

CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT CONSULTATION POLICY FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST DEVELOPMENT AND FOREST MANAGEMENT ORIENTATIONS

CONSULTATION REPORT

July 5, 2021

MINISTÈRE DES FORÊTS, DE LA FAUNE ET DES PARCS

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Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs

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ISBN (PDF): 978-2-550-89553-4

Preamble

The *Consultation Policy on Québec's Forest Management and Development Orientations* states that the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs (the MFFP) must produce a review of public consultations. This consultation report focuses on the main comments made by Aboriginal communities, private citizens and regional or national organizations. It does not present the comments in their entirety, but summarizes the main points made.

The information gathered during the consultation was obtained from electronic forms and opinions or briefs received by the MFFP. They were analyzed separately, using the method suited to each source, and the findings are presented in a format that is easy to read. Section 1 of the report describes the methods used, and section 2 presents a summary of the comments and recommendations made.

The Consultation Policy is a general framework that sets out particular consultation issues and mechanisms for the Aboriginal communities. The comments received from Aboriginal communities have therefore been summarized separately when the issues they raised differed from those raised by other participant groups.

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Introduction

Public consultations are a fundamental element of the sustainable forest development process. They give the general public an opportunity to express their opinions and concerns about forest land and resource management and development. The Consultation Policy is a public document covering all consultations organized by the MFFP. Its purpose is to facilitate public participation so that the MFFP's decisions can take into account the interests, values and needs expressed by the population of Québec.

Private citizens, organizations, local communities and Aboriginal communities in Québec were invited to express their views on the *Draft Consultation Policy for Sustainable Forest Development and Forest Management Orientations*, between April 3 and May 26, 2017. The general public and regional organizations (Appendix 1) were informed of the consultation through announcements in daily newspapers and on social media. A public notice was published on April 3, 2017, in the newspapers in each region of Québec, as well as on Facebook and Twitter. The Minister also published a press release, and an announcement was posted on the MFFP website homepage throughout the consultation period. Reminders were posted on May 1 and May 19, 2017, on the MFFP's Facebook and Twitter pages.

The Aboriginal communities concerned (Appendix 2) and the members of the Forestry Partners' Table (Appendix 3) all received an individualized letter from the Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks, inviting them to take part in the consultation.

All participants were able to access the consultation documents on the MFFP's website. Two documents were available, namely the *Draft Consultation Policy for Sustainable Forest Development and Forest Management Orientations* and the *Draft Policy Summary*. The current consultation policy, in force since 2003, was also available.

Participants were able to submit their opinions and comments to the MFFP:

- using an electronic participation form (Appendix 4);
- by submitting an opinion or brief by e-mail or regular mail.

Participants could also obtain clarifications from the MFFP on aspects of the consultation, by telephone or by e-mail.

In addition, participants could use the participant satisfaction form (Appendix 5), available on the website, to assess the consultation process. The findings are presented in Appendix 6.

Section 1: Methodology and Profile of Participants

In all, 62 participants (17 private citizens, 19 regional partners, 13 provincial partners and 13 Aboriginal communities) submitted their opinions of the Draft Consultation Policy to the MFFP, in an opinion or brief, or using the electronic form.

Methodology for opinions and briefs

The MFFP received 29 opinions and briefs during the consultation: six briefs from Aboriginal communities, three opinions from citizens, seven opinions and briefs from regional partners and nine opinions and briefs from provincial partners. Figure 1 presents a percentage breakdown of the categories of respondents submitting opinions or briefs.

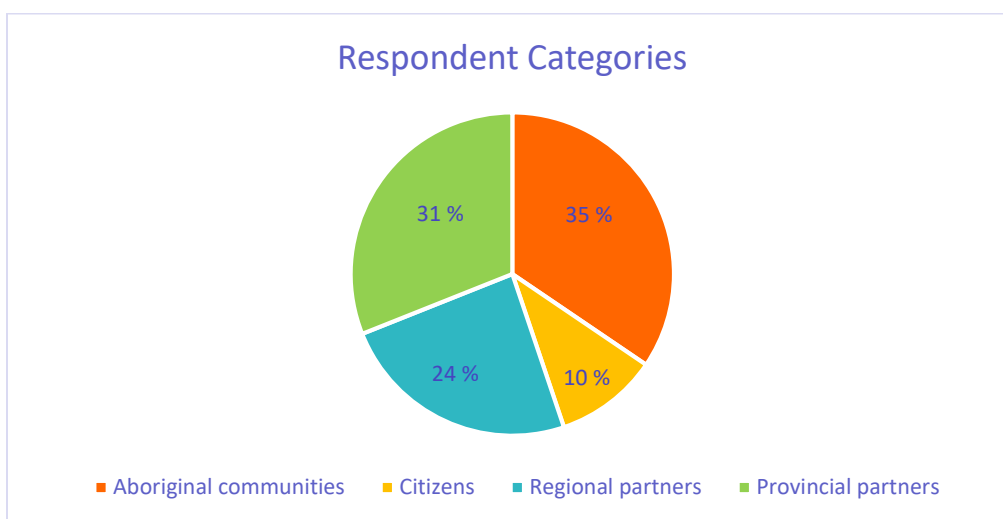


Figure 1. Categories of respondents submitting opinions or briefs

The comments from these 29 documents were analyzed in three ways (horizontal, vertical and cross-referenced reading) and underwent dual coding. These analyses identified the main issues and concerns raised and reported by respondents in connection with the Draft Consultation Policy. Because the respondent categories (Aboriginal communities, private citizens, regional partners and provincial partners) were not represented equally, the sample's representativeness was poor, and any attempt to generalize the findings must therefore be undertaken with care.

Methodology for electronic forms

In all, 33 respondents used the questionnaire to submit comments during the consultation: three Aboriginal communities, 14 private citizens, 12 regional partners and four national partners. Figure 2 presents a percentage breakdown of the categories of respondents that completed the electronic form in its entirety.

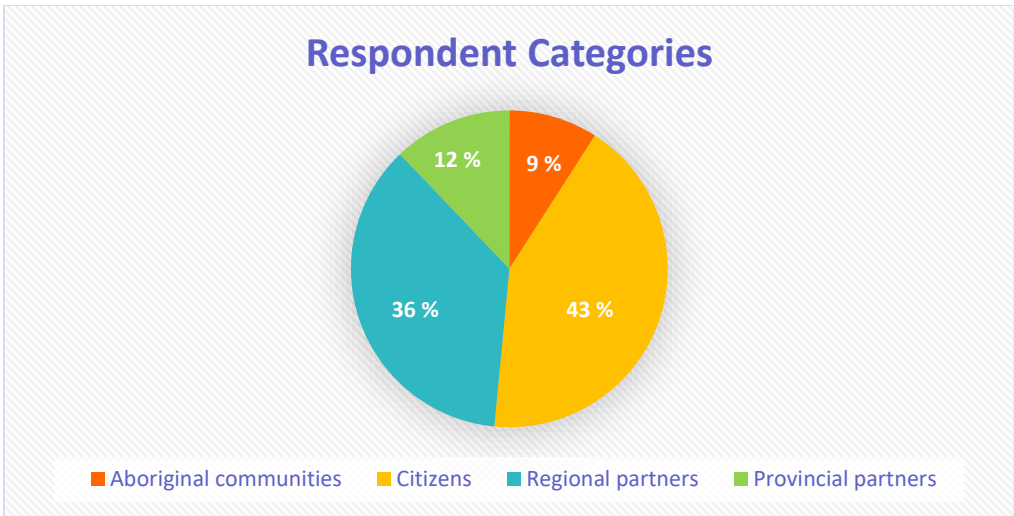


Figure 2. Categories of respondents submitting an electronic form

Respondents were asked to select one or more interests that they were defending, and in respect of which they were taking part in the consultation. This information was used to prepare a general profile of respondents. Figure 3 presents the main interests of the 33 respondents who used the electronic form. Recreation/tourism and nature protection were the most commonly-mentioned interests.

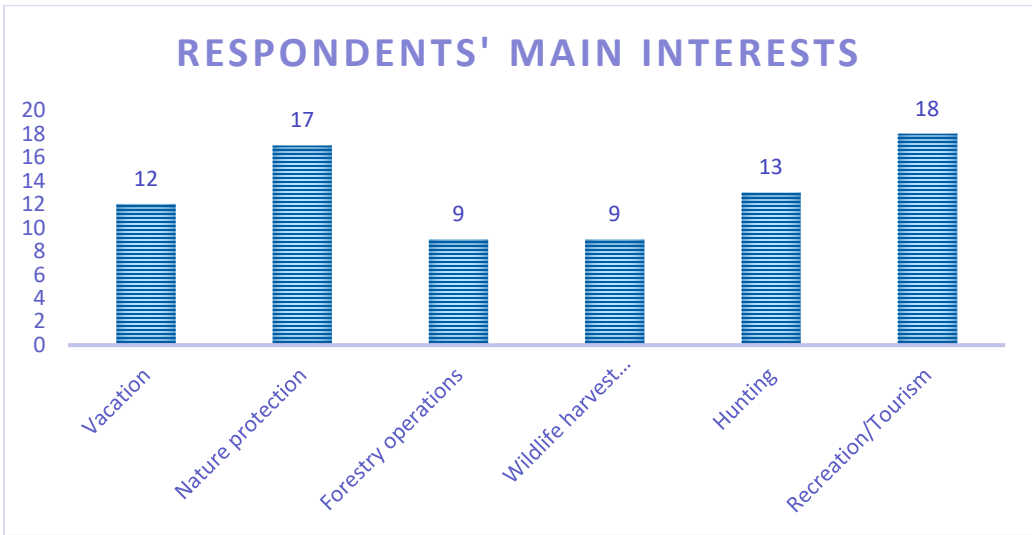


Figure 3. Main interests of respondents who used the electronic form

The comments made in response to the development questions on these 33 forms were also analyzed in three ways (horizontal, vertical and cross-referenced reading) and underwent dual coding. The analyses identified the main issues and concerns raised and reported by respondents in connection with the Draft Consultation Policy. Statistical analyses were also carried out on the quantitative data from the multiple choice questions. Respondents were asked to use a four-step scale to answer these questions (1 – Totally disagree, 2 – Disagree, 3 – Agree, 4 – Totally agree).

As was the case for the opinions and briefs, because the respondent categories (Aboriginal communities, private citizens, regional partners and provincial partners) were not represented equally, the sample's representativeness was poor, and any attempt to generalize the findings must therefore be undertaken with care.

Section 2: Summary of Recommendations and Comments

The data and comments are presented under headings that reflect the five main sections of the consultation document, namely: (1) Principles, (2) Topics, (3) Consultation Process and Methods, (4) Financial Support and (5) Monitoring, Evaluation and Revision of the Policy. The quantitative data from the electronic forms are presented first for each section. To make the summary easier to read, comments from the electronic forms (qualitative data) have been combined with comments from the opinions and briefs.

Generally speaking, the comments suggest that the *Draft Consultation Policy for Sustainable Forest Development and Forest Management Orientations* “is acceptable overall, and appears to be full of good guidance [...]”. However, it is also perceived as being overly general, and some respondents felt that clarifications will be needed to avoid differences in interpretation. In addition, the draft will need to be amended to incorporate the rights and interests of the Aboriginal communities more explicitly.

The principles of the Consultation Policy

The consultation document suggested that the Policy should be based on the principles of openness, accessibility, transparency, flexibility, respect and user-friendliness.

The electronic forms

Participants were asked to state their opinions of these principles.

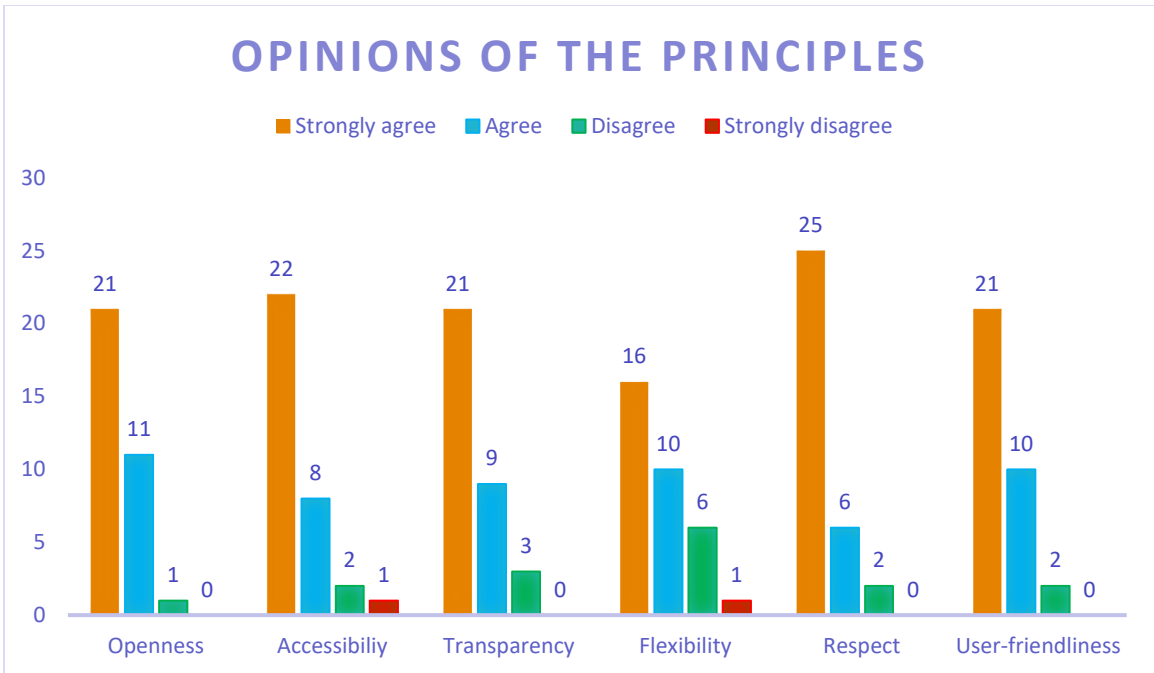


Figure 4. Respondents' opinions of the principles underlying the Consultation Policy

Based on these results, 63% of respondents strongly agreed with the six principles set out in the Consultation Policy.

The opinions and briefs

Although the data from the electronic forms suggested that 63% of respondents strongly agreed with the principles set out in the Consultation Policy, the data from the opinions and briefs was somewhat mitigated. While some regional partners, provincial partners and Aboriginal communities “acknowledged the MFFP’s initiative and encouraged it to continue to exhibit transparency and inclusivity in its consultations”, others expressed doubts as to the applicability of the principles.

In addition, most participants noted terminology differences between the 2003 Consultation Policy and the Draft version.

Some participants suggested that the following principles should be added: commitment, feedback, independence, objectivity and accountability. They also recommended that the section on the principles should be improved by taking the following points into account:

- give an operational definition of social acceptability;
- clarify and detail the notion of consultations “as far upstream as possible” with “enough time”;
- provide guarantees and apply proper rules to ensure objective, rigorous, impartial treatment;
- provide explicit follow-up to decisions, with grounds for refusal where applicable (decision transparency);
- clarify the terms “representativeness” and “validity” as they apply to the recommendations received;
- survey satisfaction levels with the consultation and decision follow-up processes, and make them public.

Elements mentioned by the participating Aboriginal communities. All the opinions and briefs received, either from Aboriginal communities or from regional or provincial partners, addressed the importance of respecting ancestral rights, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and Canadian case law in this area.

The Aboriginal participants felt that consultations tend to take place too late in the decision-making process and that timeframes should be set jointly by the MFFP and the Aboriginal communities. They claimed that the notion of “upstream” does not have the same meaning for the MFFP as it does for the Aboriginal communities. In addition, they thought a new consultation should take place when the time between the first consultation and the publication or implementation of a project is too long. They also asked for recognition of and respect for the ancestral and treaty rights of First Nations to be included as a guiding principle of the Policy. Some of their comments are set out below:

“Although the Draft Consultation Policy describes the consultation principles, those principles are not applied in reality. (The participants) are constantly confronted with accomplished facts during consultations on operational plans (PAFIOS) and annual programs, because their involvement is late in the process and is not supported by proper financial and technical resources.”

“The “Principle” part of the document should explicitly mention recognition of and respect for the ancestral and treaty rights of Aboriginal peoples, as a guiding principle on which all consultations should be based.”

“The First Nations must be consulted again when the concerns expressed by other stakeholders and taken into account by the MFFP are likely to have an impact on their rights and interests. Consideration and non-consideration of comments made by First Nations should be explained in the feedback documents.”

The Consultation Policy's topics

The topics for consultation relate to sustainable forest development and forest management orientations being considered by the MFFP. They may concern either the public or the private forests. Some topics are provincial in scope; in other words, they concern the entire province, or several regions of the province. Some are regional in scope and are implemented at the local level. All these consultations must uphold the Policy's principles. However, the rules may be adjusted to the situation of each region, depending on the nature of the topics for consultation.

The electronic forms

The Draft Consultation Document contained a non-exhaustive list of topics that were provincial or regional in scope. Participants were asked if the topics given as examples were helpful in clarifying the types of consultations that may be organized by the MFFP. Figure 5 presents the respondents' opinions of the list of topics in the document.

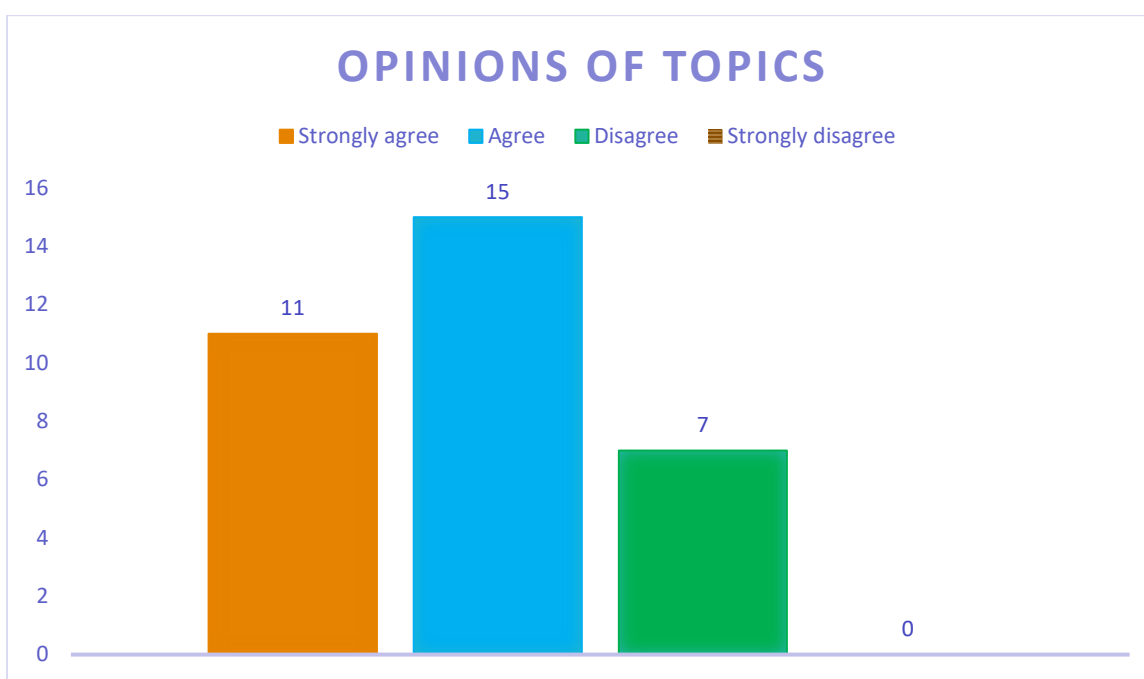


Figure 5. Respondents' opinions of the topics presented in the Draft Policy

Although 78 % of respondents agreed or strongly agreed with the list of sample topics in the document, some made negative comments:

"It would be useful to use plain language because the document is supposed to be for the general public."

"The MFFP should not limit itself to these topics. All matters or changes affecting the MFFP should require a consultation."

The opinions and briefs

All the comments received by the MFFP on this subject were along the same lines: the list of topics was not detailed enough, unlike the 2003 Policy, which was more detailed.

The participants recommended that topics should be added to the list in the Draft Policy. The following list contains all the recommended additions.

- Analysis of the socio-economic impacts of the action plan for the maintenance and restoration of woodland caribou populations.
- No forestry certification for certain segments of the forest industry.
- Timber management under the new forestry regime, unharvested volumes, non-timber forest products.
- Development of wood, forest biomass.
- Public land use plans.
- The awarding of forestry or other rights on public land: rules, dispute management, moratoriums to foster non-industrial issues such as protected areas, local forests, etc.
- The need for research and information.
- Development on private land.
- Integrated resource development.
- Protection of biodiversity.
- Protection of surface water, groundwater and wetlands.
- Ecosystem-based development and its ecological issues.
- The northern limit for timber allocations.
- Control of destructive insects.
- Subsidies on public and private land.
- Adaptation to and the fight against climate change.
- Inclusion of ecological issues in development plans, and development issues that are provincial in scope when the approaches developed apply to several regions.
- Guides and handbooks (integrated land and resource management panels, consultations on forestry plans).
- Wildlife orientations.
- Planning, maintenance, closure and repairs of multi-purpose roads.
- Conservation measures: protected areas, including peripheral zones and connectivity, exceptional forest ecosystems, biological refuges, extended rotation patches or high conservation value forests.
- The Regional Plan for Public Land Development (PRDTP).
- The Integrated Regional Land and Resource Development Plan (PRDIRT).
- The Agricultural Zone Development Plan (PDZA).
- Harmonization or mitigation measures in development units, inclusion of uses other than timber production (e.g. wildlife harvesting, quad bike trails, etc.) and landscape aspects.
- Ecosystem-based development targets and regional development issues.
- Inclusion of uses other than timber production (quad bike trails, landscape aspects, etc.).

Elements mentioned by the participating Aboriginal communities. Some Aboriginal communities asked for First Nations consultations to be held for the annual program of forest development activities, as well as for research projects and trials.

The consultation process and procedure

It is up to the Minister to establish the consultation procedure, with due regard for the principles set out in the Policy. The procedure is adjusted to reflect the provincial or regional nature of the topic for consultation. Other adjustments may also be made to suit the target audience for the consultations: for example, the Aboriginal nations, which are consulted separately. In accordance with the *Sustainable Forest Development Act*, the procedures applicable to consultations with the Aboriginal communities are established in a spirit of cooperation with the communities.

In addition, the procedures for consultations with the Forestry Partners' Panel and the advisory committees created under the Northern agreements, including the James Bay Advisory Committee on the Environment and the Cree-Québec Forestry Board, were described separately in the Draft Policy document.

The electronic forms

Participants were asked if the consultation processes and procedures were sufficiently structured for provincial and regional consultations and consultations with Aboriginal communities or forestry partners. Figure 6 presents the responses given.

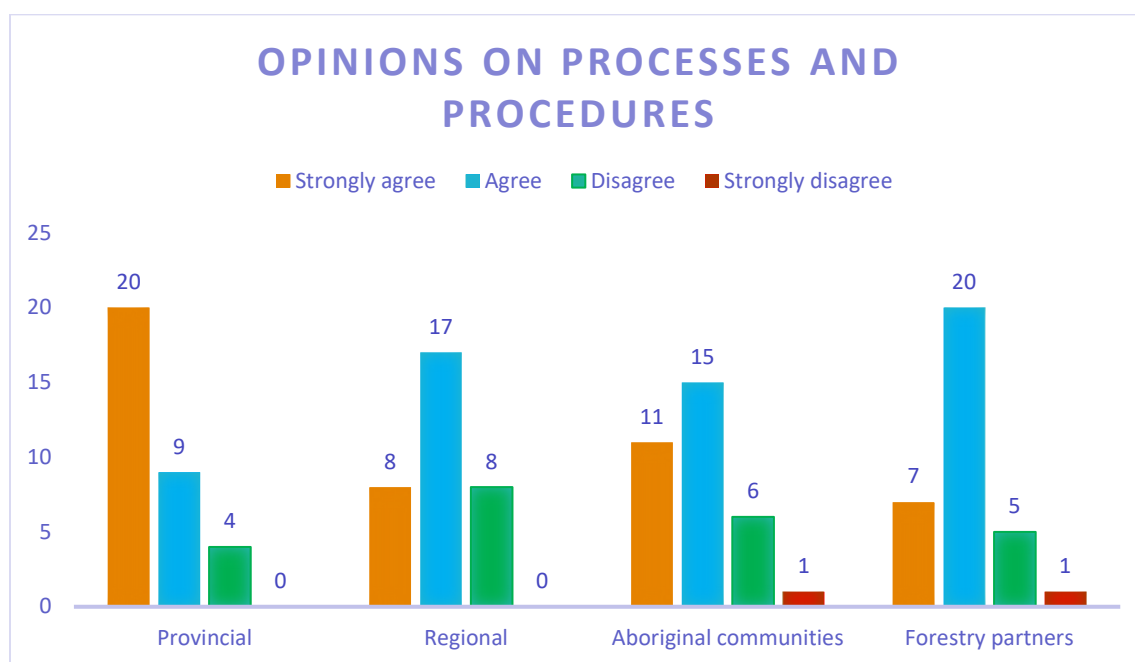


Figure 6. Respondents' opinions of the processes and procedures set out in the Draft Policy

The participants felt the consultation procedures proposed in the Draft Policy were sufficiently structured for provincial consultations and consultations with Aboriginal communities or forestry partners. However, they appeared to be less satisfied with respect to regional consultations.

The participants were also asked if they thought that, in future consultations, the procedures presented in the document would allow for the application of the six principles. Figure 7 shows the results.

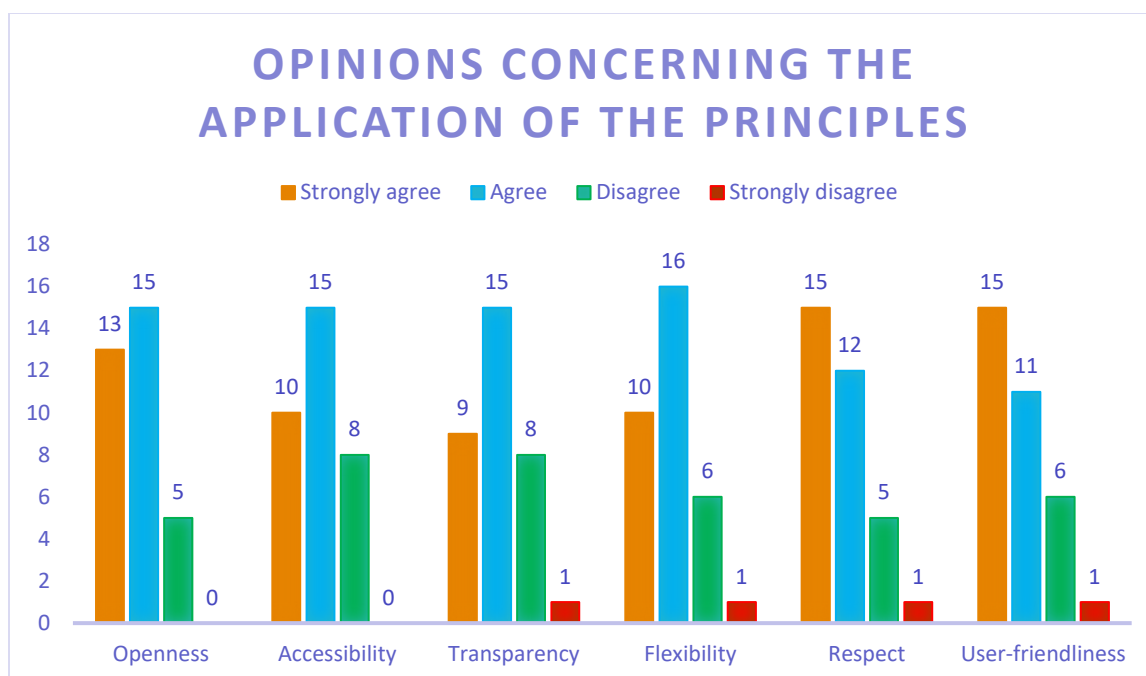


Figure 7. Respondents' opinions concerning the application of the principles in the consultation procedures

Roughly 79 % of participants agreed or strongly agreed that it was feasible to apply the six principles set out in the Draft Policy.

The opinions and briefs

The consultation procedures generated a number of comments. The term “procedure” covers the means available to participants to learn about the consultation (advertising, invitations, announcements) and submit their opinions of the consultation subject (e-mail, response form), and to learn about the consultation period. Generally, participants criticized the lack of specific procedures for all types of consultations. Several participants wanted the Policy to specify how it fit in with the other public participation mechanisms for forest management and development.

In addition, some participants commented on the credibility of the public consultation mechanism, since they perceived the MFFP to be both the umpire and a player in its consultation mechanism.

Information and consultation procedures. In the view of most participants, “in its current state, the consultation process merely serves to justify a position that has already been taken, and does not involve the public in the final decision. On the contrary, the public consultation should recognize the contribution of the general public, and public involvement should make a difference to the decision resulting from the process.” There should be fair and exhaustive representation of all the stakeholders, while taking advantage of the industry’s expertise and knowledge.

Some participants criticized the MFFP for publishing public notices that were too circumspect and short, written in legalistic language that was difficult for the general public to understand. They suggested that published consultation notices should be more appropriate and detailed, and should clearly mention the forest operations zones concerned and the topic for consultation.

Some participants also thought the information provided during consultations on forestry plans was imprecise and too technical, and suggested that it should be expressed in simpler language to encourage greater public participation.

“As things currently stand, and based on our experience, the public consultations (organized by both the MFFP and the RCMs) do not completely fulfill their function and do not satisfy the requirements of democratic, participatory management. The consultations generate poor results and the public meetings are nothing more than information sessions. While this may minimally fulfill the legal requirements, it also discourages public involvement.”

The participants proposed several methods and ways of disseminating information on the consultation: better advertising, sending the development plans to the mailing addresses of all participants, creating a mailing list for future consultations, and use of other methods to obtain opinions from individuals and organizations (e.g. surveys on social media). Two participants also suggested using webinars and videoconferences to limit the need for travel and improve participation rates, while pointing out that “despite the use of electronic means (e-mails, surveys and Web documents), in-person meetings are important in reaching participants who are less comfortable with new technology, and also for promoting real discussion.” Lastly, one partner would like the MFFP to follow up on questions asked but not answered at the meetings, so that participants can include these elements in their opinions and briefs.

Consultation period. The Draft Policy provides that consultations on topics that are provincial in scope cannot be launched between June 24 and August 31, or between December 15 and January 15. All the participants agreed with this rule, and several suggested that it should be broadened in scope:

“The MFFP should avoid statutory holidays and should also avoid other types of holidays or festivals as far as possible – for example, spring break, the two-week moose hunting season, etc.”

“It is essential for the consultation process to be planned properly. It should include a strict timeframe so as to avoid delays for forestry operations. Forestry is seasonal, which means that operations must be optimized to achieve even a fragile level of profitability.”

“The time restrictions proposed in the Draft Policy for topics that are provincial in scope should apply to all consultations, even those that are regional or local in scope.”

Reporting. All the participants agreed that, to strengthen public trust and foster a sense of involvement, feedback should be improved or should be more obvious. Consultation reports should clearly show that needs and expectations were considered, and should also show how they were taken into account in the final decision on ministerial orientations.

Several participants reiterated the importance for the MFFP to uphold its own principles of monitoring and transparency, among other things by holding consultations as far upstream as possible from the decision process, and by preparing and publishing a consultation report summarizing the comments received, within a reasonable time after publication of the final decision, with explanations of the main elements from the consultations considered in the decision.

Forestry Partners’ Panel. According to the participants who addressed this topic, the Panel should be used more for targeted consultations on particular issues. Several of these participants wanted the Panel’s operating rules and membership list to be included in the Policy, and criticized the lack of feedback to Panel members from the MFFP after the meetings and consultations. Public feedback on Panel elements should be improved, among other things by publishing the minutes of discussions and making it possible for Panel members to consult regional and local organizations.

Some participants also suggested that the following organizations should be represented on the Panel:

- Leisure organizations such as the *Fédération québécoise des chasseurs et pêcheurs*, the *Fédération des clubs de quad et de motoneige*, expeditionists, hiking clubs, cycling clubs and canoeing clubs.

- The *Regroupement d'organismes de bassins versants*.
- Research chairs and institutes.
- Other Government departments concerned.
- Stakeholders in private lot development.

Elements mentioned by the participating Aboriginal communities. The fact that the Draft Policy referred to and was based on external documents was confusing and participants felt it was likely to cause inconsistencies (e.g. the Aboriginal communities' consultation manual for integrated forest development plans, the Government's Reference Framework for Public Participation and the Interim Guide for Consulting the Aboriginal Communities). In addition, the Aboriginal communities pointed out that the MFFP must ensure that regional consultations are consistent with the participation mechanisms provided for in the James Bay and Northern Québec Agreement and the *Paix des Braves*.

All the Aboriginal communities that submitted briefs noted that:

"The First Nations must decide for themselves whether the documentation is sufficient and relevant. Among other things, this should be part of the discussion when the consultation procedures are established jointly."

"The First Nations must be consulted again in cases where the concerns expressed by other stakeholders and taken into account by the MFFP are likely to have an impact on their rights and interests."

"There should be an explanation, in the feedback documents, of the First Nations comments that were and were not taken into consideration. This should appear explicitly in the section of the Policy on the consultation procedures for Aboriginal communities."

"The MFFP must seek free, prior and informed consent in its consultations with the First Nations [...]. With this in mind, the Policy should be based on the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and should state that the securing of consent is an aim of consultations with Aboriginal communities."

"It happens regularly that the First Nations receive several consultations for the same project. This dilutes the effort and does not allow for an integrated approach when analyzing the files."

In addition, five Aboriginal communities suggested that the Draft Policy did not respect the rights and interests of the First Nations. They said the MFFP should review the Draft Policy because, in the current version, the consultation procedures for the Aboriginal communities were not established in conjunction with the communities. In addition, it should be stated that the Government cannot delegate the responsibility for consulting the Aboriginal communities: "The RCMs have no duty to consult and accommodate the First Nations." Lastly, the *Interim Guide for Consulting the Aboriginal Communities*, on which the Draft Policy is based, is obsolete and needs to be updated, and in any case is not recognized by the Aboriginal communities.

One Aboriginal community asked for an Aboriginal Partners' Panel to be set up. Another requested a review of consultations with Aboriginal communities, which would state how the consultations had helped to improve forest management and the relations between the MFFP and the communities. It also asked for the review to include follow-up regarding the economic spinoffs for the communities.

Financial support

The Draft Policy states that the MFFP pays the cost of producing, translating where applicable, publishing and distributing the information required for the consultations. If responsibilities are shared with an RCM, a group of RCMS or another organization, an agreement may be signed to stipulate the financial support granted in exchange for those responsibilities. Individuals and organizations taking part in consultations must pay their own participation costs. If budgets are available, financial support may be paid to facilitate participation by Aboriginal communities, on the conditions set out in the applicable programs.

There were no multiple-choice questions on the topic of financial support in the electronic form. However, several participants who filed opinions or briefs commented on this section of the Draft Policy. Some participants felt the wording of the phrase “financial support may be paid to facilitate participation by Aboriginal communities, on the conditions stipulated in the applicable programs” was not particularly onerous for the MFFP.

In addition, one provincial partner said “there is no valid reason for non-profit organizations not to receive financial assistance, especially since most of them have very limited means. Eligibility criteria could be established.”

Elements mentioned by the participating Aboriginal communities. The Policy should have a separate section on financial support for First Nations, to help them to prepare, take part in and respond to consultations.

“The MFFP should cover the cost of distributing consultation information to the First Nations communities.”

“The MFFP should cover all the costs incurred by First Nations to take part in the consultations, including travel expenses and costs associated with operating a consultation office.”

“The communities should be given a list of available funding, and the funding should be confirmed on time, before the expenses are incurred.”

“The amounts should be increased, for example based on the cost of living for employees’ salaries.”

Monitoring, evaluation and revision of the Policy

The Minister reports on the Policy’s general implementation in the five-yearly review of sustainable forest development prescribed by the *Sustainable Forest Development Act* and focuses in particular on the separate consultations held for Aboriginal communities.

The electronic forms

Participants were asked if they thought the monitoring and evaluation measures would help keep the Consultation Policy up to date and properly adjusted to the population’s needs. The findings are shown in Figure 8.

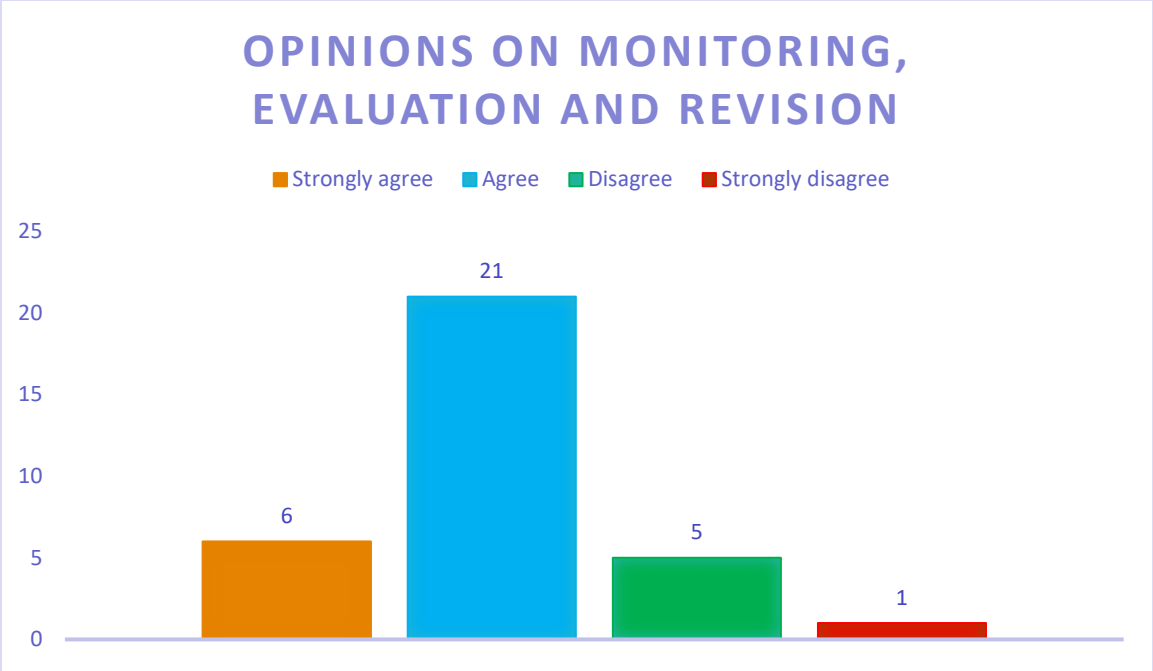


Figure 8. Respondents’ opinions on monitoring, evaluation and revision of the Policy

In all, 82 % of participants agreed or strongly agreed with the section of the Policy on monitoring, evaluation and revision.

The opinions and briefs

All the participants agreed with the evaluation and monitoring elements proposed in the Draft Policy. However, two partners requested implementation indicators for the principles for follow-up purposes, among other things to be able to report on the aims of the first challenge of the *Sustainable Forest Management Strategy*, namely to ensure that the interests, values and needs of the Québec population are taken into account when managing and developing the forest.

Many participants noted that “the Policy should have a validity date that would require it to be evaluated at specific times, and to be revised and renewed.” Five Aboriginal communities also asked for the Policy “to have a set validity period, at the end of which it would be evaluated and revised,” and noted that the First Nations should be consulted on the revision.

General Conclusion and Next steps

In all, 17 private citizens, 19 regional partners, 13 provincial partners and 13 Aboriginal communities submitted their opinions of the Draft Policy to the MFFP. Generally, many participants noted the importance of the Consultation Policy, among other things because it allows participants to request changes, make recommendations and develop a vision that is shared at the provincial and regional levels.

The main observations to emerge from the 62 documents received were as follows:

- The Draft Policy was well-received by the participants, among other things because it allows them to request changes to projects presented by the MFFP, and because it provides a set of shared principles to structure provincial and regional public consultations.
- The need to provide feedback after consultations, for the sake of transparency.
- The need to present information in plain language adjusted to the needs of participants so that they can participate fully in the consultation.
- The need for consultations to be adequate within the meaning of the jurisprudence on Aboriginal law.

The comments received were examined so that they could be taken into account when preparing the final version of the Consultation Policy, which will be approved by the Minister of Forests, Wildlife and Parks.

The Policy will come into force on the date on which it is published. It will be monitored as part of the five-yearly review of sustainable forest development, as provided for in the *Sustainable Forest Development Act* (s. 224, SFDA).

Section 9 of the SFDA also provides that a new consultation must be held for any changes to the Policy's content.

Appendix 1 – Participating Regional Organizations

- Mont-Kaaikop Coalition
- Les Amis de la Forêt Ouareau
- Conseil régional de l'environnement de l'Abitibi-Témiscamingue (CREAT)
- Forêtville
- Signature Bois Laurentides
- Municipalité de Chertsey
- MRC d'Antoine-Labelle

Twelve other regional partners submitted opinions using the electronic form.

Appendix 2 – Aboriginal Communities Invited by Letter

- First Nations of Québec and Labrador Sustainable Development Institute*
- James Bay Advisory Committee on the Environment ♠*
- Kativik Advisory Committee on the Environment ♠*
- Cree-Québec Forestry Board ♠

Abénaquis

- Grand Conseil de la Nation Waban-Aki *

Algonquin

- Kebaowek-Kipawa First Nation
- Conseil de la Première Nation Abitibiwinni (Pikogan)*
- Wolf Lake First Nation
- Conseil des Anicinapek de Kitcisakik
- Kitigan Zibi Anishinabeg Band Council*
- Lac-Barrière Kitiganik Band Council
- Conseil de la nation Anishnabe du Lac Simon
- Longue-Pointe First Nation
- Timiskaming First Nation

Atikamekw

- Conseil des Atikamekw de Manawan
- Conseil des Atikamekw d'Opitciwan
- Conseil des Atikamekw de Wemotaci

Huron-Wendat

- Conseil de la nation huronne-wendat*

Innus

- Conseil des Innus de Pessamit *

- Conseil de la Première Nation des Innus d'Essipit
- Conseil des Innus d'Unamen Shipu
- Première Nation des Pekuakamiulnuatsh Takuhikan
- Conseil des Innus d'Ekuanitshit
- Conseil des Innus de Nutashkuan*
- Conseil des Innus de Pakuashipi
- Conseil Innu Takuaikan Uashat mak Mani-Utenam*

Malécites

- Première Nation Wolastoqiyik Wamsiapiuk

Micmac

- Mi'gmaoui Mawioni Secretariat

Mohawk

- Mohawk Council of Akwesasne
- Mohawk Council of Kahnawake
- Mohawk Council of Kanesatake

Naskapi

- Naskapi Nation of Kawawachikamach

♠ *Denotes regional organizations invited by letter in the same way as the Aboriginal communities concerned because they are composed of representatives of the First Nations and the gouvernement du Québec.*

* *Indicates the communities that submitted opinions or briefs to the MFFP (10).*

Appendix 3 – Provincial Organizations

Members of the Forestry Partners' Panel

- Assembly of First Nations Québec-Labrador
- Association des consultants en foresterie du Québec
- Association des entrepreneurs en travaux sylvicoles du Québec
- Association nationale des camionneurs artisans
- Association québécoise des entrepreneurs en travaux d'aménagement forestier
- Centrale des syndicats démocratiques
- Comité sectoriel de main-d'œuvre en aménagement forestier
- Confédération des syndicats nationaux*
- Conseil de l'industrie forestière du Québec
- Faculty of Forestry, Geography and Geomatics, Université Laval
- Fédération des pourvoiries du Québec
- Fédération des producteurs forestiers du Québec
- Fédération des trappeurs gestionnaires du Québec
- Fédération des travailleurs et travailleuses du Québec
- Fédération québécoise des coopératives forestières
- Fédération québécoise des municipalités
- Fondation de la faune du Québec
- Nature Québec
- Ordre des ingénieurs forestiers du Québec
- Regroupement des associations forestières régionales du Québec
- Regroupement des locataires des terres publiques du Québec
- Regroupement des sociétés d'aménagement forestier du Québec
- Regroupement national des conseils régionaux de l'environnement du Québec*
- Société des établissements de plein air du Québec*

- Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society
- Unifor
- Union des municipalités du Québec*
- ZECs Québec*

** Indicates the partners that sent opinions or briefs to the MFFP (5).*

Four provincial organizations that are not members of the Forestry Partners' Panel also submitted briefs:

- Association québécoise d'expéditionnisme
- Fédération québécoise des Clubs Quads
- David Suzuki Foundation
- Tembec

Appendix 4 – Participation Form

CONSULTATION ON THE DRAFT CONSULTATION POLICY FOR SUSTAINABLE FOREST DEVELOPMENT AND FOREST MANAGEMENT ORIENTATIONS

INSTRUCTIONS

You may make comments on the Draft Consultation Policy by completing this form. The questions refer to the document entitled “**Draft Consultation Policy for Sustainable Forest Development and Forest Management Orientations**”.

For the multiple-choice questions, please give your opinion on a scale of 1 to 4, where:

1 = Strongly disagree, 2 = Disagree, 3 = Agree and

4 = Strongly agree

GENERAL PROFILE

With which type of target audience do you associate yourself?

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Private citizen | <input type="checkbox"/> Regional partner |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aboriginal community | <input type="checkbox"/> Provincial partner |

Main interests (check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vacation (lease, cottage, association) | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife harvest management |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nature protection | <input type="checkbox"/> Hunting and/or fishing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry operations | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation and tourism |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): | |

QUESTIONNAIRE

The Consultation Policy 1. Overall, do you agree with the Draft Consultation Policy proposed by the MFFP?	1 4
The Consultation Principles (p.8) 2. Do you agree with the following principles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Openness b. Accessibility c. Transparency d. Flexibility e. Respect f. User-friendliness 	<div>1 4</div> <div>1 4</div> <div>1 4</div> <div>1 4</div> <div>1 4</div> <div>1 4</div>
Consultation Topics (p. 9) 3a. In your opinion, do the topics given as examples in this section help to clarify the types of consultations that may be organized in the future by the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs? 3b. What are the main reasons for your opinion?	<div>1 4</div> Area for comments

Consultation Process and Procedures (p. 10 to 16)	
4a. In your opinion, do these procedures provide adequate structure for consultations:	
a. That are provincial in scope	1 4
b. That are regional in scope	1 4
c. Of Aboriginal communities	1 4
d. Of forestry partners	1 4
4b. What are the main reasons for your opinion?	Area for comments
5a. In your opinion, will the consultation procedures allow the following principles to be applied in future consultations:	
a. openness	1 4
b. accessibility	1 4
c. transparency	1 4
d. flexibility	1 4
e. respect	1 4
f. user-friendliness	1 4
5b. What are the main reasons for your opinion?	Area for comments

<p>Monitoring, Evaluation and Revision of the Policy (p. 16)</p> <p>6. In your opinion, will the monitoring and evaluation measures ensure that the Consultation Policy is kept up to date and is adapted to the population's needs?</p>	<p>1 4</p>
<p>Overall appreciation</p> <p>7. What are the main strengths of the proposed Draft Consultation Policy?</p> <p>8. What are the main weaknesses of the proposed Draft Consultation Policy?</p>	<p>Area for comments</p> <p>Area for comments</p>
<p>Potential improvements</p> <p>9. If you feel certain elements of the Draft Consultation Policy are problematical or inadequate, can you suggest improvements?</p>	<p>Area for comments</p>

Appendix 5 – User Satisfaction Form

Consultation Evaluation Form

<p>1. How did you learn about the consultation?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Invitation letter</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Facebook</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Twitter</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> MFFP website</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Notice in a weekly newspaper</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> MFFP press release</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify)</p>
<p>2. In which region do you live?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Abitibi-Témiscamingue</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Bas-Saint-Laurent</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Capitale-Nationale</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Centre-du-Québec</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Chaudières-Appalaches</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Côte-Nord</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Estrie</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Gaspésie-Îles-de-la-Madeleine</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Lanaudière</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Laurentides</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Laval</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Mauricie</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Montérégie</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Montréal</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Nord-du-Québec</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Outaouais</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean</p>
<p>3. Which document did you read?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> The full consultation document</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The summary document</p>

<p>4. Which did you feel was most useful?</p> <p>Explain why.</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> The full consultation document</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> The summary document</p> <p>Area for comments</p>
<p>5. The information provided in these documents was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relevant - Sufficiently detailed - Well-explained, clear <p>Which aspects of these documents do you think could have been improved?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Strongly agree</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Agree</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Disagree</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Strongly disagree</p> <p>Area for comments</p>
<p>6. Were the consultation procedures clear?</p> <p>If they were not clear, how could they have been made clearer, or communicated better?</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Strongly agree</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Agree</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Disagree</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Strongly disagree</p> <p>Area for comments</p>
<p>7. Was the consultation period long enough?</p> 	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Strongly agree</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Agree</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Disagree</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Strongly disagree</p>
<p>8. Were the communication methods used to publicize the consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adequate - Sufficient 	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Strongly agree</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Agree</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Disagree</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Strongly disagree</p>

Explain why.	Area for comments
9. What were the strengths of the consultation – the aspects you appreciated the most?	Area for comments
10. Which aspects of this consultation do you think could have been improved? Why?	Area for comments
11. Would you like to make other comments about the consultation?	Area for comments

Appendix 6 – Evaluation of the Consultation

Only ten participants (16%) completed the user satisfaction questionnaire for the consultation. They were from the following regions: Abitibi-Témiscamisque, Capitale-Nationale, Chaudières-Appalaches, Côte-Nord, Laurentides, Montreal, Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean and Outaouais.

Generally, these participants felt the consultation period was long enough. Those who had learned of the consultation later were less satisfied, not only with the consultation period but also with the methods used to publicize the consultation.

The participants learned of the consultation from an invitation letter, Facebook, the MFFP website or the Minister's press release. None of the participants who completed the questionnaire had learned of the consultation from a regional weekly newspaper or from Twitter. Some participants suggested other methods of announcing provincial consultations and improving access to consultation information, for example by making greater use the local integrated land and resource management panels or other forestry stakeholder groups. Although the consultation had been advertised in a variety of ways (invitation letter, Facebook, twitter, MFFP website, regional weekly newspaper and ministerial press release), several participants asked for better communication methods for future consultations.

Most participants had read both consultation documents, i.e. the full version of the Draft Consultation Policy and the summary version. Most thought the full version was more useful in that it contained a lot more information. On the other hand, the summary document gave them a quick overview of the topic as a whole. In addition, the participants underscored the importance of using plain language, avoiding technical terms and providing real-life examples.

The participants who added comments made the following requests:

- that the information provided and the questions on the participation form should be clearer and formulated using simpler language;
- that more details should be given on the next steps of the consultation process, among other things on the presentation of the final document and the consultation report;
- that opinions and briefs should be made public;
- that more explanations should be given about the consultations themselves, and in particular about the MFFP's expectations for participants.



**Forêts, Faune
et Parcs**

Québec

