

Meeting Notes

June 5, 2014 Teleconference, 9 am-noon

Notes by DL Simmons

Participants

Michael Neyelle, Loretta Ransom, Patricia Manuel, Bradley Menacho, Sandra Marken, Trevor Taylor, Shauna Morgan, Kristen Yakeleya (for Cross-Cultural Research Camp), Fred Andrew (at about 10:30 am)

Regrets

Jimmy Dillon, Marie Adams, Julian Kanigan

Notes

Round table with updates

- Great Bear Lake watershed plan (Trevor): Délı̨nę is leading an initiative to establish the Great Bear Lake watershed as a Biosphere Reserve; Deb should check in on First Nations Protected Areas Strategy initiative. DFO will be doing ongoing fish research
- CPC (Sandra): starting 3 week comment period on their application for 10 wells; not drilling this year, looking at results from last year; coming to communities (Tulı́t'a and Norman Wells) June 18-20 for consultation; plans now underway. CPC TK Study, a partnership with TRRC, SRRB. Intention to stay connected and involved in the communities. Patricia: noted an issue that we need expert people who speak Dene language who can help to inform the elders. Up to 8 horizontals and up to 10 wells (could be less of both), first drilling program winter 15-16.
- Environment Canada (Loretta): Council of Canadian Academies shale gas report; Loretta will try to find a good summary for the group; there is a different process and different timelines from shale oil extraction, but both involve fracking; not sure if there will be an official response from government, but they are looking at it in relation to future advice.
- FGH RRC (Patricia): just had a meeting re fiber optic link, and did a tour by chopper looking over the routing; pre-planning stages, looking at archaeological work that needs to be done. Also, Deb noted that the Northern Contaminants Program (NCP) has approved funding to support mercury sampling as part of FGH's caribou and moose health sampling under Susan Kutz – the proposal
- Tulı́t'a RRC election just happened: Rocky Norwegian (President), David Menacho, Roderick Yallee, Ricky Andrew, Valerie Yakeleya, Bradley Menacho, Eddie McPherson Jr. Busy preparing for Fire Day, the annual event commemorating the big forest fire that almost engulfed the community. Preparing for meeting with Stantec regarding fiber optic line.

Draft Forum Budget

- Deb provided an overview

- Question whether the budget fully reflects the group's Terms of Reference. Are funds needed to support delegates in their role as ambassadors? Added two new activities lines to support community/regional presentations, bring the budget to \$98K.
- Patricia talked about the protocol that she's been using in representing the work of the Forum at community meetings.
- Discussion about next teleconference – July meeting not included in \$98K budget, so Deb was asked to add this (key agenda item: planning for Cross-Cultural Research Camp) – total revised budget \$100K.
- Sandra noted that we need to have a backup plan if we aren't able to get full funding.
- Next steps for confirming funding:
 - Andrew Applejohn (ENR) to discuss workplan and budget with Jeff Walker, who is administering ENR budget for Forum activities
 - Sandra to seek funding contributions from CMEG members
 - Deb to work on funding proposal to CanNor (with assistance from Marie)

Environmental Studies Research Fund (ESRF) program

- ESRF is a research fund based on a levy from petroleum companies; until April 1 the fund was managed by AANDC, and now it's managed by ENR (Andrew Applejohn)
- Cross-Cultural Research Camp (Shauna)
 - This is an opportunity for community knowledge holders and scientists to learn from each other through research and monitoring work on the land over a period of seven days during the week of July 14.
 - It will also be possible to collect baseline data at the same time.
 - There will be an option for one charterload of people to come to the camp for a shorter time.
 - Proposed for this to happen at Stewart Lake, which is in the general area of the shale oil play and is a good place for doing water monitoring exercises – there are also families who have camps there so there's a strong traditional knowledge base.

Kristen Yakeleya and Frederick Andrew announced their presence.

- Fred Andrew: really happy and grateful to know that the camp is going to happen, especially around the Stewart Lake area. Really happy about the new SRRB intern.

SRRB Intern introductions (Kristen Yakeleya)

- Update on Traditional Economy Assessment project – stay tuned for draft report
- Update on Environmental Monitor and Leadership training planning (briefing forthcoming tonight)
- Scheduling
 - Cumulative Effects Workshop (September 2 week)
 - Experts Workshop (January 20-22)
 - Next teleconference July 3, 9 am

Adjourned (with various people having to leave early) at 11:50 am.