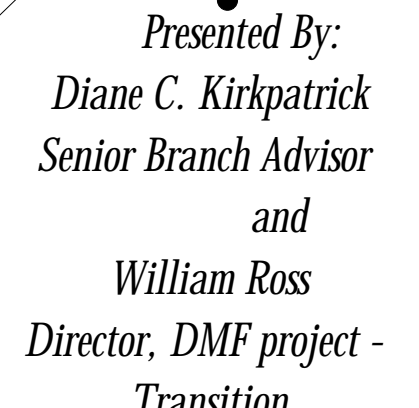





Building Confidence in Decision Making: A Policy Development Process

***Presentation to the
Pest Management Advisory Council
January 17, 2000***



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Criteria for a Systematic Process *(1)*



RESPOND TO CONCERNS RE: FEDERAL GOVERNMENT & HEALTH PROTECTION CAPACITY

A. Public Confidence & Public Expectations

- ▶ primary commitment to the health and safety of Canadians
- ▶ conduct, management and use of science in decision-making
- ▶ activities and decision-making processes transparent to the public and various stakeholders
- ▶ public involvement
- ▶ responsibility to inform and educate Canadians on risks to their health
- ▶ undertake remedial action in cases where there is evidence of potential health risk
- ▶ ensure decisions are made expeditiously
- ▶ build in flexibility and ability to adapt to new situations
- ▶ accountability to Canadians



Criteria for A Systematic Process (1 cont'd)

RESPOND TO CONCERNS RE: FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND HEALTH PROTECTION CAPACITY

B. Krever Inquiry

- ▶ action to reduce risk should not await scientific certainty
- ▶ the single most important factor determining whether a regulator will perform its functions is whether it is given resources to do so
- ▶ many problems [of the blood system] resulted from lack of coordination among the various institutions involved
- ▶ crown liability

C. Auditor General, Parliamentary Committees, etc..



Criteria for a Systematic Process (2)

LINK/INTEGRATE WITH FEDERAL INITIATIVES

- ▶ Science Advice in Government Decision-Making
- ▶ Policy Research Initiative
- ▶ Regulatory Process Management Standards
- ▶ Quality Services
- ▶ Citizen Engagement and Citizen Focused Service Delivery
- ▶ Social Union Framework and Federal Accountability
- ▶ Sustainable Development, Gender Analysis, etc...



Criteria for a Systematic Process (3)

SUPPORT HEALTH CANADA EFFORTS TO:

- ▶ anticipate, prevent and respond to health threats
- ▶ foster strategic and evidence-based decision-making
- ▶ promote population health



Decision-Making Framework and the Policy Development Process

- **Major departmental business line is management of risks to health**
- **Risk Management Framework was developed - now known as Decision Making Framework (DMF)**
- **Policy Development Process is moving DMF from theory to practice - aim is to achieve broad implementation**
- **Policy Development Process also contributes to refining the DMF**



Policy Development and Decision-Making Process

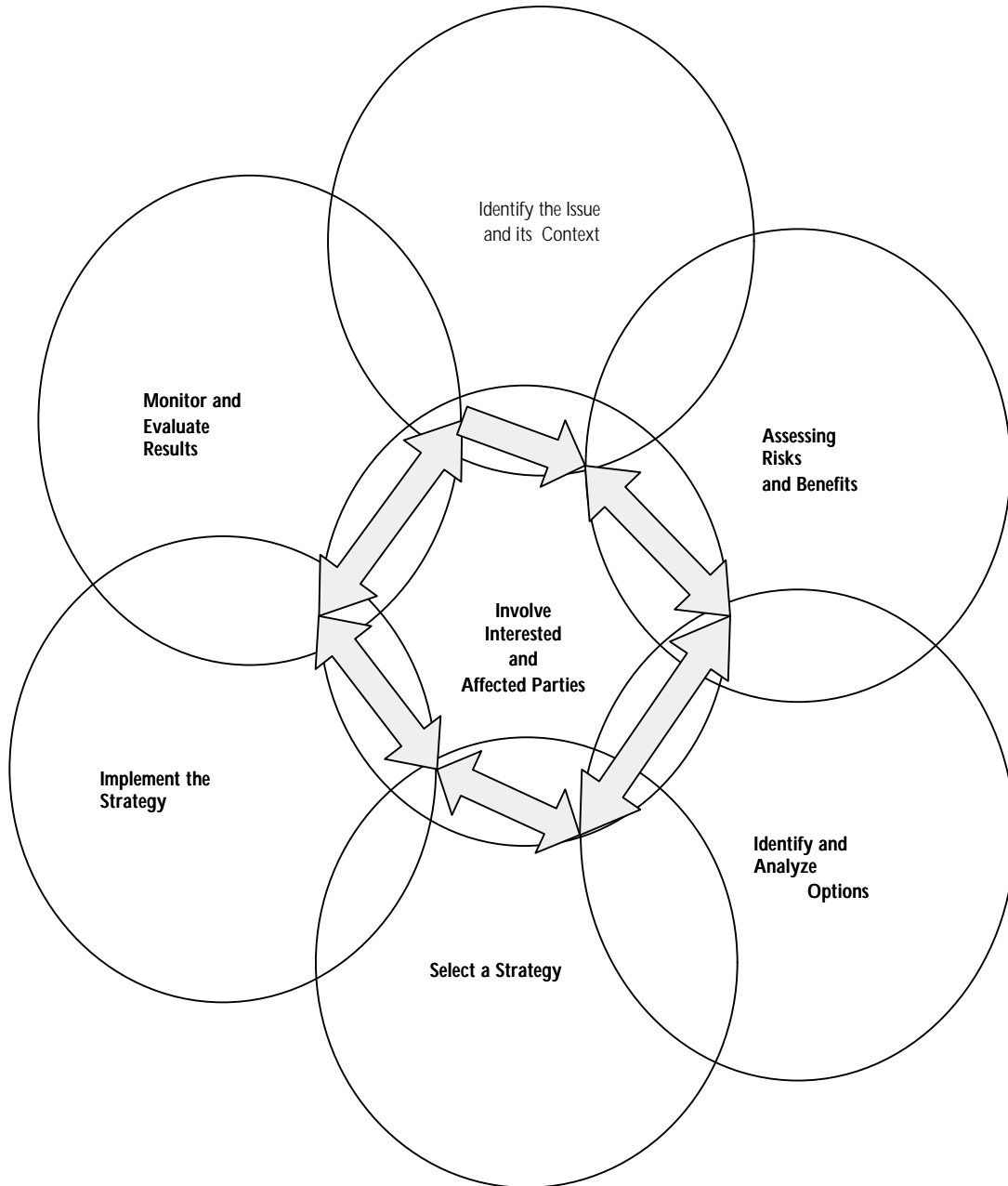
- **The process operates according to certain underlying principles:**
 - ▶ 2-track approach - Science and Policy - but strategically bridged
 - ▶ Broad, inclusive perspective on issues
 - ▶ Consensus seeking
 - ▶ Teamwork
 - ▶ Transparency and public accountability
 - ▶ Best Practices - role of science in government decision-making



A New Way of Working

- **A revised Decision Making Framework**
- **Distinction in the roles of scientists and policy advisors in policy development**
- **Application of an evidence-based approach to both science and policy aspects of decision-making**
- **Application of Knowledge Management to the identification, collection, sharing and analysis of health information and knowledge**

"Draft" Decision-Making Framework





Applying the Policy Development Process: Prion Diseases

1st Case Study to facilitate development of process/implementation of the Decision Making Framework

- **Science and Policy Teams established with Terms of Reference → Generic TORs**
- **Issue Identification → Template**
- **For Your Information Note → Model**
- **Public Involvement Plan → Model**
- **Interim Risk Assessments**
- **Interim Policy Analyses → Donor Deferral Policy and Model**
- **Checks and Balances → Peer Review**



Applying the Policy Development Process: Screening of Migrants for Infectious Diseases

Advice to CIC on TB, Syphilis and HIV/AIDS

- **Risk assessment in hand**
- **Interbranch (and CIC) Policy Team established based on generic TORs from Prion Case Study**
- **Analysis of Options and Implications**
- **Public Input** → **Focus Groups**
→



Applying the Policy Development Process: Belgian Dioxin Incident

Belgian Dioxin Incident required expedited response

- **Science Team established based on generic TORs from Prion Case Study**
 - consensus on science
 - comprehensive risk assessment

- **Policy group**
 - policy analysis based on model

- **For Your Information Note**
 - Canada's response



Policy Development and Decision Making Process

- **The process is flexible enough to apply to a variety of subject matter and in a variety of contexts**
- **The process is being applied to four new case files**
- **International profile as well via dealings with the EC and Australian government**
- **Broader implementation of this process is being pursued through the Continuing Education Council to develop a learning module**