers information from historic activities, such as farms/farming, forts, settlements, cemeteries, cultural sites, transportation/access routes, camps, homes/birthplaces, and Métis stories including oral history. Partnerships and accommodation are sought for environmental safeguards in projects, regulatory considerations, and conservation. Métis people are involved in land-based monitoring (e.g. Line 3 Oil Pipeline Replacement, Whiteshell Nuclear Reactor, Manitoba Hydro transmission project, CN oil spill), and in heritage and cultural resources monitoring – to identify, monitor, respect and protect Métis cultural and heritage rights. Métis rights are unique and need to be safeguarded today and into the future. The Métis Nation’s monitoring work ensures that it can meaningfully participate with other groups or initiatives. *Meegwetch.*

Lisa Lone Fight (Mandan Hidatsa Arikara Three Affiliated Tribes) offered to present on Day 2 due to time restrictions. (Unfortunately, she was not able to attend on Sept 18, and Lisa offered to provide her presentation by video).

Reflecting on **Indigenous models of engagement**, the attendees offered their perspectives in PollEverywhere in Figure 6.

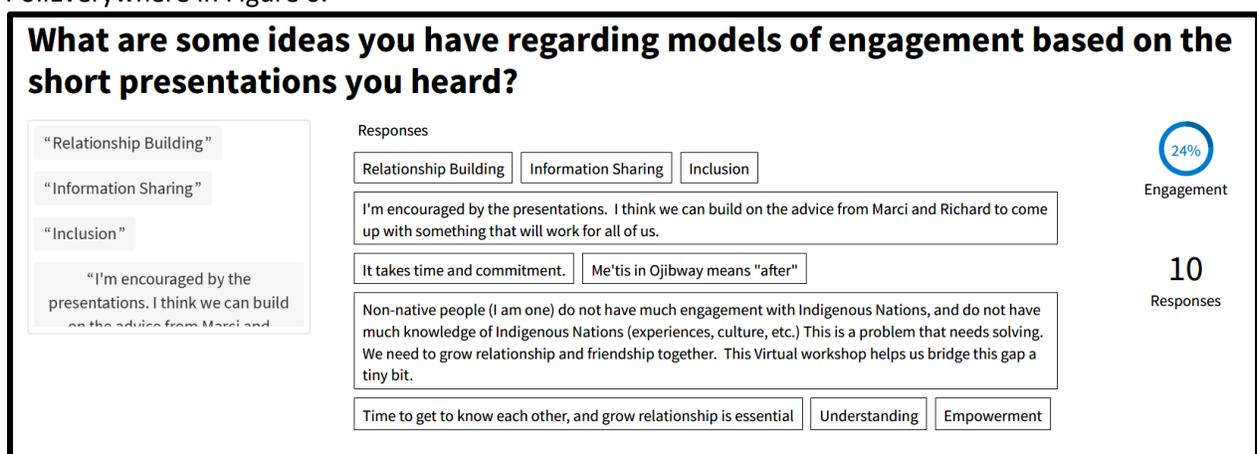


Figure 6 - Ideas on Indigenous Nations Models of Engagement

Elder Carol Davis closed Day 1 with prayer.

Sept. 18, 2020 – a Synopsis of Day 2

Welcoming and Prayer

Prior to Day 2 starting, 10 minutes were allowed for people to connect on-line, with a running display of photos of the Souris River Basin and Indigenous Nations. For this waiting period, photos provided by **Lisa Lone Fight** showing **Mandan Hidatsa Arikara Nation's** people, cultural events, places, and basin geography for participants to view. During breaks, PollEverywhere was used by providing participants the opportunity to “spot the hidden animal” as a mind-exercise and Commissioner **Henry Lickers** offered cultural background music (e.g. Akwesasne Women Singers – Kontiwennenhá:wi).

The workshop opened with prayer by **Elder Carol Davis, Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa**, who then presented a tobacco offering at the lake near her house for the workshop dialogue. Darrell Corkal offered a **Land Acknowledgement** respecting our presence in the traditional homelands of Indigenous Nations territories and offering a commitment of respect for the peoples, the land, water, air, and ecology by our actions and behaviours. Chris Korkowski offered tips on use of GoTo for audio, video, and chat functions, and Vanessa Alberto introduced PollEverywhere as our platform for interactive dialogue.

Stewart Klyne (Métis Nation of Saskatchewan, Eastern Region 3) followed up on yesterday's discussion on Indigenous Knowledge, advising there is a collaborative framework that should be considered. **Pierre-Yves Caux** offered the link to the **Indigenous Knowledge Policy Framework for Proposed Project Reviews and Regulatory Decisions:**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/services/environment/conservation/assessments/environmental-reviews/environmental-assessment-processes/discussion-paper-development-indigenous-knowledge-policy-framework.html>.

New attendees were introduced at this time.

Insights from Day 1 (some of these were presented in the Chat function of GoTo)

Henry Lickers commented it is important to come together with a common vision – in our case it is the well-being of the river. **Pierre-Yves Caux** commented how **Traditional Knowledge** was used in the Performance Indicators in another IJC study on Lake Champlain. **Pierre Beland** and **Jane Corwin** indicated that the earlier Indigenous engagement occurs in these types of studies or boards, the better. Henry Lickers noted that western scientific approaches often miss the inherent knowledge that Indigenous people already have in specific areas of interest. He referred to a previous partnership in Alberta where an Indigenous Wisdom Advisory Panel was established, along with a sub-committee on Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge, establishing protocols and procedures for the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC, see: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry/cosewic-annual-reports/2018-2019.html>).

Carol Davis noted the **Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa** often wonders what is happening in Canada (on the other side of the border) in caring for water. She says that this ISRSB/IJC experience has inspired her to build relationships with Northern neighbours on this shared water system. She encouraged younger members with knowledge of the watershed to become actively engaged. In Ojibway society, women are responsible for water; she would like to model and share results from fifty (50) women responsible for water, with help from the men. **Girma Sahlu** appreciated and welcomed the recognition and inclusion of Indigenous voices in the workshop and goals for IJC initiatives. **Wanda McFadyen** stated Day 1 was a great learning day which opened doors for further discussions, studies, and projects – this will only lead to making things better for all stakeholders in the Souris River Basin.

Some general insights from Day 1 provided as feedback in Poll Everywhere are summarized below:

- There is new inspiration to build cross-border relationships with neighbours.
- Younger members need to be engaged.
- Becoming engaged on water at an early stage is desirable.
- Important information was provided and conveyed.
- It was a great day of learning.
- Open discussion.
- There are avenues to have input into water issues that involve the Souris River watershed.
- Lots of information was provided, and there is much more to be learned.
- Relationships are being built – we enjoy the rapport that is developing.
- Great thoughtful presentations.
- Try to use an Indigenous model for the next meetings.
- Richard provided excellent advice on engagement.
- The study may not have all the information available.

International Souris River Board (ISRB) (PowerPoint)

Nicole Armstrong and **Gregg Wiche** (ISRB Canadian co-chair and U.S. board member, respectively) explained how the ISRB, a permanent river board is structured, how it operates, and how it reports to the IJC. The ISRB follows the 2007 Directive; the board provides oversight of apportionment of water (sharing of flow across provincial, state and international borders), flood operations, water quality monitoring, aquatic ecosystem health, public engagement, awareness of water development projects, and other activities the IJC may request (e.g. the current temporary study board reviewing the 1989 Agreement).

The ISRB has 18 members (9 from each country), and 4 committees: Hydrology, Flow Forecasting, Aquatic Ecosystem Health, and Communications and Outreach. The board typically meets twice yearly, usually in February and June, and incorporates at least one public meeting (usually with its June meeting). The focus of **the ISRB mandate is on the Souris River**: its flows, flood risk/potential, hydrologic conditions/status, water quality and aquatic health of the river, and monitoring programs, among other topics, such as **International Watersheds Initiatives** projects. Current priorities include providing input to the temporary board, the ISRSB (reviewing the 1989 Agreement), sharing flow forecasting information, communications and outreach and annual reporting. The Board also plans engagement activities with the public.

From the November 2019 Indigenous Nations workshop, the ISRB and the IJC understand that Indigenous engagement with the IJC and the ISRB/ISRSB is of interest to Indigenous Nations. One conceptual model discussed at the November workshop was to create an Indigenous Advisory Group (IAG), whose role would be to provide input and advice to the IJC, the ISRB, and the ISRSB. IAG members could include any Indigenous Nations with current and/or ancestral interests in the Souris River Basin. Furthermore, the IAG could develop a process to provide input on Indigenous Board Membership to serve on the permanent ISRB. It must be noted that the IJC asks all Board members to base their decisions on personal and professional expertise for the benefit of the Souris River (water/ watershed), and not to make decisions as representatives of a particular organization.

In further discussions, **Shanny Spang Gion (Northern Cheyenne Nation)** expressed interest in seeing a visual framework depiction of the board's governance.

Respondents in Chat and on PollEverywhere expressed that they are starting to understand how the ISRB functions, as depicted in Figure 7.

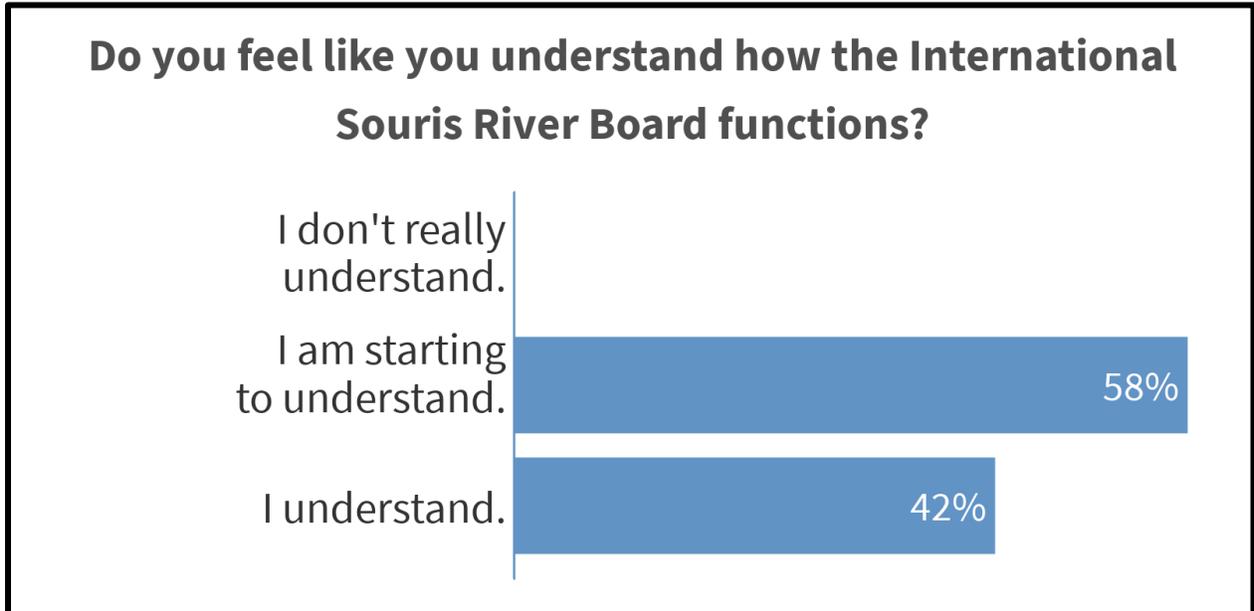


Figure 7 - Participants are starting to understand how the ISRB functions

Of the 8 Indigenous respondents, there was unanimous support for creating an Indigenous Advisory Group, as shown in Figure 8.

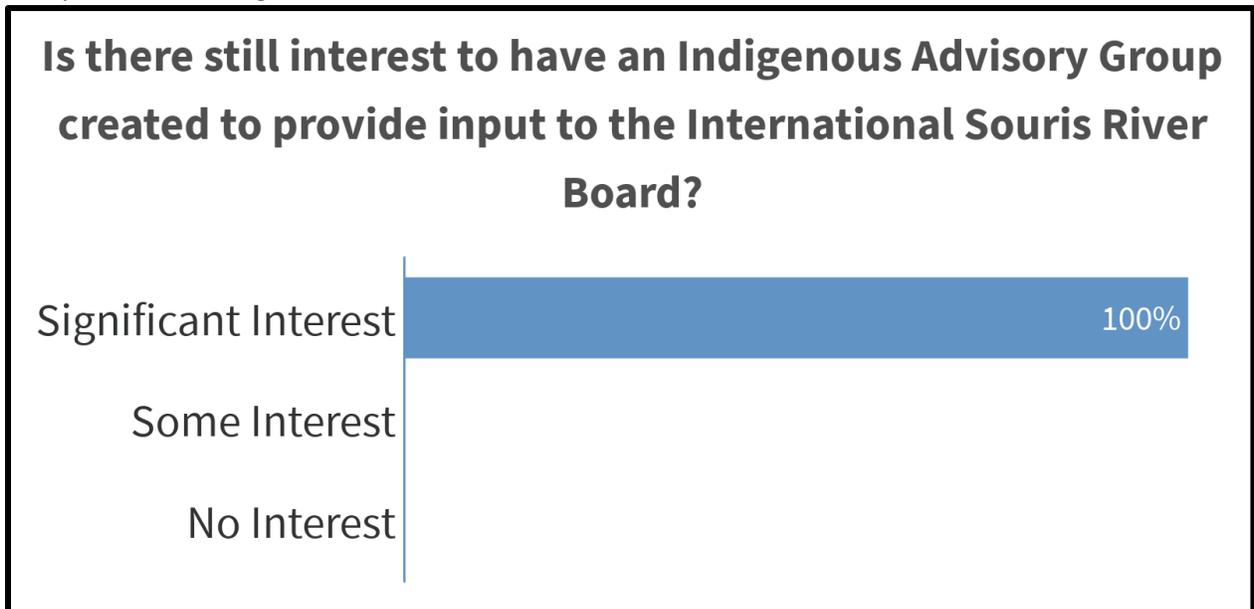


Figure 8 – Indigenous respondents show unanimous support for creating an Indigenous Advisory Group

International Souris River Board (ISRB) (PowerPoint)

Wayne Jenkinson presented ideas on IJC Engagement with Indigenous people in the Souris River Basin. Since the November 2019 Workshop, the IJC and its Boards recognize there is strong Indigenous interest in forming an Indigenous Advisory Group to provide advice and input to the IJC and the Souris Boards. The question in the workshop discussion at this point was: “**Can we agree on an approach to form an Indigenous Advisory Group and to set in place a process for including Indigenous membership on the International Souris River Board?**” Wayne Jenkinson offered additional details on how IJC advisory groups are formed and how they function. He provided examples: the Community Advisory Group and the Industry Advisory Group in Lake of the Woods, and the Public Advisory Group for the Souris River Study, with examples of possible advisory group structures. He noted the types of questions that would be posed in the remaining workshop time, such as:

- How do we decide who participates on an Indigenous Advisory Group?
- Who appoints members?
- How many members should be identified?
- How might possible Indigenous Board members from an IAG be identified to serve on the International Souris River Board?

He concluded by providing a depiction of a possible new International Souris River Board Structure with a prospective Indigenous Advisory Group.

Indigenous Dialogue: Indigenous Nations Models of Engagement for creating an Indigenous Advisory Group and Selection of Indigenous Board Members for the International Souris River Board

(some of the following points were provided in the Chat function)

Indigenous Participants offered comments that after these presentations there was increased understanding of how an advisory group could function. **Richard Aisaican** noted an example where he was selected by independent Indigenous Nations in his region to serve on a board/committee, explaining that Tribal Councils select from within each Nation. Depending on need, selection may be for technical or political reasons; this may also depend on the goals and outcomes. Other considerations may be a need to protect the participant from liabilities or potential reprimands.

Carol Davis indicated that Indigenous peoples typically have “less agenda-focused, less structured meetings.” Rather, Indigenous gatherings come with a goal, camaraderie, a desire to strengthen social bonds and confront local issues of relevance to those who are gathering for the meeting. Questions and issues are brought to the group. It is extremely important to maintain the interest of the participants in these meetings/gatherings – there must be a personal and local connection to the members who are meeting. It would be best to have an Indigenous Advisory Group / Committee bring up their personal and local concerns of interest to them.

When queried on their understanding of how an Indigenous Advisory Group could function, participants indicated they are starting to understand as shown in Figure 9.

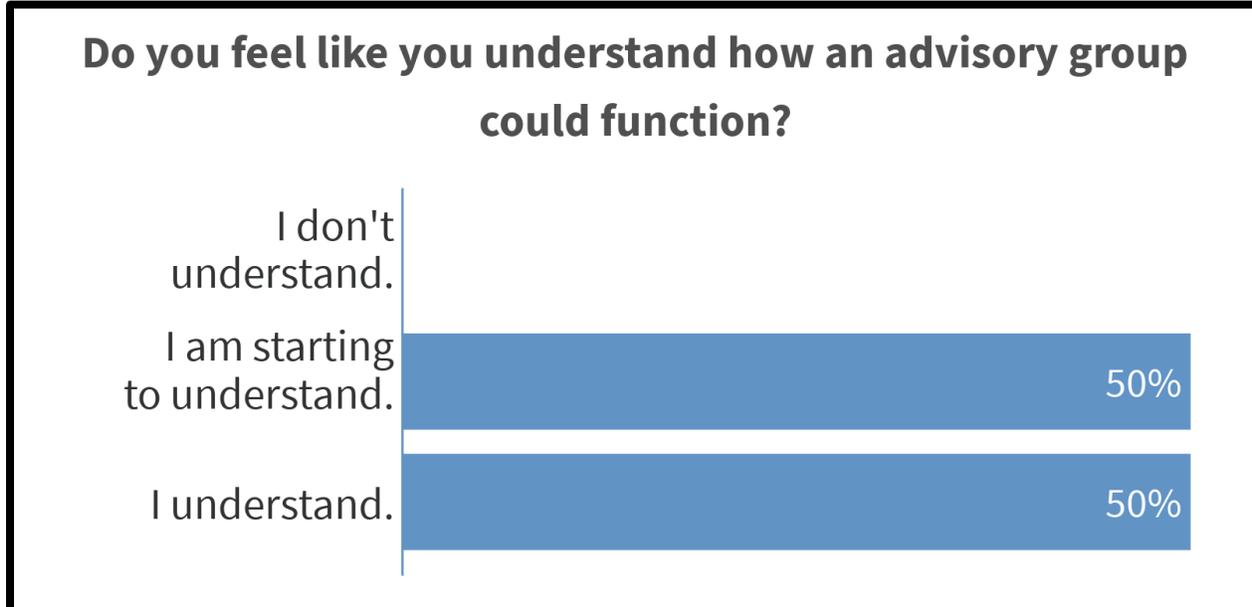


Figure 9 - Indigenous Nations are starting to understand how Advisory Groups function

Henry Lickers (an Indigenous IJC Commissioner) responded that there is a need to find the balance. The IJC would like to see Indigenous representation on each of their boards. But there are logistical challenges: For local boards, what do you want to do? Most IJC board members are volunteers – where will funding sources come from? What will the group structure be? The group itself needs to form, determine its role within the IJC scope, explore funding arrangements, etc.

Jasmine Langhan (Manitoba Metis Federation) indicated that an Indigenous Advisory Group concept is an important initiative, and the Manitoba Metis Federation will continue to be committed to this concept. As for board membership numbers, the MMF would prefer 4 Indigenous members (2 from each country). It should be recognized that Section 35 of the Canadian Constitution identifies more than one Indigenous Nation, and it will be important for an IAG to be representative of this, with representation for all areas and jurisdictions. [It is assumed this comment emphasises a need to ensure board membership would be comprised of one member from a First Nation and one member from the Métis Nation for the two members from Canada.]

Shanny Spang Gion (Northern Cheyenne Nation) expressed interest in drawing membership from science and leadership interests. She noted there needs to be an understanding of Euro-based (Western) science, and Native Science (Indigenous Science, Indigenous Knowledge). She queried if others would be included outside of the “place-based” Souris River Basin (e.g. Nations outside of the watershed)³. She believes that Nations outside of the Basin could bring expertise and maintain their sense of place and history in the Basin. Such an IAG would also be a great way of sharing knowledge between Nations. Different communication styles with shared values and principles would allow us to share how we

³ Recognizing that Indigenous Nations lived a nomadic lifestyle, for the November 2019 Peace Gardens Workshop, the ISRSB extended invitations to those Nations who are understood to have current and/or ancestral interests in the Souris River Basin. This list of about 25 Nations may require further review.

address issues through Euro- and Native Science. For example, Indigenous Nations developed a wetland plant assessment guide from their own Indigenous Knowledge and Science expertise.

Sheree Blacksmith (Canupawakpa Dakota First Nation) concurred with these statements. She offered an example that many are now wanting to hear Indigenous Voices. For example, Manitoba Hydro is asking for Indigenous guidance on Crown Land, and there is an attempt to build relationships with Indigenous Nations. Canupawakpa Elders had to remind the Manitoba Hydro facilitator of past Pipe Ceremonies and Tobacco Ceremonies, where a relationship was agreed to between Manitoba Hydro and Canupawakpa and other Indigenous Nations. They had to be reminded that the ceremony of smoking a pipe is an agreement or promise [a treaty]; it is part of relationship-building where the parties agree to work together in a good manner, promising to listen to what is being stated and taking the statements into consideration. If there are promises, they need to be remembered and kept, and followed through with actions. Cultural respect is necessary. Rule-reminding may also be necessary at times.

Stewart Klyne (Métis Nation of Saskatchewan, Eastern Region 3) followed questioned if the Industry and Public Advisory Groups (per previous examples of IJC AGs) were designed to not have Indigenous involvement. **Wayne Jenkinson** noted that they were not designed to be exclusive of Indigenous involvement, and that, in the case of the Rainy Lake of the Woods example, the PAG includes Indigenous members, and the Industry Advisory Group is also not exclusive, but there are currently no Indigenous industries represented.

Gregg Wiche asked: “**How do we know that we are targeting the right list of Indigenous Nations for the Indigenous Advisory Group?**” This is a question that remains to be explored and answered.

Eric Cameron (Swan Lake Anishinabe First Nation) noted that **Indigenous peoples see and have different perspectives of the land, water, habitat, plants, tree, medicines, climate change, flooding, erosion, etc. Indigenous peoples see these as living matters.**

Building the Collaborative Model Together

Creating an Indigenous Advisory Group: Participants’ recommendations for a Model of Collaboration

A series of PollEverywhere questions were posed to the Indigenous Nations attendees only, for their input. While the number of Indigenous Attendees ranged from 8 to 11 (representing up to about 33% of the total attendance during the polling), the Indigenous responses are deemed to reflect diversity from Nations within the Souris River Basin in Canada and the United States. Their responses are consistent with, and build upon, the earlier discussions at the November 2019 Peace Gardens workshop, which was more broadly attended. The following graphics depict the PollEverywhere responses to the questions noted in each graphic.

Indigenous Nations are split in recommending membership numbers on an Indigenous Advisory Group. Figure 10 shows 50% are very comfortable having one member sit on an Indigenous Advisory Group, while 50% cannot answer this question at this time.



Figure 10 - Indigenous participants are split in advising on the membership numbers to serve on an IAG.

Figure 11 shows that Indigenous participants believe that membership background should be science- or leadership-based (equally split at 23% each) or be based on another type of background rationale for membership (54%).

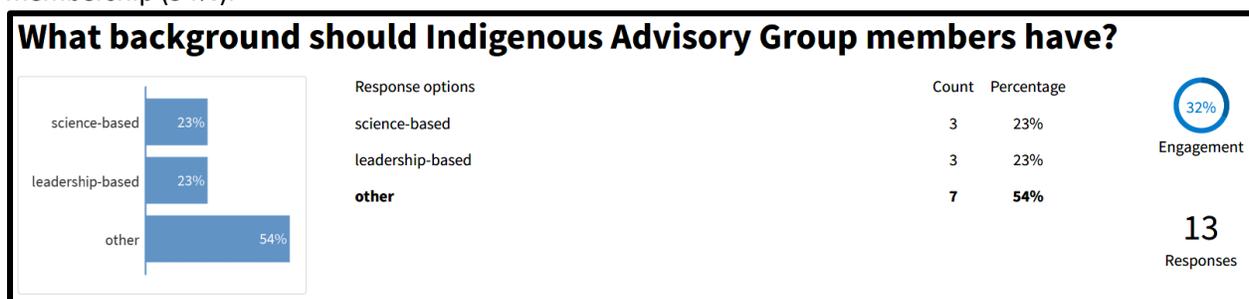


Figure 11 - Indigenous participants believe membership backgrounds should be based on varied criteria.

Richard Aisaican added that voice and function also come to mind. The type of person depends on the work, as the “devil is in the details”. A smaller group is preferable as it is more manageable, but it might be a trade-off for inclusion of all voices. **Shanny Spang Gion** added that people of backgrounds with Indigenous Science, academic science, or other Indigenous Knowledge would be beneficial. **Carol Davis** added that individuals tasked with addressing water issues would be desirable. **Henry Lickers** noted that membership may not be “gender-based equity.” In Indigenous culture, **women are the Water Keepers**, and who also possess spiritual knowledge of water. There are elements of social science, spiritual science and biological sciences at play that may influence membership. **Eric Cameron** also noted that Anishinabe people have their own science and had Indigenous laws prior to European settlement. A nominated member would consult with their members. The concept of **Elders’ Traditional Knowledge** is another important consideration in selecting membership.

Interests vary for what potential members of an IAG would be interested in, as shown in Figure 12. The most significant interest is “**providing an Indigenous perspective on the Souris River Basin**” but sharing research and information, expanding contacts, opportunities to meet other Indigenous Nations, and other reasons also are important factors. **Carol Davis** noted that there needs to be a place to bring local issues to the table for resolution. This will keep participants actively engaged and interested in contributing in meaningful ways.

What would potential members of the Indigenous Advisory Group be interested in?

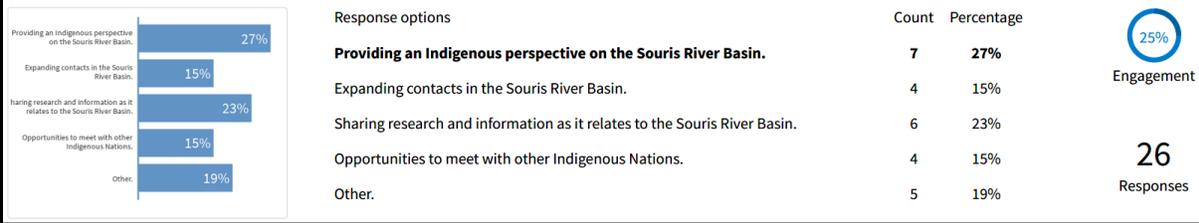


Figure 12 - Interests vary for potential IAG members.

Indigenous Nations have a variety of interests on reporting back from an IAG to their Nation, on International Souris River Board material, as shown in Figure 13. Eric Cameron also added that reporting back through community engagement sessions will also be important.

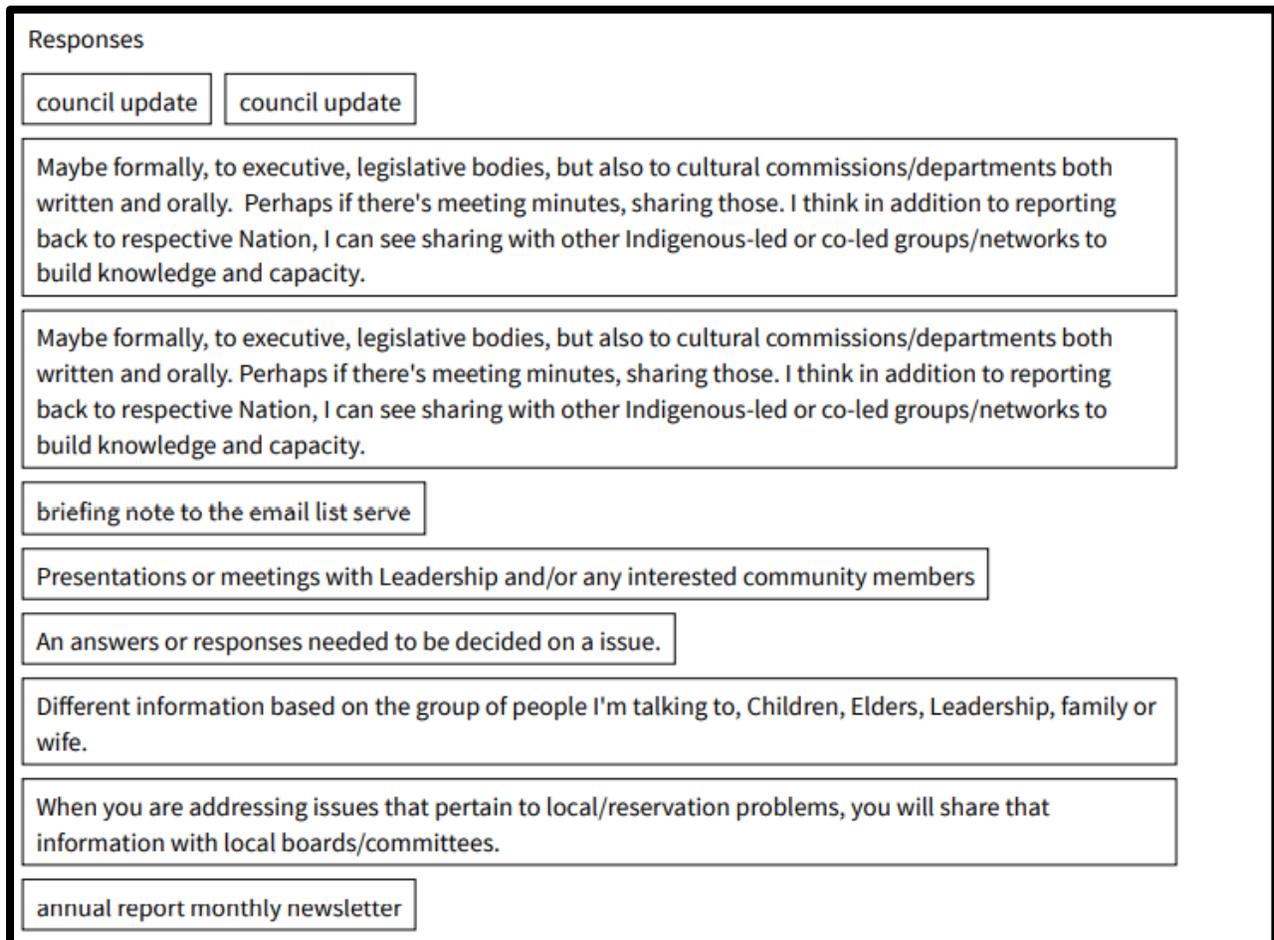


Figure 13 - How IAG Members might report ISRB materials to their Nation

Figure 14 shows that Indigenous participants (83%) recommended that there should be four Indigenous Board Members, with 2 from Canada and 2 from United States [N.B. This question inadvertently stated the “study board”; the question, dialogue and response was actually in reference to the **International Souris River Board**, the permanent river board.] **Eric Cameron** suggested 1 from Manitoba, 1 from Saskatchewan. [This is presumed to be a complement of two different Indigenous Nations from Canada; the other factor is to ensure the Métis Nation is represented, as previously noted by **Jasmine Langhan**.]



Figure 14 - Participants suggest 4 Indigenous members for the ISRB.

Participants recommended a variety of preferences for how Indigenous ISRB board members should be nominated (Figure 15): Consensus by IAG (44%), IAG selects through vote (22%), IJC selects (11%), ISRB selects (11%), Sequential list⁴ (11%).

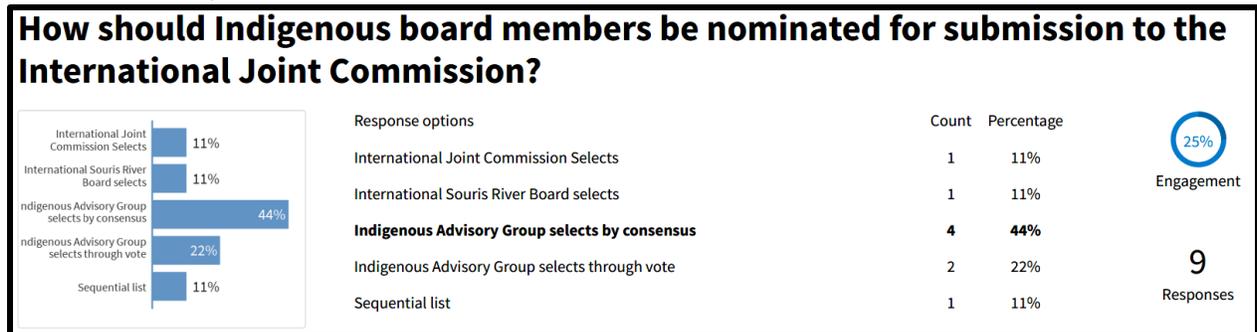


Figure 15 – Participants have varying Ideas of how Indigenous Board Membership should be selected.

Stewart Klyne queried on how would it be possible to keep the politics out of the selection submission? **Wayne Jenkinson** noted that this was something that would need to be worked through to a solution. For example, if there are 2 members from Canada, perhaps one could be from Métis Nation and one from First Nations, and/or members could be selected with one from Manitoba and one from Saskatchewan. Perhaps the Métis seat could rotate between Manitoba and Saskatchewan, and the First Nations seat could rotate through the different Nations. [Note: *There is also an assumption that all Indigenous Board Members would act as representatives for all the Indigenous Nations’ perspectives of the Indigenous Advisory Group –i.e. a member would represent many Indigenous Nations.*] **Wayne Jenkinson** also noted that *Advisory Groups do not always have to be in agreement – their job is to provide input to identify a full scope of the issues.*

⁴ A sequential list was defined as a rotating term where an Indigenous Nation would select persons to be recommended by the IJC for serving in the IAG; the IJC would proceed by selecting individuals sequentially through the list after terms expire for named individuals.

Some ideas for Indigenous Board Members roles were provided by Indigenous participants in Figure 16. **Wayne Jenkinson** reminded participants that all that Board Members act in the interest of the water, not in the interest of individual Nations (or agencies). **Rebecca Seal-Soileau** indicated that one of the strengths of the Study Board (ISRSB) was to engage advisory groups to talk about each other's issues and concerns throughout the Basin, to share knowledge and better understand each other's issues, and how they were being affected. Building mutual understanding is beneficial. **Eric Cameron** suggested knowledge and/or research sharing with the First Nations people is an important role.

Responses
Knowledge or reseach sharing with the FN community.
Culturally would be responsible to the water and its environment but would also have to be women. This may not exceptible to the broader society.
If the board member is to represent all targeted indigenous nations, perhaps a web site can be made available where information can be shared.

Figure 16 - Suggested roles of Indigenous Board Members

Participants offered some thoughts on the Indigenous Advisory Group discussion (Figure 17).

Responses
Thank you for allowing me to pop into the meeting as able to. Sorry I missed out on the meeting and presentations yesterday. Thank you to Carol and Henry. Your words resonated with me as a younger water person for my tribe. One of the older people in my family said I didn't need to ask for permission as I was a water carrier to look at water as I want to and share back with your community. Do the different forms of the water within the basin considered within the study group and the international group? It makes me think of the Water Spirits. The different forms can indicate where the Spirits are going or traveling. Thank you for the time.
Used to think that water was an access issue. It is very personal life and tribal responsibility. You can navigate through it as tribal members. We already have a structure in place that is manageable at the local level. When realize you are dealing with the spirits themselves in indigenous science. The Water Spirits are not an intellectual exercise but it is important that we have respect for the spirits and our ancestors. There are considerations, they should be nominated by the people. They have teachings on what characteristics people should have to lead on these concerns. It is more complicated to understand organizing a board from the indigenous perspective.
Understand that there is an Advisory group with conflicting ideas. But have we considered a mediation group for resolving differences to provide advise to the ISRB. It is a social and spiritual science that we have people who study resolving issues. This can be valuable to both the advisory group and the river board.
Need to get the proper advice from all types of people. We also need gender balance since culturally women are responsible to our water. Not just CA and US. It can be a complex question. Every question asked today requires thought.
Thank you everyone for a very interesting two days, and while I could not be with this meeting for discussions yesterday, today has been very useful, important, and valuable. I hope you all found it so also. Thank you!
How do we accomodate conflict and disagreement and do we anticipated mediation process for the group based our cultural processes.

Figure 17 - Participants' thoughts on the Advisory Group discussion.

Henry Lickers reminded all participants that the Indigenous Board Members would be responsible to the environment and the water, and culturally would be composed of women, but this may contradict another need if there is a requirement to have gender-balance equity. He also queried how would accommodation be made for conflict and disagreement – would we anticipate mediation processes for the group, based on cultural processes? **Carol Davis** noted that representatives should be nominated by the people. It is also important to remember and respect spiritual aspects of water – the **Water Spirits**. **Shanny Spang Gion** recounted how an Elder told her she does not need to ask for permission to work in water, as she is a water carrier⁵ [i.e. the concepts of birth, child-bearing, Mother Earth, Women as Water Keepers]. Shanny queried whether the study is considering the different forms of water, such as the spiritual forms of water as represented in the Water Spirits? The different forms can indicate where the Spirits are going or travelling.

When queried how to continue this dialogue once this workshop concludes, participants responded as shown in Figure 18. Most (42%) favour continuing the dialogue through the Indigenous Advisory Group, followed by another workshop (32%), and finally by Email notifications (26%).

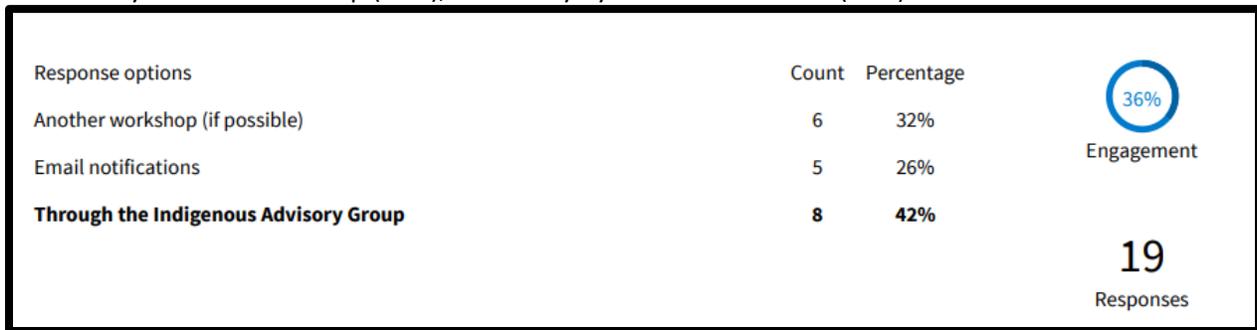


Figure 18 - Participant ideas on how to continue dialogue favour to do so through the Indigenous Advisory Group

Wayne Jenkinson noted that the workshop will be captured in follow-up reporting notes; PowerPoints will be made available (see the Reference link), for sharing with attendees and those that could not attend. **Pierre Beland** stated it is important that we come together not as separate nations, but for the benefit of the water.

Chat moderators captured some interpretations of attendees’ comments as follows:

- I used to think that water was an access issue. It is a very personal life and tribal responsibility. You can navigate through it as tribal members. We already have a structure in place that is manageable at the local level.
- You realize you are dealing with the Spirits themselves in Indigenous Science. The Water Spirits are not an intellectual exercise, but it is important that we have respect for the Spirits and our ancestors.
- There are considerations for membership (in an advisory group or board). Members should be nominated by the people. They have teachings on what characteristics people should have to lead on these concerns. It is more complicated to understand organizing a board from the indigenous perspective.

⁵ “Indigenous women share a sacred connection to the spirit of water through their role as child bearers, and have particular responsibilities to protect and nurture water.” (Source: <https://www.resilience.org/stories/2016-12-12/water-song-indigenous-women-and-water/>.) See also: http://www.umanitoba.ca/institutes/natural_resources/Left-Hand%20Column/theses/Masters%20Thesis%20Penneys-Szach%202013.pdf

- One must understand that an Advisory Group will be comprised of people with conflicting ideas. Has the IJC considered a mediation body for resolving differences within an advisory group to provide advice to the ISRB? It is a social and spiritual science need that we have people who study resolution of issues. This can be valuable to both the advisory group and the river board.
- There is a need to get full and proper advice from all types of people. Gender balance may be an issue since culturally women are responsible to our water. This is complex. Every question asked today requires thought.

Henry Lickers encouraged us to continue personal conversations, use regular mail, and he too, will continue advancing discussions in his work as an IJC Commissioner. **Carol Davis** suggested we need to have an organizing meeting for **Indigenous Nations**, to begin the work of developing an Indigenous Advisory Group. **Shanny Spang Gion** recommended another targeted workshop to keep things moving forward. She is not currently living with her home community and expressed thanks to this group today: “it was an honour to sit with all of you great knowledge holders/carriers today.” **Sheree Blacksmith** asked if there could be a “less-structured” conversation with each other, in the future.

Carol Davis offered a closing prayer to close our virtual workshop.

Post-workshop Evaluation:

A post-workshop evaluation was submitted, and the results are included in the Appendices.

SUMMARY – Suggested Follow-up Action Items

Most of the virtual workshop discussion was dedicated to ***gathering Indigenous participants’ ideas on how Indigenous Nations could collaborate and provide input on matters relating to the Souris River, the IJC and the ISRB.*** The IJC provided an overview of its mandate which includes providing input to the Governments of Canada and the United States regarding transboundary water issues on watersheds shared by both countries. The IJC presented on its organizational structure, boards, board membership, advisory groups, and committee roles. The IJC and Indigenous Nations presented on different models of engagement for effective collaboration. The facilitated workshop incorporated a chat function and polling questions for input from attendees. The detailed discussions and responses included many ideas to guide the creation of an Indigenous Advisory Group (IAG) and the selection of Indigenous representation on the International Souris River Board. Some of the main points suggested by Indigenous participants where consensus was strong included (but are not limited to):

- ***All Indigenous respondents stated there is interest in creating an Indigenous Advisory Group for the Souris River Watershed, to advise the ISRB and the IJC. [This was also reflected by Indigenous Nations at the 2019 Peace Gardens workshop, which was more broadly attended.]***
- ***An Indigenous Advisory Group should be open to include those interested Indigenous Nations with current and/or ancestral interests in the watershed (i.e. not be exclusive to Indigenous Nations that have residence in the basin). The number of members was not determined but it was acknowledged that it does not need to be restrictive.***
- ***Membership in an IAG should be selected with input from Indigenous Nations. Members’ backgrounds may include water, sciences, Indigenous Science, Indigenous Knowledge, or another type of background (e.g. in***

Indigenous culture, women are typically the water keepers, so this may be an important consideration for membership).

- *Indigenous Nations expressed a desire to have representatives from the IAG sit on the ISRB, to provide Indigenous input on water and watershed issues. There was not complete agreement on how board members might be selected. Most suggested a nomination by consensus decision of the IAG or a vote by the IAG. [Board membership requires approval by the IJC.]*
- *The majority of the Indigenous participants felt that there should be four Indigenous members on the ISRB (2 from Canada and 2 from United States).*
- *Indigenous membership from Canada on the IAG and the ISRB will need to represent First Nations and the Métis Nation, and include representation from Nations in the provinces of Saskatchewan and Manitoba.*

A complete reporting of the Indigenous input for collaboration ideas and board membership are listed in the report under the sections entitled:

- **Indigenous Nations Models of Engagement**
- **Indigenous Dialogue: Indigenous Nations Models of Engagement for creating an Indigenous Advisory Group and Selection of Indigenous Board Members for the International Souris River Board**
- **Building the Collaborative Model Together**

References:

- **Read-ahead materials:**
 - Synthesis Report of Indigenous Nations Peace Garden Workshop Nov. 6-7, 2019
 - Document of Key Takeaways from “Indigenous Nations November 2019 Peace Gardens Workshop” including IJC and ISRSB Backgrounder summaries
- **Videos:**
 - Chairman Mark Fox Welcome
 - Ed Lone Fight Souris River Recollections of an Elder
- **Presentations:**
 - Day1_1055_IJC and the Souris Boards
 - Day1_1205_ISRSB_The Souris River Study [1]
 - Day1_1220_ISRB_IJC Experience with Advisory Groups Jenkinson
 - Day1_1230_Richard Aisaican Indigenous Nations models of engagement
 - Day 11240 Marci Riel Métis Nation IJC 09 17 2020
 - Day 2_0915_Final Souris Presentation Lisa Lone Fight
 - Day2_1100_The Souris River Basin International Souris River Board – details of the board
 - Day2_1220_IJC Engagement_Jenkinson
- **WEBLINK to the above materials:** https://ijccmi-my.sharepoint.com/:f/g/personal/catherine_lee-johnston_ijc_org/EkQ6zr0aYLI0vWI5k0kvg8UBpG4Cu8SikS4qf6a4VF-XPg?e=Gz7hXG

Additional Web References:

- International Peace Garden: <https://peacegarden.com/>
- International Joint Commission: <https://www.ijc.org/en/who/role>
- Souris River Watershed (Saskatchewan, North Dakota, Manitoba):
<https://www.ijc.org/en/watersheds/souris-river>
- International Souris River Board: <https://www.ijc.org/en/srb>
- International Souris River Study Board:
The study team's work: <https://www.ijc.org/en/srsb>
- International Watersheds Initiative: <https://www.ijc.org/en/what/iwi>

APPENDICES

- A. Acronyms
- B. Agenda
- C. Attendees List
- D. Post-Workshop Evaluation
- E. Post Workshop Questionnaire

Acronyms/Terms List

- AGs** – Advisory Groups – provide input to IJC boards; group consensus is not required.
- AOI** – Areas of Interest for Indigenous Nations – see also: VCs: Values Components
- AOR** – Area of Responsibility
- Duty to Consult**- The Government of Canada has a duty to consult with Indigenous peoples that may be affected by regulatory project approvals, licensing and authorization of permits, operational decisions, policy development, negotiations and other areas that may impact Indigenous peoples.
- IAG** – Indigenous Advisory Group
- IJC** – International Joint Commission
- IRG** – Independent Review Group - an established group reviewing the study
- ISRB** – International Souris River Board (the permanent Souris River Board)
- ISRSB** – International Souris River Study Board (the temporary study board investigating the Souris River Operating Plan established in the 1989 International Agreement)
- IWI** – the International Joint Commission’s International Watersheds Initiative
- MB** – Manitoba
- MB ARD** – Manitoba Agriculture and Resource Development
- MMF** – Manitoba Metis Federation
- NCAI** – National Congress of American Indians
- ND** – North Dakota
- ND State Water Commission** – North Dakota State Water Commission
- PAG** – Public Advisory Group (advising the ISRSB)
- PIs** – Performance Indicators for the ISRSB research into benefits/impacts of different flow scenarios of the Souris River
- RAAG** – Resource and Agency Advisory Group (advising the ISRSB)
- IRLWWB** – International Rainy-Lake of the Woods Watershed Board
- SK** - Saskatchewan
- THPO** – United States Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
[See: <https://www.nathpo.org/thpos/what-are-thpos/>]
- UNDRIP** – United Nations Declarations on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
- USACE** – United States Army Corps of Engineers
- USFWS** – United States Fish and Wildlife Service
- VCs** – Values Components for Indigenous Nations – related to areas of interest
- WSA** – Water Security Agency (Saskatchewan)

Sept. 17, 2020		GoTo Conference Link: https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/399363733	IJC - Indigenous Nations Virtual Workshop <i>working together building on ideas from the November 2019 Workshop</i>	
Time	Time	Toll Free Dial-in Numbers 1-877-309-2073 Code:399-363-733	US:	DAY 1 (Sept 17) ISRSB-ISRB-Indigenous Nations
CST-SK	CDT- ND CDT-MB	Canada: 1-888-455-1389 Code:399-363-733		<i>Goal: Recap of Study; Sharing Engagement Experiences (for Nations & IJC Boards)</i>
9:00	10:00	Session Facilitator: Darrell Corkal		Setting the Virtual Stage (together from a distance) Photos/ videos of People, Indigenous Nations, the Souris River and its Watershed
9:10	10:10	Water/People/Watershed Photos Submitted		Indigenous Nations Opening Prayer Elder Carol Davis
9:15	10:15	Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa		The Virtual Meeting Tools Go To Meeting Features (chat/moderators) Interactive Virtual Dialogue with Poll Everywhere
9:30	10:30	PRESENTERS Chris Korkowski		Welcoming - Building from Nov 2019 Peace Garden Workshop IJC Commissioners IJC Wayne Jenkinson and Mark Gabriel
9:30	10:30	IJC Commissioners (US/Canada)		
9:30	10:30	Vanessa Alberto		
9:45	10:45	IJC Can/US: Wayne Jenkinson/ Mark Gabriel		Indigenous Nations (live or pre-recorded) Welcoming video for the Indigenous Nations Virtual Workshop for the International Souris River
10:00	11:00	Mandan Hidatsa and Arikara Nation		
10:10	11:10	Chairman Fox		
10:10	11:10	All participants		Introduction of All Attendees: <i>In 1 min: State name, affiliation, answer 1 Q</i> Name, Affiliation, an interesting recollection (e.g. Questions) What are your Tips for "enjoying" Virtual meetings (1-minute)? What are your best "water" memories? Or Souris River memories? What are your top two wishes for the Virtual Workshop?
10:40	11:40			
11:00	12:00			Break
11:00	12:00	US/Can IJC Wayne Jenkinson/Mark Gabriel		The Souris River Study: International Souris River Study Board IJC and Souris River Boards Recap / ISRSB intro (5 min) Summary of ISRSB Study and its Status (25 min.)
11:30	12:30	Michael Bart/Al Pietroniro - Study Co-Chairs		
11:30	12:30	Gregg Wiche/Bruce Davison - Study Leads		Indigenous Nations Dialogue Reactions to IJC/ISRSB Study Status Questions and Dialogue on ISRSB Study
12:00	13:00	Lisa Lone Fight, Marci Riel, Richard Aisaican		
12:00	13:00	All Indigenous attendees		
12:00	13:00			Break
12:20	13:20			Working Together: The ISRB and Indigenous Collaboration International Souris River Board - IJC experience with advisory groups IJC overview of engagement models/ board structures
12:20	13:20	IJC Can/US: Wayne Jenkinson/ Mark Gabriel		
12:30	13:30	Richard Aisaican - Cowessess ~ 10min		Indigenous Nations Models of Engagement - with Gov'ts, Non-Gov't agencies, etc. Practices in Engaging First Nations Métis Nation Context; Engagement Areas of Interest; Cultural Values Indigenous Science, Indigenous Knowledge; Elders; Relationship Ideas on Models for Dialogue and ISRB Collaboration
12:30	13:30	Marci Riel - MB Metis Federation ~10 min		
12:30	13:30	Lisa Lone Fight ~10 min		
13:30	14:30	All Indigenous Nations Dialogue -30 min		
13:30	14:30	All Participants		Brainstorming for Day 2 - Planting the Seeds for Collaboration Today's key observations; 2019 Peace Garden workshop ideas Creative Ideas for Guiding Day 2 Discussions on Collaboration
13:55	14:55			
13:55	14:55			Indigenous Nations Closing Prayer - Day 1 Elder Carol Davis
14:00	15:00	Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa		
14:00	15:00			FEEDBACK: Final Poll Everywhere Assessment to capture: Day 1 reactions, Concerns?
14:15	15:15			

Sept. 18, 2020		GoTo Conference Link: https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/399363733	IJC - Indigenous Nations Virtual Workshop <i>working together building on ideas from the November 2019 Workshop</i> DAY 2 (Sept 18) IJC-ISRB-Indigenous Nations Goal: Recommend a collaboration process for Board Membership/Advisory Group
Time	Time	US: 1-	
CST-SK	CDT- ND CDT-MB	Toll Free Dial-in Numbers 877-309-2073 Code:399-363-733 Canada: 1-888-455-1389 Code:399-363-733	
9:00	10:00	Session Facilitator: Darrell Corkal	Setting the Virtual Stage (together from a distance) Photos/ videos of People, Indigenous Nations, the Souris River and its Watershed
9:10	10:10	Water/People/Watershed Photos Submitted Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa	Indigenous Nations Opening Prayer Elder Carol Davis
9:15	10:15	PRESENTERS Chris Korkowski	The Virtual Meeting Tools Go To Meeting Features (chat/moderators)
9:30	10:30	Vanessa Alberto	Interactive Virtual Dialogue with Poll Everywhere
9:30	10:30		Introductions NEW ATTENDEES (keep shorter than 1 min. each) Name, Affiliation, an interesting recollection
10:00	11:00		What are you best "water" memories? Or Souris River memories?
10:00	11:00		Insights from Day 1 - Review of reactions to Day 1 Indigenous Nations thoughts - 2-3 minute summaries
10:30	11:30	Marci Riel, Lisa Lone Fight, Richard Aisaican ISRB - IJC representatives	ISRB - IJC Thoughts
10:40	11:40		Break
11:00	12:00		The Souris River Basin: International Souris River Board - details of the board ISRB 101 - the ISRB mandate, members, roles, processes
11:15	12:15	ISRB - Can/US Nicole Armstrong/ Gregg Wiche	What the ISRB heard from Indigenous Nations? (Peace Garden Workshop)
11:15	12:15	Marci Riel, Lisa Lone Fight, Richard Aisaican	Collaboration Ideas: Indigenous Advisory Group; Board Membership on ISRB Questions/ Reactions to ISRB roles (posed to IJC and ISRB)
12:00	13:00	All Indigenous attendees	What interests/ does not interest Indigenous Nations about the ISRB? How would Indigenous Nations use ISRB info for their Nations?
12:00	13:00		Break
12:20	13:20		Working Together: The ISRB and Indigenous Collaboration International Souris River Board IJC Examples: Boards, Mandates, Models, Indigenous participation Adopting best practices/ interests from 2019 Indigenous Workshop
12:30	13:30		Indigenous Nations Models of Engagement IAG? A model for Indigenous Nations to participate on/ advise the ISRB.
13:00	14:00	Building the Collaborative Model Together	Board? A model for Board membership representing Indigenous Nations
13:00	14:00		Our Recommended Model for Collaboration Key recommendations for Indigenous Nations-IJC-ISRB Collaboration
13:55	14:55		Conclusions and Recommended Next Steps
13:55	14:55	Closing Prayer:	Indigenous Nations Closing Prayer - Day 1
14:00	15:00	Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa	Elder Carol Davis
14:00	15:00		FEEDBACK: Final Poll Everywhere Assessment to capture:
14:15	15:15		Conclusions, Final Thoughts, Concerns, Degree of Interest/ Motivation

Invited Attendees (with Participants shown by checkmark each day)		DAY 1	DAY 2
Name	Nation/Agency	17-Sep	18-Sep
Richard Aisaican	Cowessess First Nation - SK	✓	✓
Eric Cameron	Swan Lake First Nation - MB	✓	✓
Joanna Potyondi	Métis Nation - SK	✓	
Jasmine Langhan	Manitoba Metis Federation -MB	✓	✓
Marci Riel	Manitoba Metis Federation - MB	✓	✓
Morrissa Boerchers	Manitoba Metis Federation -MB	✓	
Bryanna Sherbo	Manitoba Metis Federation -MB	✓	✓
Shannon Landrie-Crossland	Métis Nation - SK	✓	✓
Stewart Klyne	Métis Nation - SK	✓	✓
Linda Sopp	Métis Nation - SK	✓	✓
Sheree Blacksmith	Canupawakpa First Nation - MB	✓	✓
Lisa Lone Fight	Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation (MHA Nation) - ND	✓	
Morgan Berquist	Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation (MHA Nation) - ND	✓	
Pete Coffey	Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation -ND		
LoAnn Jerome	Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation -ND		
Jon Eagle	Standing Rock Sioux Tribe - ND & SD		
Doug Crow Ghost	Standing Rock Sioux Tribe ND & SD		
Carol Davis	Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa Nation - ND	✓	✓
Merle Marks	Crow Creek Sioux Tribe - SD		
Shanny Spang Gion	Northern Cheyenne Nation - MT		✓
Dyan Youpee	Fort Peck Assiniboine & Sioux Tribes - MT		
Ben Rhodd	Rosebud Sioux Tribe - SD		
Mark Lee	ISRSB Study staff - MB Agriculture and Resource Development	✓	✓
Darrell Corkal	ISRSB Study staff - Consultant - SK	✓	✓
Rebecca Koch	ISRSB Study staff -ECCC - SK	✓	✓
Vanessa Alberto	ISRSB Study staff - USACE - MN/ND	✓	✓
Chris Korkowski	ISRB - ISRSB Study staff - NDSWC - ISRB US Secretary - ND	✓	✓
Laura Ackerman	ISRSB Study staff - NDSWC - ND	✓	✓
Gregg Wiche	ISRB - ISRSB Study staff - ISRSB Study Manager - USGS - ND	✓	✓
Bruce Davison	ISRSB Study staff - ISRSB Study Manager - ECCC - SK	✓	✓
Al Pietroniro	ISRSB Study staff - ISRSB Canada Co-chair - ECCC - SK	✓	
Michael Bart	ISRSB Study staff - ISRSB US Co-chair - USACE - MN	✓	
Nicole Armstrong	ISRB Canada Co-chair - MB Agriculture and Resource Development	✓	✓
John Paczkowski	ISRB US Co-chair - NDSWC - ND	✓	✓
John-Mark Davies	ISRB - Water Security Agency - SK	✓	✓
David Pattyson	ISRB - ISRSB Canada Public Advisory Group - SK	✓	✓
Girma Sahu	ISRB - ISRB Canada Secretary - SK	✓	✓
Lance Yohe	IJC US Commissioner - ND	✓	✓
Merrell-Ann Phare	IJC Canada Commissioner -MB	✓	✓
Jane Corwin	IJC US Commissioner - NY	✓	✓
Rob Sisson	IJC US Commissioner - MI	✓	✓
Pierre Beland	IJC Canada Commissioner - QC	✓	✓
Henry Lickers	IJC Canada Commissioner - ON (Indigenous Commissioner)	✓	✓
Rob Phillips	IJC Canada staff - International Red River Board Liaison -ON	✓	
Carole Smith	IJC Canada staff - Indigenous Engagement Team - ON	✓	✓
Norman Barth	IJC US staff - Indigenous Engagement Team - DC	✓	✓
Caron Demars	IJC US staff - Indigenous Engagement Team - DC	✓	
Chrissy Chiasson	IJC Canada staff - Indigenous Engagement Team - ON	✓	✓
Raj Bejankiwar	IJC Canada staff - Indigenous Engagement Team - ON		
Diana Monczula	IJC Canada staff - Indigenous Engagement Team - ON	✓	✓
Mark Gabriel	IJC US staff - Liaison to ISRB and ISRSB - DC	✓	✓
Wayne Jenkinson	IJC Canada staff - Liaison to ISRB and ISRSB - ON	✓	✓
Catherine Lee-Johnston	IJC Canada staff - ISRSB - ON	✓	✓
Russell Boals	ISRB - ISRSB Study staff - ECCC retired - SK	✓	✓
Theresa Senderewich - representing Ute Holweger	Canada Red River Board - ECCC - MB	✓	✓
Patrick Cherneski	Canada Red River Board - ECCC - SK		✓
Wanda McFadyen	ISRSB - Canada Public Advisory Group - MB	✓	✓
Pierre-Yves Caux	IJC Canada staff - Director Science & Engineering - ON	✓	✓
Rebecca Seal-Soileau	ISRSB Study staff - ISRSB US Alt. Co-chair - USACE - MN	✓	✓
Note: Some attendees participated for portions or specific sessions of the workshop		49	43



IJC - Indigenous Nations

Virtual Workshop September 17 – 18, 2020

International Souris River Study Board with IJC and Tribes-First Nations-Métis Nation Participants

Exploring collaboration

- A follow-up to the November 2019 Peace Gardens Workshop
 Virtual Workshop Platforms:

- GoTo Webinar (hosted by US ND State Water Commission)
- Poll Everywhere (hosted by USACE, St. Paul District)

Post Virtual Workshop Evaluation

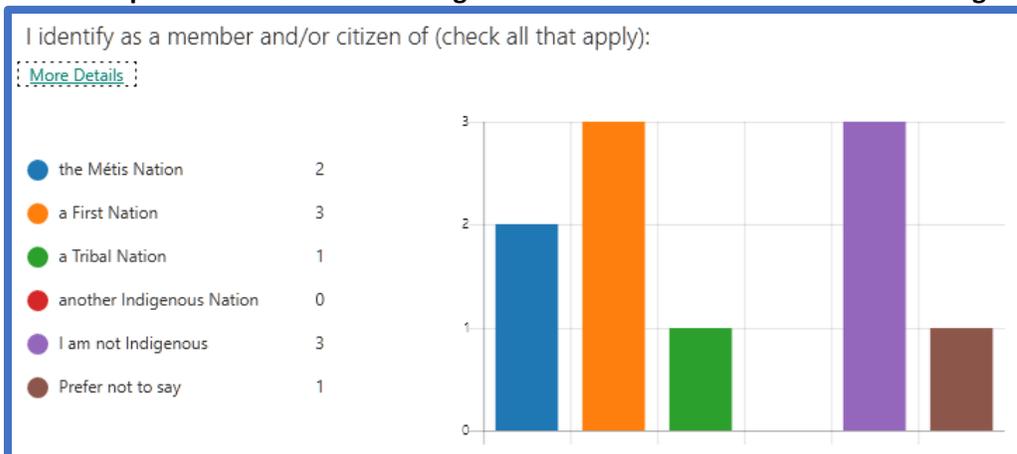
A Post-workshop survey on the Virtual Workshop was sent to all attendees. Eleven respondents offered input; one of the eleven however, was an IJC Commissioner and offered a final general comment rather than respond to all questions. The data shown below represents responses from 10 participants.

The survey questionnaire is attached for readers to read the posed questions.

1. Eight of the 10 respondents attended both days, while 2 attended only Day 1.



2. Six respondents identified as Indigenous Nations and 3 identified as not Indigenous.



3. Six respondents stated the workshop was useful and relevant to them and to their First Nation/organization, while three stated it was somewhat useful and relevant.



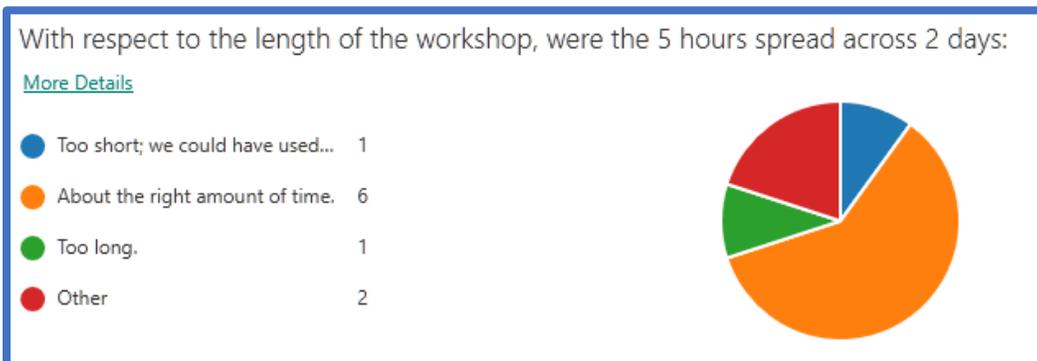
4. “Thinking about the content of the workshop, what did you like most about the workshop, and/or what did you find most useful?” Respondents stated:

- Story telling and personal recounts of experience and water stories.
- I enjoyed learning from the presenters and found it most useful. I also found the virtual polls useful.
- The input, insight, and comments from the Indigenous participants.
- I enjoyed hearing perspectives from other Tribes/First Nations/Metis and their experiences with the Souris River. Its interesting to compare similarities and differences in values and traditions, as well as historical aspects. I thought it was great to come together from various areas to work towards a common goal of protecting and regulating the water that is so important to all of us.
- I liked the discussion on relationships and working together.
- Métis Nation people are amazing The technical information was invaluable.
- The updates and background information.
- Overall, the content of the workshop was good. A good starting point for further

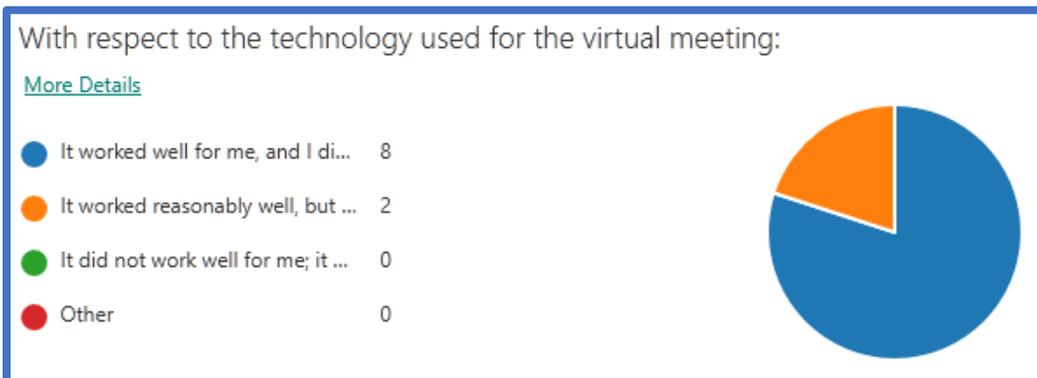
5. **“Thinking about the content of the workshop, what did you dislike most about the workshop, and/or found least useful?”** Respondents stated:

- No comment. I missed Day 2.
- I disliked being called upon to provide a comment.
- As someone on the upward learning curve I found it all very insightful and helpful.
- The only critique I have is the time frame. It is hard to have such great discussion with short time windows, as participants and presenters may not have adequate time to get their ideas/views on the table for everyone to discuss. Otherwise I think that the workshop went well! I really enjoyed using and seeing the Poll Everywhere results, its great to have a more interactive component to keep your participants engaged!
- Can't think of anything I disliked except I wish we could have been together.
- Missing American tribal presentation.
- The Metis presentation was not as useful for me, as they have always been a part of the history taught in school. Metis also have a big presence in Manitoba and Canada.
- Honestly, some of it was boring and to long. Also not being there in person.
- The virtual technology has to improve for future workshop.
- That yes, these are baby steps, and in the future there should be more involvement, in the organizing and bringing together of more nations to the group. How to keep the continuity of the ISRB intact, when new members will be appointed by their respective agencies.

6. **Six of the ten respondents believed the workshop was about the right amount of time.**



7. **Eight of the ten respondents indicated the technology worked well for them.**



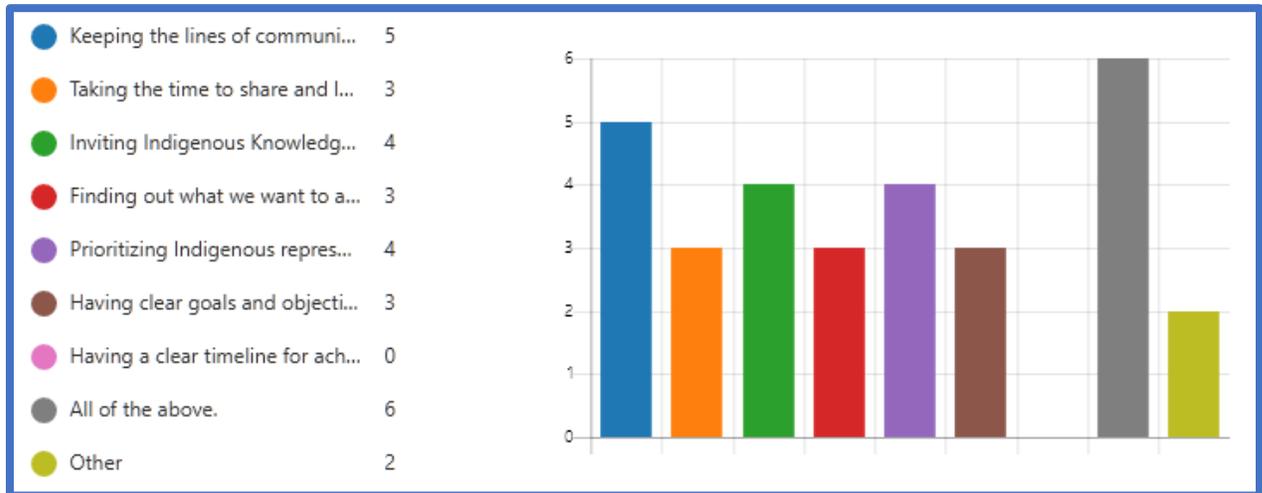
8. **If you noted difficulties in Question 7, what were they?** Respondents selected:

- N/A. All good (1 respondent).
- I experienced no difficulties with technology (4 respondents).
- Poor quality audio or video; difficulty seeing or hearing. (2 respondents).
- Other (not defined – 4 respondents).

9. **Have you attended other virtual meetings and workshops? Feel free to share any observations or suggestions about what made them successful, or what could have been done to improve this one.** Respondents stated:

- Taking the time to have each and every participant introduce themselves and tell a water story etc. (3 questions) was a bit long and skewed the agenda for organizers I know, however these "get-to-know" and feel sessions are key in having a real virtual get-together where people DO feel together as one. Thanks for sticking to it.
- Sticking to the timeline generally makes meetings and workshops more successful.
- Yes, I have attended other events. The meeting was well organized and facilitated. The frustration for some is those that are attempting to participate in areas where service is not really the best. That is not something the organizer can deal with.
- I think an improvement that could be made is ensuring presenters stay within their time frames, and prepare in order to respect others time slots. If more discussion needs to happen, possibly the interested parties could have another separate meeting to have said discussion.
- No (2 respondents).
- More information on each presenter & presentation could have been sent out prior (with possible links). Having a basic understanding of each topic always helps. As
- I have. I felt having a tablet makes it easier than a phone.
- No. Individual audio seems to be a challenge. Did not hear the opening and closing prayer, for example.

10. **Thinking about meaningful Indigenous engagement in the work of the Souris River Board, what should be the key priorities going forward? Please select all that apply.**



11. Would you be interested in participating in future meetings, workshops, or events organized by the Souris River Board and/or the International Joint Commission?



12. If you have a potential interest in future meetings or workshops, how would you prefer to participate between now and March 2021 (i.e. over the next 6 months)? Please check all that apply.



13. Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey! OPTIONAL: If you wish to identify yourself, please feel free to enter your name below.

5
Responses



Souris River Basin: Virtual Workshop for Indigenous Nations (September 17-18, 2020) SURVEY

This is a brief post-workshop survey for the September 17-18th, 2020 event. Responses are anonymous, but you may identify yourself at the end of the survey if you wish.

Your responses are appreciated, and will help organizers assess the success of this event, and future events.

You will not be able to save and return to the survey, so please set aside enough time to complete it -- approximately 15-20 minutes or less.

1. I attended:

- Day 1: Thursday 17 September 2020
- Day 2: Friday 18 September 2020
- Both Day 1 and Day 2
- I did not attend the workshop.

2. I identify as a member and/or citizen of (check all that apply):

- the Métis Nation
- a First Nation
- a Tribal Nation
- another Indigenous Nation
- I am not Indigenous
- Prefer not to say

3. Please share your overall impressions of the workshop:

- It was useful and relevant to me and my Nation/organization.
- It was somewhat useful and relevant to me and my Nation/organization
- It was neither useful nor relevant to me or my Nation/organization.
- I don't have enough information to comment.
- Not applicable.

-

Other

4. Thinking about the content of the workshop, what did you like most about the workshop, and/or what did you find most useful?

5. Thinking about the content of the workshop, what did you dislike about the workshop, and/or found least useful?

6. With respect to the length of the workshop, were the 5 hours spread across 2 days:

- Too short; we could have used more time.
- About the right amount of time.
- Too long.

-

Other

7. With respect to the technology used for the virtual meeting:

- It worked well for me, and I didn't encounter any obstacles to participating.
- It worked reasonably well, but there were some problems that affected my ability to participate.
- It did not work well for me; it was difficult to participate effectively.

Other

8. If you noted difficulties in Question 7, what were they? Please select all that apply.

- Problems connecting or staying connected
- Poor quality audio or video; difficulty seeing or hearing
- Unable to 'unmute' myself and contribute to the meeting.
- Unable to see or use the chat function
- Difficulty using the Poll Everywhere function
- I experienced no difficulties with technology

Other

9. Have you attended other virtual meetings and workshops? Feel free to share any observations or suggestions about what made them successful, or what could have been done to improve this one.

10. Thinking about meaningful Indigenous engagement in the work of the Souris River Board, what should be the key priorities going forward? Please select all that apply.

- Keeping the lines of communication open.
- Taking the time to share and learn more about one another.
- Inviting Indigenous Knowledge into the work of the Board/IJC
- Finding out what we want to achieve together, and how.
- Prioritizing Indigenous representation on the Board or Advisory Group..
- Having clear goals and objectives for future collaboration.
- Having a clear timeline for achieving goals and objectives.
- All of the above.

Other

11. Would you be interested in participating in future meetings, workshops, or events organized by the Souris River Board and/or the International Joint Commission?

- Yes, I would be interested.
- Maybe; I would need to know more first.
- No, I would not be interested.

Other

12. If you have a potential interest in future meetings or workshops, how would you prefer to participate between now and March 2021 (i.e. over the next 6 months)? Please check all that apply.

- In person / Face-to-face
- Online / Virtual meeting
- By telephone
- N/A

Other

13. Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey!

OPTIONAL: If you wish to identify yourself, please feel free to enter your name below.