

Public Participation in Land-Use Planning Processes

Is there Room for Improvement?

CIRL Conference

November 19, 2010

Reference to the Lower Athabasca Regional Plan



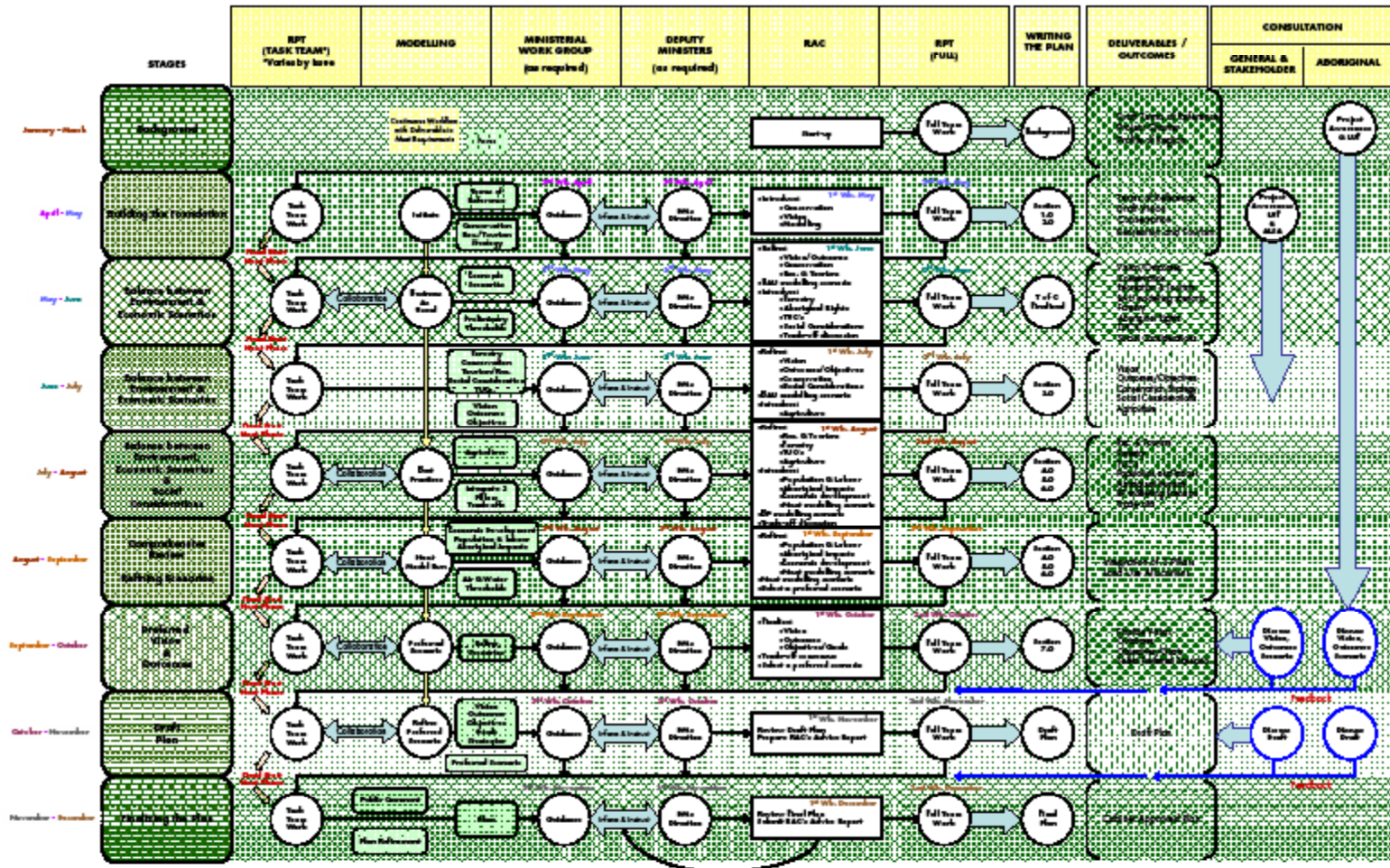
Reference to the Lower Athabasca Regional Plan

Members of the Regional Advisory Council (RAC) had to agree to a Code of Conduct that included:

- **Confidentiality:** Council members agree that all information distributed to the Council is restricted and confidential unless marked "For Public Distribution". The information distributed to the Council is provided for the purpose of obtaining advice for the Executive Council of the Government of Alberta, and the discussions of the Council may take the form of advice, recommendations, policy considerations, draft legislation. As such, the disclosure of such information could be expected to cause harm the relationships between the Government of Alberta and Local Government Bodies and other governments. Council members must agree to respect the confidentiality of their discussions at Council meetings, and to refrain from commenting to media or third parties regarding the Council's discussions and ongoing work

Did we do planning?

Lower Athabasca Regional Plan – Work Plan Diagram



Consultation Plan

- Phase 3 (Feedback) – Presentation of the draft Lower Athabasca Regional Plan and solicitation of feedback from the region's stakeholders and Aboriginal peoples prior to cabinet approval of the plan.
- Additionally, the Government of Alberta's *First Nations Consultation Policy on Land Management and Resource Development* was used as the basis of creation of a distinct First Nations consultation plan. A separate Métis engagement plan for LARP was to be established. RAC had little input into this part of the consultation

Consultation Plan

- Phase 1 (Awareness) –General information regarding Land-use Framework, regional planning process and Lower Athabasca region and solicitation of stakeholder input during the development of the draft Vision Document
- Phase 2 (Input) – Solicitation of stakeholder input on the draft Vision Document and proposed land uses to provide input to the draft plan

How can this be improved?

**Why is it important to do the
absolute best job on “public
consultation?”**

**In the case of land use plans in
Alberta,**

- The *Alberta Land Stewardship Act (ALSA)* makes regional plans binding on:
 - All provincial government departments and decision-making boards and agencies;
 - Municipalities and local government authorities;
 - Industry, including companies with mineral rights leases and forestry management agreements as well as agricultural operations; and,
 - All Albertans.