

# Doing Things Right: Implementing and Improving Co-Management in the NWT



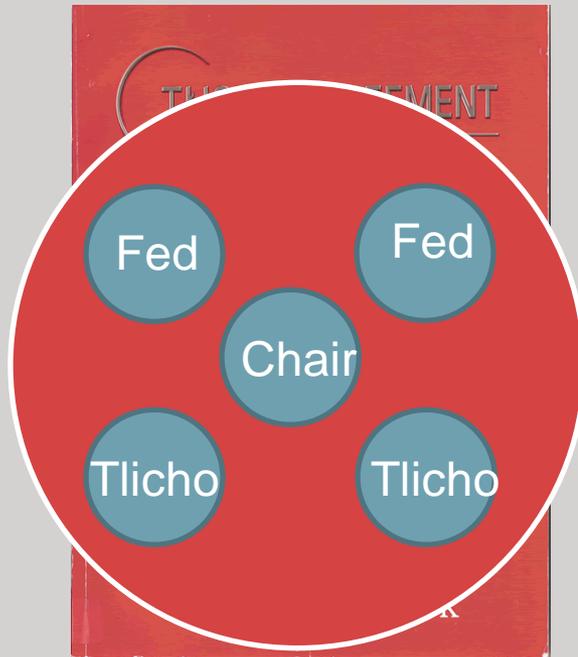
Inuvik Petroleum Show  
June 17, 2009

Willard Hagen  
Chair, Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

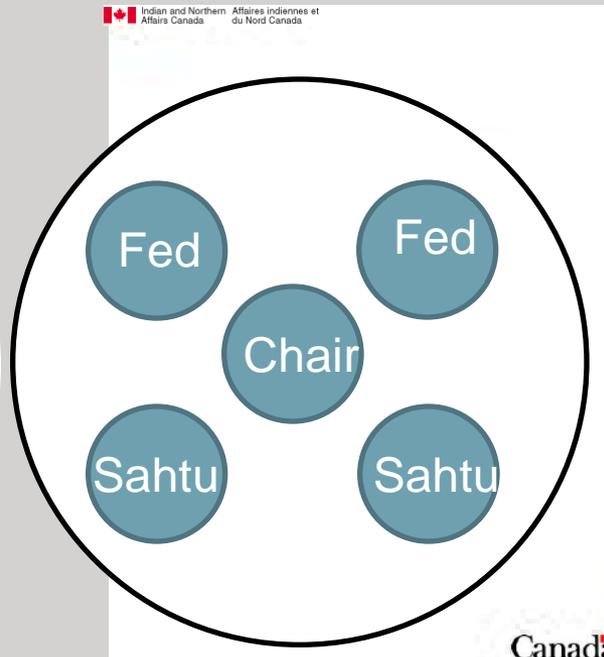
# NWT Land Claims



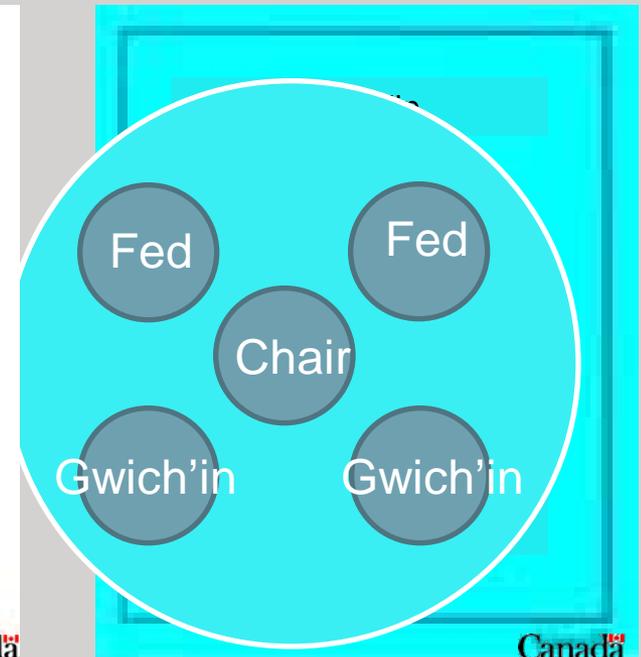
## Regional Panels



 Wek'eezhii  
Land and  
Water Board

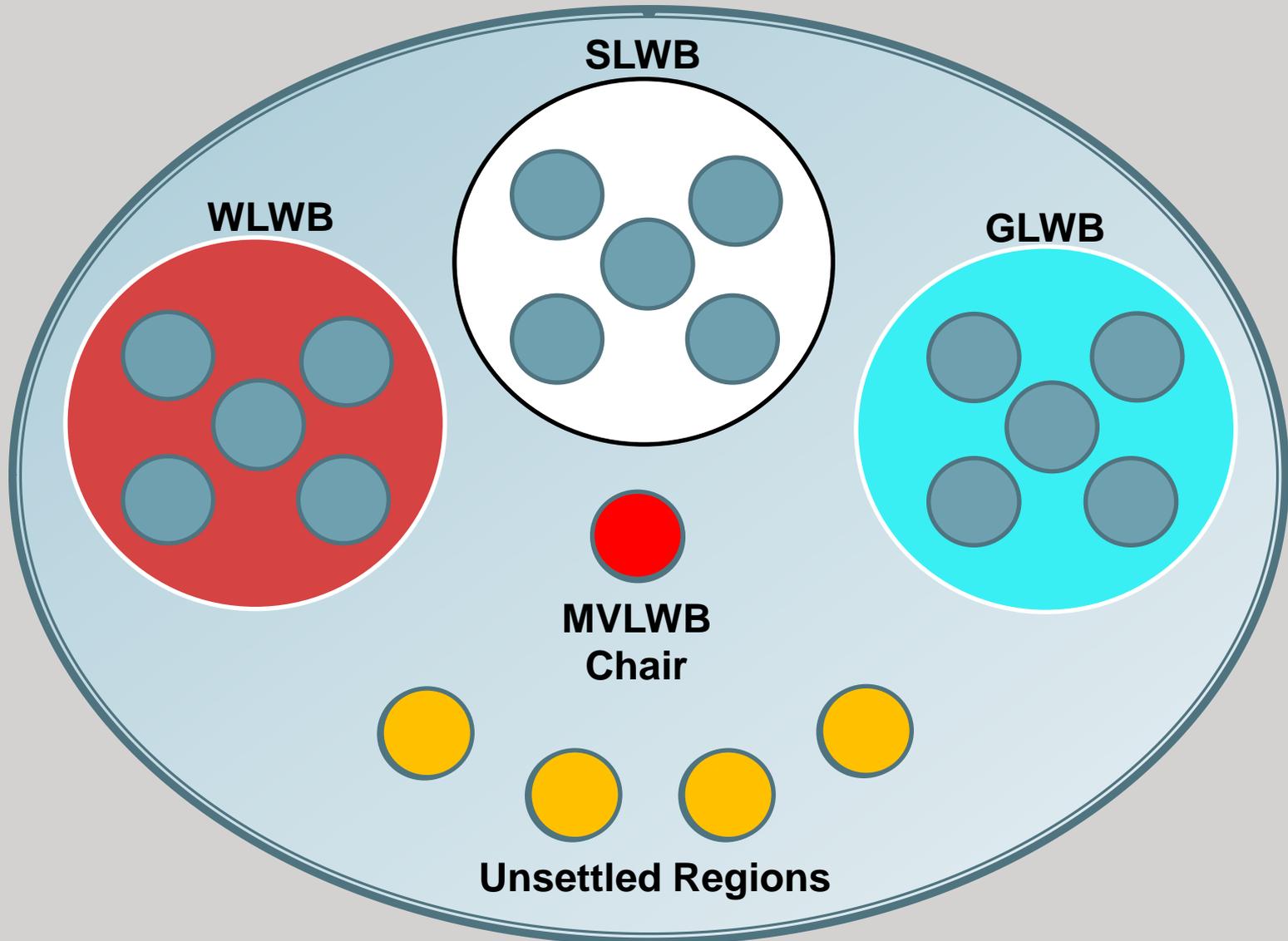


 Sahtu Land  
and Water  
Board

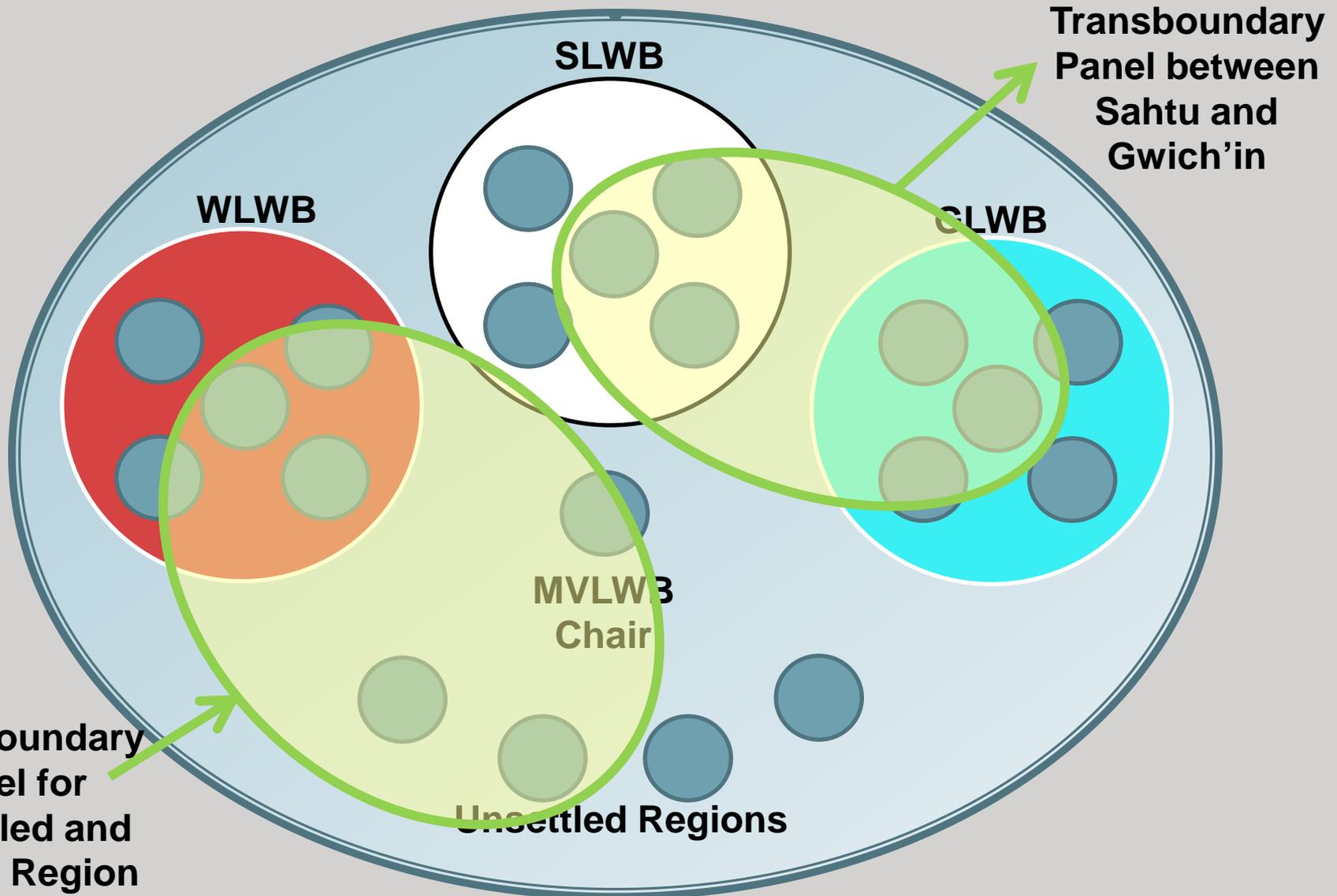


 Gwich'in Land  
and Water  
Board

# Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board



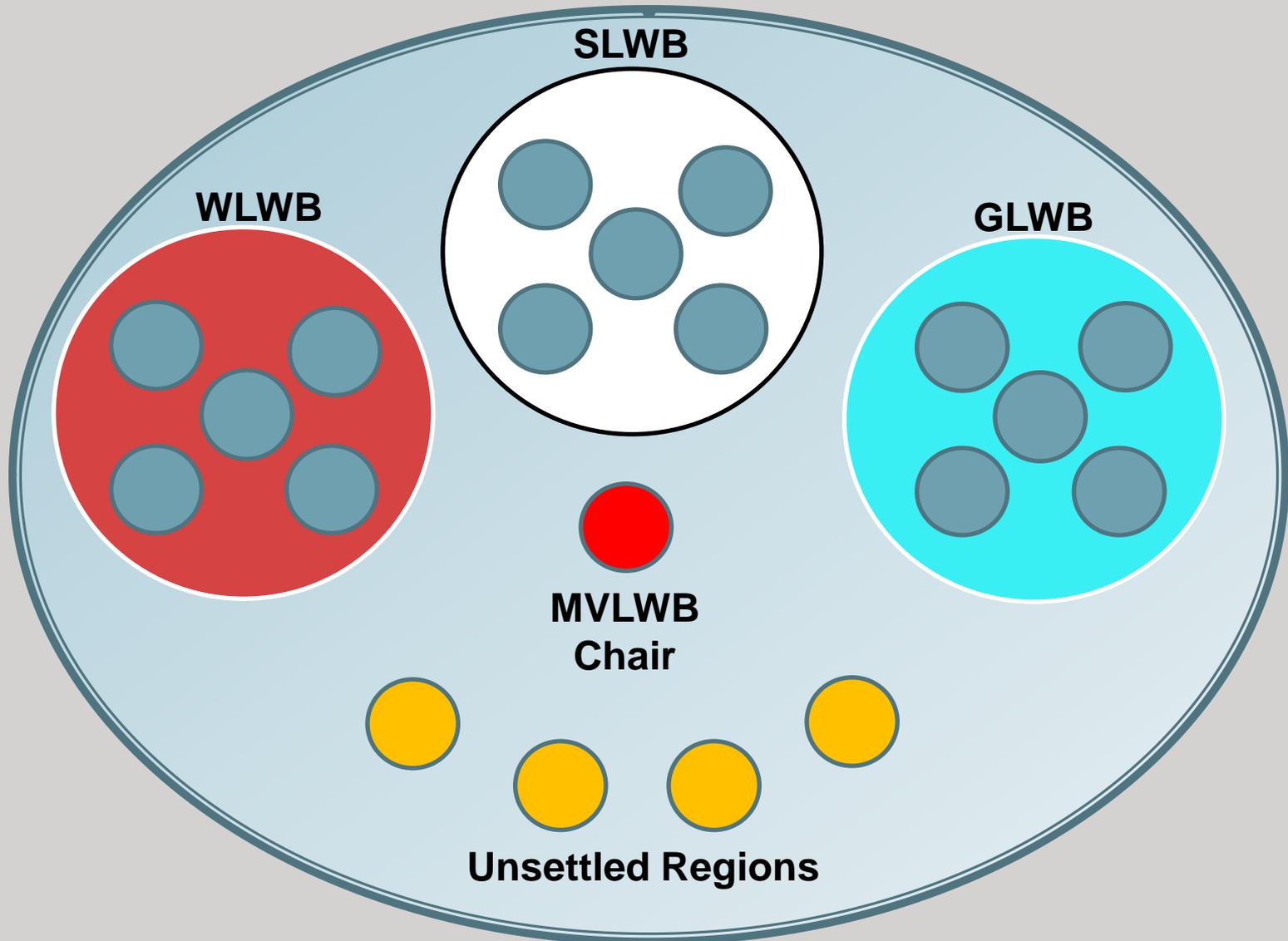
# Transboundary Panel Examples



# Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board

“The objectives of the Board are to provide for the conservation, development and utilization of land and water resources in a manner that will provide the optimum benefit generally for all Canadians and in particular for residents of the Mackenzie Valley.”

# Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board



# Doing Things Right: Clarity and Consistency in Board Processes



Inuvik Petroleum Show  
June 17, 2009

presented by: Kathleen Racher, Ph.D.,  
Regulatory Director, WLWB

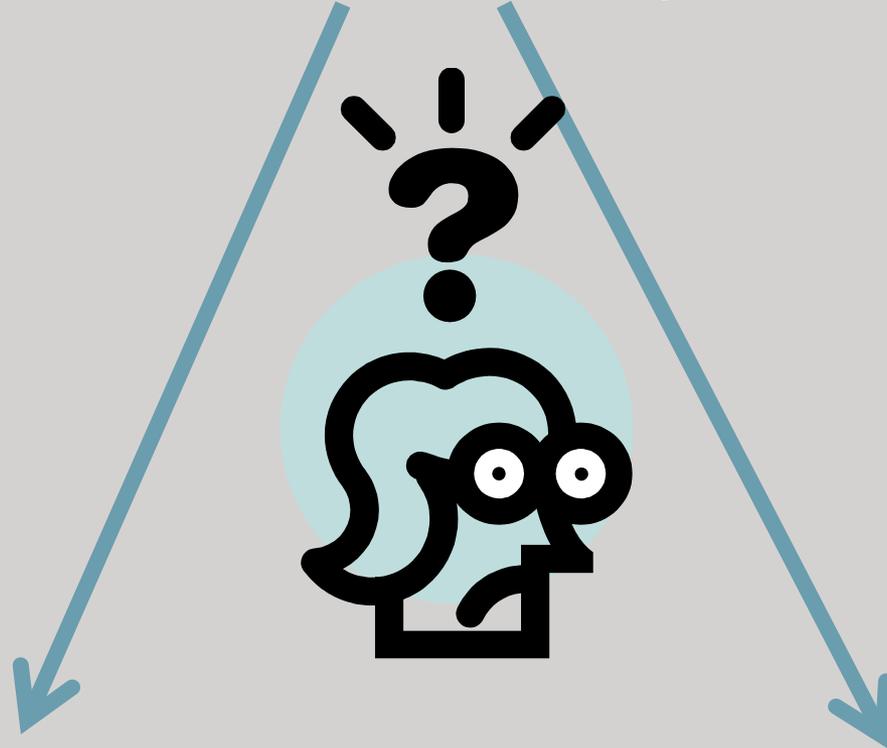
# Jurisdiction of the 4 Land and Water Boards of the Mackenzie Valley



# Boards regulate the use of land and water through issuance of permits and licences

## Legislation

(Mackenzie Valley Resources Management Act (MVRMA), NWT Waters Act, Land Claims etc.)



Land Use Permits

Water Licences

# Inter-Board Consistency

## Legislation

(Mackenzie Valley Resources Management Act (MVRMA), NWT Waters Act, Land Claims etc.)

Legislation interpreted, by individual Boards, to create business processes (i.e., policies and procedures)

**GLWB – 1998**

**SLWB – 1998**

**MVLWB – 2000**

**WLWB - 2005**

**Land Use Permits**

**Water Licences**

# Inter-Board Consistency?

**Inconsistent Policy and Procedures**

```
graph TD; A[Inconsistent Policy and Procedures] --> B[Intentional]; A --> C[Un-intentional]; B --> D[Due to differences in regional values]; C --> E[Due to when Boards were formed];
```

**Intentional**

**Un -intentional**

**Due to differences in regional values**

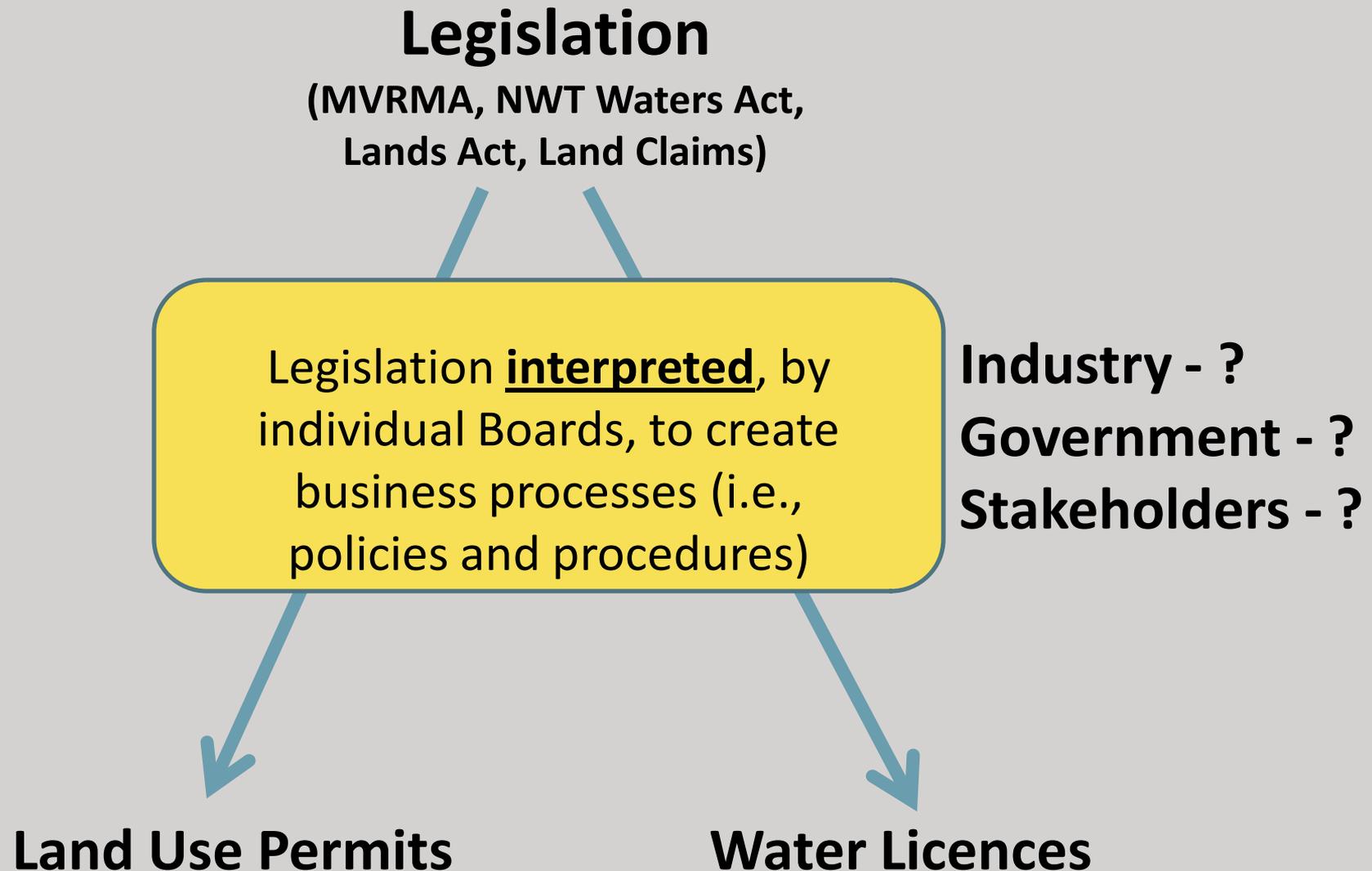
**Due to when Boards were formed**



# Section 106 of the Mackenzie Valley Resource Management Act (MVRMA)

- “The Board may issue directions on general policy matters or on matters concerning the use of land or waters or the deposit of waste that, in the Board’s opinion, require consistent application throughout the Mackenzie Valley.”

# Clarity – How is this supposed to work?





# Meeting Expectations – Clarity is needed

- All of the business processes of the Boards have not yet been clearly articulated and documented.
- Because of this, all parties – industry, stakeholders, government agencies – continue to hold their own expectations as to “the way things should be”.
- When expectations are not met, parties are confused and frustrated.



# Clarity and Consistency

## “Standard Procedures and Consistency Working Groups”

- review existing policies and procedures throughout the Mackenzie Valley, and,
- where necessary, develop new policies and procedures and document them.
  
- Established in January 2008
- Made up of staff of all four Boards.



# Where does there need to be more clarity and consistency?

**Pre-Application**



**Application/  
Permit Granting**



**Administration  
of Permit**



**Closure**

**What are the  
expectations?**

**Are there regional  
differences?**



# There are 6 Working Groups

1. Public Engagement and Consultation Working Group
2. Plan Review Process and Guideline Working Group
3. Water/Effluent Quality Working Group
4. Terms and Conditions Working Group
5. Data-Resource Sharing Working Group
6. Application Processes Working Group

# Working Group Process

**Examine current practices up and down the Valley**

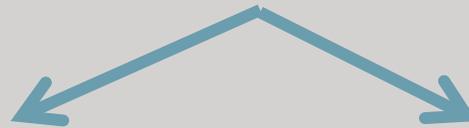
**Identify inconsistencies**

**Identify gaps in documentation**

**Develop or refine policies/procedures**

**Circulate to clients for review and comment**

**Present to full Board for approval**



# Working Group Process

**Examine current practices up and down the Valley**

**Identify inconsistencies**

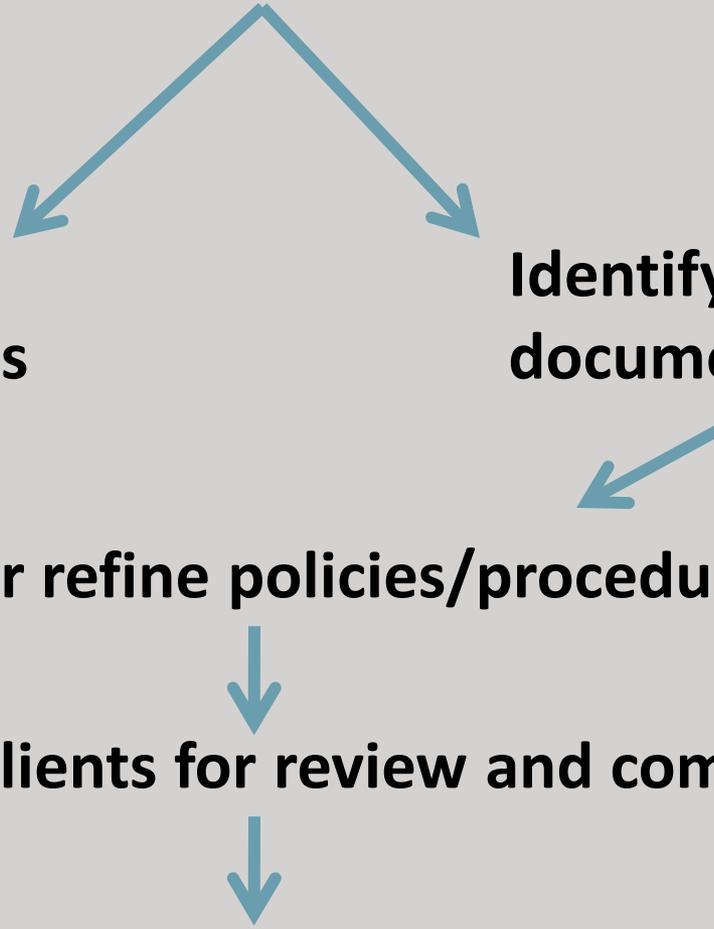
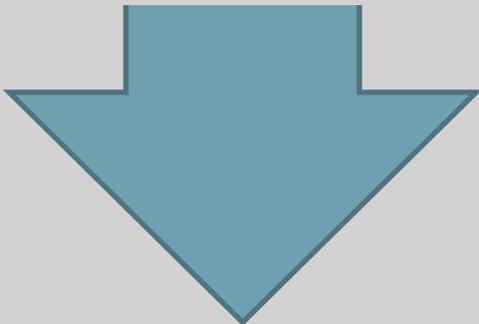
**Identify gaps in documentation**

**Develop or refine policies/procedures**

**Circulate to clients for review and comment**

**Present to full Board for approval**

**Involve affected external parties where appropriate**





# Working Group Products Will Provide Different Levels of Guidance

- 1. Policies** (eg. Water and Effluent Quality Management Policy)
- 2. Guidelines** (eg. Closure and Reclamation Plan Guidelines)
- 3. Standards** (eg. Data Submission Standards)



# Reducing Uncertainty

- Proponents should know what to expect before they apply
- Reviewers and stakeholders will understand the ways in which they can make meaningful contributions in the Board decision-making process
- Having fully documented policies and procedures will increase Board capacity overall

# Progress

- By the end of 2009, several Working Group products will be completed - most of these will be sent out for review to interested parties
- In the meantime, the establishment of the Working Groups has fostered an unprecedented amount of communication and understanding between all regional panels – we are firmly in the mind set of creating clarity and consistency



# What has this all got to do with the MGP?

- We have learned from past mistakes and past successes
- We are taking concrete steps to improve and clarify our processes
- We are, where appropriate, seeking input from external parties
- The members and staff of the MVLWB and regional panels are working effectively together to create consistency up and down the Valley

# WWW.MVLWB.CA

The screenshot shows the website interface for the Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board. At the top, there is a navigation bar with tabs for 'Home (All Boards)', 'Mackenzie Valley Land and Water Board', 'Wek'eezhil Land and Water Board', 'Sahtu Land and Water Board', and 'Gwich'in Land and Water Board'. Below the navigation bar is a sidebar with links for 'View All Site Content', 'MV EIA Process', 'Acts and Regulations' (including a 'Reference Library'), 'Combined Registry' (including a 'Combined Map'), 'Board Members', and a 'Recycle Bin' icon. The main content area features a welcome message: 'Welcome to the future home of the MVLWB, (and possibly WLWB, SLWB, and GLWB) public registry and websites. This site is not current or meant for public use as of yet, but please stay tuned.' Below the text is a map of the Mackenzie Valley region, color-coded by board jurisdiction: Gwich'in (pink), Sahtu (green), Wek'eezhil (orange), and Nahanni (purple). The map includes labels for various locations such as Aklavik, Inuvik, Tulaghtzich, Fort McPherson, Colville Lake, Fort Good Hope, Norman Wells, Tulita, Wrigley, Jean Marie River, Fort Simpson, Fort Land, Trout Lake, Fort Providence, Fort Resolution, Fort Smith, and West Buffalo. The Arctic Circle is also marked on the map.

- Separate tabs for each Board
- Hosted by MVLWB
- Online ledger and registry
- Application Lists and Maps
- Shared Calendar and Contacts

**Working Group Info:**

**[www.mvlwb.ca/pages/WorkingGroups.aspx](http://www.mvlwb.ca/pages/WorkingGroups.aspx)**