

TI'azt'en Nation / UNBC CURA
Partnering for Sustainable Resource Management

Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
August 19, 2005 - 10 AM
Cinnabar Resort and Research Station

Present:

Principal Investigator, Co-Investigator/IP Stream Leader, TI'azt'en CURA
Coordinator/IP Stream Leader, Junior Coordinator/IP Stream Student, TI'azt'en
TEK Stream Leader, UNBC TEK Stream Leader, UNBC Education Stream Leader,
UNBC Ecotourism Stream Leader, TI'azt'en Member-at-Large 1

Others Present:

15 - TI'azt'en Nation and UNBC Summer RA's, Staff and others

Introductions

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer
2. Adoption of Agenda - no new items
3. Correction and adoption of June 21st meeting minutes and web summary
Another UNBC consideration for ERP or Associate Partner and no corrections on
web summary.
4. Progress Updates

Ecotourism

Began literature review and specific research on First Nation tourism
initiatives. TI'azt'en Member-at-Large 1 appointed to TI'azt'en Ecotourism
Stream Leader, to be discussed later in the agenda.

Improved Partnership

IP student started Masters' research looking at evaluating the success of the
JPRF in revitalizing culture from the TI'azt'en perspective. Approximately 5
interviews left to complete with focus groups scheduled for the fall. IP
TI'azt'en summer RA has been transcribing interviews and has created a
database of approximately 2,500 co-management arrangements that include
First Nations. UNBC summer RA is doing data analysis on processes of how co-
management could work effectively and will be looking at differences in what
people said based on gender, age, etc to differentiate perspectives and how
different groups think. And in October, will begin the 'History of the JPRF'
project, funded through external sources but will compliment CURA. IP student
and TI'azt'en coordinator will be teaching a module at UNBC's field camp on
how to conduct respectful research in TI'azt'en traditional territory.

Education

Have completed 4 of 5 community focus groups, Elders group will be done in September or October. So far, data analysis is showing that there are a lot of similarities between groups and people are consistent on what they want to see. After Elders Group there will be a community presentation probably in early spring 2006 to confirm findings. Thank you to everyone that helped and assisted in the coordination and planning of focus groups. Application and acceptance to participate in CASTS conference in Cape Breton, September 22-24, with hope that TI'azt'en Education Stream Leader can attend or TI'azt'en TEK Stream Leader. With no financial assistance, need to find \$2,000 for someone to attend. Themes include health, careers, environment, education and programming. Need to reply and develop power point presentation. Education summer RA's will be returning to school in September, with one student continuing through the fall semester to assist with data analysis. Thank You to UNBC members who did an excellent job of facilitating the focus groups. TI'azt'en Stream Leader returning on September 6 and Member-at-Large has accepted the position of Economic Development officer and will undertake the TI'azt'en Ecotourism Stream Leader role starting in September.

Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK)

UNBC TEK summer RA did 4-5 weeks of work looking at technical uses of birch and logging impacts on birch stands. Literature review included a background on how birch is used by First Nations, with a paper to be published once reviewed. Some budget issues to be clarified and sorted into appropriate categories. TEK has advertised for a Masters student to start with the CURA project. Extension includes an Edmonton conference in June where some CURA work was discussed. Research conducted by summer RA was defined by Elders, as they were concerned about the deterioration of birch in the area. Note: Elders and traditional land users feel more comfortable in the field which was evident when field work was performed with Birch research.

NOTE: All IP documents have been properly archived with TI'azt'en Nation, UNBC and JPRF. Digital copy will be available after the completion of focus groups in the fall. UNBC and TI'azt'en Nation select their own Stream Leaders and therefore these positions do not need to be advertised. IP has 3 separate code books including outcomes, process and actions. TI'azt'en coordinator states that IP interviews and Education focus groups all confirm that TI'azt'en Nation is focused on cultural/traditional transmission to younger generation.

5. Budget, contracts for streams, budget monitoring (all)
Junior Coordinator and IP Summer RA will sort and monitor budget with a template developed to track budget revenue and expenses. Contracts need to be finalized and SC must start to think of contracts for 2006, as it is fast approaching. TEK contracts were being reviewed but that another copy needs to be sent to TI'azt'en Nation. Education contracts will be finalized when TI'azt'en stream leader returns in September. Concern expressed about TEK

PhD student research, as September is fast approaching. PI confirms that the research will not start until Year 3 (Jan 2006). At present supervisor is on sabbatical but that a meeting can be arranged to define research topic and methodology. Topics have changed and IP will undertake the supervision of Masters' student who will do some Environmental monitoring research.

6. Associate Partner invitations

Request will go to TI'azt'en Chief and Council to appoint another Member-at-Large from the community. TI'azt'en Coordinator will talk with Member-at-Large 2 on whether he is interested in continuing as SC member. Education stream invitation for Associate Partner was declined but is interested in being an ERP member.

Break

7. Extension (All)

Deadline of September 9th to submit articles for September CURA newsletter. Other extensions include publications in Forestry, Link and CSQ (once translated in Russian). SC reminded to keep track of extensions, as SSHRC will audit our project for extensions and output. Request for CURA posters for community as some know about CURA, most don't have a good sense of what it's all about. TEK poster being worked on and will be forwarded to UNBC for printing.

8. TI'azt'en Ecotourism Stream Leader

Looking forward to the new challenges as Economic Development officer and working with UNBC Ecotourism Stream. ACED students will be a resource, as they have gained education and experience in this area. TI'azt'en summer RA's have advanced in their training and education through digitizing video tapes, working with CURA researchers and doing some GPS work. Request brief biography of summer RA's for the CURA website.

9. Intellectual Property Rights/Protocol Development Workshop

This has been discussed previously and if CURA is still interested in holding this workshop, need to start planning. Brief summary of Intellectual Property Rights and how many First Nations communities are working to protect Traditional knowledge related to research. Discussion that SC needs a sub-committee to get this process started. Brief outline of what this workshop might entail and such issues as payment to community members and royalties need to be discussed. CSTC in process of developing research protocol with UNBC, and how might it compliment CURA protocol. A meeting will be schedule for sub-committee to move forward on this issue.

10. Next Meeting - October 14, 2005 @ UNBC

Meeting adjourned at 12:45, with afternoon activity a BBQ and swimming