

Partnering for Sustainable Resource Management
CURA Steering Committee Meeting
June 29th, 2006, Room 1069, UNBC

Members Present:

Principal Investigator, Co-Investigator/IP Stream Leader, Tl'azt'en Coordinator/Education Stream Leader, UNBC Coordinator/IP Masters Student, UNBC Education Leader, Tl'azt'en Ecotourism Leader, UNBC Ecotourism Leader, UNBC TEK Stream Leader, Tl'azt'en TEK Stream Representative, Tl'azt'en Member-at-Large

Introductions

Introduction of new Tl'azt'en Member-at-Large

Adoption of agenda

Addition: Community Justice Partnership and Quarterly Chief and Council Updates.

Old Business

Adoption of April 28th Minutes

Minor grammar corrections, minutes are adopted provided edits are made.

Updates:

CURA Open House

May 18th Open House was a success. Planning for 2007 to include capacity building workshops on interviewing, transects, possibly database management, archiving and including Tl'azt'en RA's into field camp, forest management and cultural tourism modules. Recommend Open House include brief verbal updates by Stream, 'managing' the posters, reducing technical jargon, setting up booths so people have access to researchers, sending notices a week before or the week of workshop. Suggest that CURA also provide an update at the community AGM with posters, written updates and organizational chart.

Changes in Stream Leaders

Former Member-at-Large is newly appointed Tl'azt'en Ecotourism Stream Leader, Tl'azt'en Coordinator has moved into the Education Stream Lead role, newly appointed Tl'azt'en Member-at-Large and discussion on replacement for Tl'azt'en IP Stream Leader.

Staffing Changes

Former UNBC Coordinator back part-time to concentrate on IP stream publications, assist with Education Stream academic writing, and grant writing. Former Tl'azt'en PRA hired under TEK as Tl'azt'en RA to archive TEK information to DVD, and store.

Midterm Review

SSHRC midterm review report submitted, SSHRC will inform by October whether funding will continue for the last two years.

Education Student

Education Stream grad student recruitment is necessary to assist Stream research, possible to share grad student between Education and Ecotourism who has an interest in tourism and an education background. Further discussion between Streams need to be initiated to finalize these scenarios.

Contracts

PI signed off on two contracts, Education Stream budget and contract now complete, Ecotourism Stream to develop a budget and write up a contract.

New Business:

Potential Guest Speaker

University of Alberta PhD student could be brought to UNBC to do a presentation on a research methodology called Photo Voice.

Community Justice

Community Justice Coordinator is interested in a partnership with CURA to have Community Work Service (CWS) clients doing community hours with duties such as setting up venues and delivering newsletters/updates.

Update for Chief and Council

Quarterly updates are provided to Chief and Council by PI.

Stream Updates

Ecotourism:

A presentation by UNBC Ecotourism Stream Leader to the Aboriginal Business Canada (ABC) workshop in Quebec about Community-involved research with principles and ideas about working with indigenous peoples with specific examples from New Zealand, the high arctic, and CURA. ABC has since granted a contract to UNBC to do two bibliographies that will focus on Indigenous tourism. Grad students will start in September and topics may include benefits and impacts of tourism in Aboriginal communities. Discussion may focus on what community defines as 'products' (e.g., band-sponsored, entrepreneurs), which will help identify where growth in tourism potential is.

TEK:

Grad student to start September in the NRES Program, and is part-time summer RA with a focus to complete birch research. Some duties to date include a poster, transcribing birch video, and the creation of a community flyer. Transcripts and binders of literature on botany and ethnobotany of birch will be forwarded to the Tl'azt'en R&D office library. Place-names thesis is in draft,

and incorporates committee's suggested revisions. Royal Roads student has an interest in how to incorporate TEK into curriculum

Improving Partnerships:

Expect to produce 5 articles on C&I of co-management, grad student could produce 2-3 articles, 3 additional articles from earlier IP stream research, and revisit protocols article in the fall.

Education

Stream will focus on completing data analysis from community focus groups conducted in 2005. Curriculum to be developed for testing at September's Chuntoh Education Society camps, much work needs to be done before final product. Another focus for the Education Stream will be to analyze and summarize evaluation forms completed by students and teachers for Chuntoh camps held in the past. Summer RA hired to begin duties will focus on completing stated Stream milestones including the production of a media piece and technical reports for the web site. A component will be how to incorporate place-names and birch research into curriculum, and looking at the effectiveness of current Chuntoh curriculum with the intent to develop two major themes. Another focus will examine IRPs (which define public school curriculum) to define what First Nations content is included and how. Preliminary target audience is the transition period from elementary to high school, with specific focus on how to incorporate TEK to make science attractive for students entering high school. This work will involve the review of past community efforts and discussion papers on community Education philosophy to determine if the philosophy has changed over time.

Next Meeting:

Monday, August 21st at Cinnabar Resort for the CURA Annual