

**Bulkley Valley Research Centre – Board Meeting
May 2013 Monthly update and draft agenda**

Present: Sybille (skype), Laurence, Greg, Richard, Don, Regina, Rick

1. Approve Agenda – no additions to the agenda
2. Approve Apr 2013 draft minutes - tabled.

Richard and Brian suggested changes to the Minutes, but unsure if changes have been made

Action: Adrian to update the minutes from Richard and Brian for Minutes to be reviewed at next meeting

3. New researchers and queries

Tom Schilling (anthropology/technology MIT)

4th year PhD candidate urban studies and science department (program focusing on intellectual history and technology, scientific controversies, localized forms of scientific practice). PhD topic: Comparative analysis of different use of data management techniques (how they are developed and how they are taken up in management and legal issues in three resource management industries in BC – forestry, mineral exploration and cultural resource management. Wants to focus on how forestry modeling work, and collaborations performed and facilitated by center are taken up in management in the community. He would also like to get involved a bit in cumulative effects research and work that has been done by the center and by others, use of scenario planning, and could contribute/participate in workshops and conferences. Tom's original background is in engineering. Also would like to explore international collaboration (e.g. nexus of centers that do work in socio-ecological systems). He is here till the beginning of Oct.

Tom is using space at the college.

Potential benefits to the center are Tom's expertise in the integration of knowledge (e.g. critical perspectives on science and technology and how they could be incorporated in engagement methods; also involvement in ethno-geographical research).

Action: Rick to schedule seminar for Tom in September through the BVRC seminar series. Also discuss potential for special presentation by Tom in addition, or instead of a seminar, depending on scheduling and availability.

Action: Tom will put a bio and contact information together for website.

Sybille has gotten 2 letters in the last week from 2 PhD scientists in the last week internationally wanting to work with the center.

Tony Kusbach (soils Mendel U Czech Rep)

Tony is a soil scientist that has been in touch with Sybille a number of times over the last few years, and he is looking for a project to do in Canada, working in collaboration with Phil and the center.

Arnaud Caudron (fisheries)

Arnaud is from France. He is a fisheries scientist with a lot of experience with the French government working on similar topics as Don. He has made five trips to the Skeena and is looking to immigrate.

Sybille is looking for discussion around how to handle these requests. There are costs to having visiting researchers (space, copying etc.). We are already getting maxed out with our new space. What are criteria we should look to for entertaining these requests (e.g. match with our current projects). Need a more systematic approach for dealing with these requests.

Action: Sybille will draft a form letter for response to these requests that can be adapted on a case by case basis and circulate.

4. 2013 Operating plan follow up

Areas for improvement were newsletter, membership engagement and core funding. A more detailed operational plan to address these areas was developed (circulated by Don and Rick). The operational plan meshes with the strategic plan. The bold "X" does not signify anything.

5. New office space update

Has not been quite formalized, however fairly certain the space is ours. Details should be finalized by June Board Meeting.

6. Upper Morice Monitoring trust update

Terms of reference have been drafted and are being reviewed by the Deputy Minister and OW. The agreement will then go to the auditor general and the OW.

Governance establishment group consists of:

MoE, Env. Protection (Ian Sharpe), OW (David DeWitt and Walter Joseph), BVRC (Don Morgan)
Rick and Richard had been resources

Funding for monitoring is hopefully coming through an endowment from the Moore Foundation. Ivan Thompson, Don and Rick have been going through the application for endowment (~2M and upfront cost for start up).

The grant application is initially with BVRC who will administer the grant until the trust is formally established. Once there is a board in place for the Upper Morice Monitoring trust, they will negotiate the administrative services with the BVRC or a different organization.

The EA can direct future proponents to contribute to trusts to conduct work (e.g. on environmental baseline studies).

Timelines depend on having the 2 governments comfortable with signing.

7. Kalum LRMP cumulative effects forum update

Planning implementation committee (Robert Hart – chair) contacted Don and Chris Johnson (UNBC) to potentially have a symposium to facilitate conversations with various community groups. Cumulative effects, sustainable forestry, air sheds etc. are topics of discussion. Symposium could be

in the evening and open to the public in partnership with UNBC and BVRC, possibly week of June 17. Symposium would be at UNBC in Terrace. Date has not been finalized.

Action: Don will let the board know when the date has been set.

8. New business

a. Research Planning Discussion

This refers to the 2nd Objective under Goal 1 in the Operational plan. Perhaps using the seminar series to address this question to the membership could help with this objective.

Could generate a list of research areas (already on website) and ask members to prioritize (e.g. through a survey). It would be helpful to compile what has been provided by members in previous surveys/opportunities to provide input.

RPM should be added to the “who” column on the operational plan.

Action: Rick to plan a fall seminar event that will include activities on how to solicit input from the membership, and get input on previous results obtained from membership based on the existing listing.

b. Other new business

Community Forest conference is in Smithers next Friday (May 24, 2013). Rick and Dave DeWitt are presenting on incorporating FN values into Forest Development planning. Sybille will also be taking part, and will talk about the research that is going on at the field trip to help get word out on the research that we are doing at the provincial level.

Jim Pojar award was presented by Sybille to a small group at the Oregon State University yesterday.

9. Schedule and topics for upcoming meetings

a. June 12: wrap-up Research Planning Direction, Board Evaluation, schedule fall meetings

Completed. Not needed on upcoming meeting agenda.

b. Schedule fall meetings

Sybille will present some potential dates at the next meeting.

c. Fall: wrap-up Board Evaluation

Sybille will bring information to the next meeting. This is a self evaluation.

d. Future conference topics

Action: Arrange post-conference sub-committee follow up meeting prior to June meeting

10. Next Board Meeting **Wed June 12, 2013**

11. Adjourned at 5:00 pm