



FRENCH AND ABORIGINAL LANGUAGES SERVICE POLICY

1.0 Purpose

1.1 The purpose is to ensure that applicants and respondents have access to services of the Northwest Territories Surface Rights Board (SRB) in the Official Languages of the NWT.

2.0 Principles

2.1 In order to access the services of the SRB potential applicants and respondents require essential information in the Official Languages of the Northwest Territories.

2.2 In order to participate fully in the dispute resolution functions of the SRB, Parties to hearings may need to understand and be understood in their first Official Language.

2.3 The working language of the SRB is English.

3.0 Definitions

Parties – as defined in section 35 of the *Surface Rights Board Act*.

4.0 Applicability

4.1 This policy applies to the Members and Alternate members and staff of the SRB and is for the benefit of the potential applicants, respondents and witnesses.

5.0 Provisions

5.1 The *Surface Rights Board Act* shall be published on the SRB Website in English and French and in any of the other Official Languages of the NWT as translated and published by the Government of the Northwest Territories.

5.2 The SRB shall publish and maintain its Rules of Procedure in each of English and French and may publish in other official languages of the NWT from time to time.

5.3 The English version of the Rules of Procedure and other SRB publications shall be the authoritative version.

5.4 All Decisions of the SRB shall be published on the SRB Public Registry in English and subsequently in the Official Language of any of the Parties if so requested.

5.5 The SRB shall arrange interpreter services for the purpose of hearings for any applicant or respondent or witness who so needs and applies.

6.0 Authority and Accountability

6.1 The authorities for the implementation of this Policy are the *Surface Rights Board Act and Regulations* and the *Official Languages Act* of the NWT.


6.2 The Chairperson of the SRB is responsible to implement this policy.

7.0 Prerogative of the SRB

7.1 Nothing in this Policy shall be construed as to limit the prerogative of the SRB to make decisions or take actions outside the provisions of this policy.

Motion # SRB 2018-06-05-#4

Approved/Revised Date: June 5, 2018



Chairperson Signature