

- **Indigenous cultures** - Resolution paragraphs 2 and 19

The Government of Canada has statutory, contractual and common law obligations to consult with Aboriginal groups and, when appropriate, accommodate, if proposed developments could impact Aboriginal land or people. Questions about when, who, and how to consult have created costly and contentious issues. In summer 2009, The Banff Centre launched a dialogue process around the question: *What does effective and meaningful consultation look like and how can it be achieved?* The first phase of the dialogue process canvasses stakeholders to better understand the diverse perspectives on this issue. Reflective conversations reveal how stakeholders understand the situation – its core challenges, choices, and opportunities. A synthesis will carefully lay out the range of perspectives and areas of consensus and conflict (without attribution). This forms the foundation for a potential face-to-face event designed to bring participants into deep dialogue, new relationships, and increased capacities to effect change. On this project, The Banff Centre is working in partnership with consultants, Reos Partners, and the Mountain Partnership Secretariat's North American decentralized hub.

- **Communication and networking mechanisms** - Resolution paragraphs 33, 36 and 37

Members of the Mountain Partnership (MP) and Mountain Forum (MF) both partner with one another and share information about sustainable mountain development (SMD) across global networks. They connect face-to-face and/or by using online tools such as the Mountain Forum library, calendar, and email discussion lists. Mountain Forum and Mountain Partnership members are supported by small regional offices with 1-2 staff members each. Staff members in both MF nodes and MPS hubs multiply communication and networking capacity significantly within these membership-driven, global networks. In North America, for example, the North American Mountain Forum (NAMF) staff member contributed to a global map of SMD organizations and operates a web portal linking community groups and encouraging local residents to engage in mountain sustainability issues. The Mountain Partnership Secretariat decentralized hub in North America (MPS-NA) built a new online information exchange about amenity-led in-migration in mountain regions in partnership with an MF webmaster. NAMF and MPS-NA have both assisted with dialogues about policy on climate change and aboriginal consultation. They have also partnered with the Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour to raise awareness about global mountain networks, provided personalized assistance to members and stakeholders, and distributed SMD literature to scholars in the South. In 2008, MPS-NA connected a community in Great Britain with Canadian experts in stakeholder dialogue, provided contacts to a researcher interested in the benefits and drawbacks of World Heritage Status, and brokered connections between a potential climate monitoring site in Mexico with scientists via CIRMOUNT– a climate research network affiliated with the Mountain Research Initiative. The significantly increased capacity for communication and networking created by Mountain Partnership and Mountain Forum members and staff continues to increase both collaboration and information-sharing among SMD stakeholders worldwide.