



TRADITIONAL TERRITORY OF THE TR'ONDËK HWËCH'IN REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN (REDP)

COMMUNITY-BASED PROJECTS IMPLEMENTATION 2013-14

Klondike UNESCO World Heritage Site Feasibility Assessment and Strategic Plan

Project Manager's Report – July 11, 2013

A warm welcome to our new members Greg Hakonson, Molly Shore and Dick Van Nostrand. It is wonderful to see the amount of interest in this project and we thank all those who put their names forward.

A huge thank you, as well, to outgoing Co-Chair Gary Parker. Gary was one of the key players and champions on the original ad hoc Steering Committee and it was his comment to the Minister that re-ignited the World Heritage initiative in 2009. Gary dedicated untold hours of his time to World Heritage and brought a strong, reasoned and articulate voice to the group that we will dearly miss!

The World Heritage project continues to gain momentum. We will benefit from lessons learned at Red Bay, Labrador – Canada's most recently designated World Heritage Site, and from Pimachiowin Aki – which was deferred. There are now only six sites left on Canada's Tentative List. The Project Management Committee has met informally and corresponded by email and phone, mostly to discuss logistics for the Outstanding Universal Value working group, which is the core of this year's research.

Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) Working Group

I have spoken with the potential Chair for the OUV Working Group and prepared a draft service contract which is being vetted by the Project Management Committee. The Chair will help coordinate the selection of OUV Working group expertise, lead the writing of draft arguments to support Outstanding Universal Value, determination of geographic boundaries and statements of authenticity, integrity, and a framework for global comparative analysis. Once this contract is finalized we will know how much of the work it will be possible to accomplish within our current budget.

On June 25th I attended as observer at the Heritage Legislation meetings at R-22 (Land of Plenty), and gained valuable insights into this work. I took the opportunity to make notes and (with permission) recordings of Elders as they spoke about heritage values. These will help in the development of questions and material for values-based OUV Committee workshops in the future.

I also collected the completed Heritage Values surveys (approx. 30 from 2010 and approx. 11 from Canada Day, 2013) which are being transcribed and compiled into a database. I have given out about 6 more forms to local individuals who promised to return them. The intent is that this information will be used for the future OUV research, and integrated into the website under the 'Your say' tab.

Making contact with Ottawa

Due to the annual UNESCO meetings I was unable to speak with the International Programs officials in Ottawa until recently. On July 5th I had a very helpful discussion with Rebecca Kennedy, who had returned from Cambodia. Rebecca has worked on four previous nominations and said that the OUV always gets revised – either the criteria or the wording – and Ottawa does not usually get involved until there is something to vet, so our 'Phase 1' approach is a good one.

Rebecca mentioned the changing landscape of indigenous nominations, and that the recent deferral of the Pimachiowin Aki World Heritage site nomination could have a bearing on ours in the future. This Manitoba/Ontario site is a boreal forest that has been managed in traditional ways by the Ojibwa for thousands of years. It is a groundbreaking case, as UNESCO requires 'mixed' sites to stand alone as individual natural and cultural World Heritage sites. She and her colleagues will be working on the issue with the ICOMOS and IUCN Advisory bodies in the fall of 2013, and it may not be until 2015 that more is known about mixed sites. There was an aboriginal backlash against the deferral that came out of a meeting in Australia.

Rebecca had other advice relating to being strategic, and will research and send examples of international sites that are comparable e.g., dual cultural and indigenous heritage sites, mining landscapes etc. I asked about the Convention on Intangible Heritage and she confirmed that aspect was not available to Canadian sites.

Finance

On June 12th, Lee and Mark and I met with a representative of one of our funders, Erin Deacon, Senior Business Development Advisor, YG Economic Development to update her on the progress of the project.

Due to confusion over contracting and policies, on June 20th, Jackie, Mark, and I met with Frances Kormendy to go over our list of potential contracts. It was a successful discussion and we were able to sort out which situations called for service contracts, honoraria as employees, and sub-contracting.

Terms of Reference (TOR)

On June 28th I met with the TH Director of Implementation Tim Gerberding to discuss the draft revisions to the TOR for the Committees. Certain changes were made, such as the addition of an introduction explaining the link to the Regional Economic Development Plan and Final Agreement, clarification to ensure financial accountability and reporting through the Director of Heritage, and that the objective is to explore the feasibility of WH status.

As the TOR were working fairly well as is, it was decided that they would remain separate for each committee. Although these are external committees, Tim thought it would still be wise to send them to Chief and Council for approval prior to seeking interest in the TH representatives on the Advisory Committee. With this deadline imminent, Jackie approved the amendments and the TOR was sent with a briefing note and draft resolution to Chief and Council.

Community Engagement

- Aboriginal Days, June 21st – operated information table at Cultural Centre, talked to TH staff, visitors, and some FN citizens. Participated in evening event at band hall.
- Canada Day, July 1st – operated information booth on Museum lawn during Canada Day picnic, games, music; collected surveys, talked to local community and visitor audience, took notes, gave out chocolate loonies and balloons; wrote speech for Jackie
- Media release – wrote draft news release to announce formation of Advisory Committee
- Requested electronic versions of display materials from 2010
- Wrote project update for the Tr’ondëk Hwëch’in July 2013 newsletter
- Continue to familiarize myself with the TH community, traditions, events and build internal support – helped out at Elders Hide-Tanning Camp (June 13-14th), attended Heritage Legislation meetings (June 25th) staff recognition meeting (June 20th), Henderson Slough Grandfather re-burial meeting (July 3rd), ‘Feeding the Spirits’ ceremony (July 4th),
- Developing slide show presentation for TH citizens on Bannock Wednesday (July 17th) and GA (Sept. 28-9th)
- Working with contractor on Re-launch of Klondike WHS website **tkwhstatus.ca** per schedule of deliverables below:

Domain registration and WordPress configuration

June 24

Determine site architecture and identify content

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ First draft ○ Final 	<p>June 26</p> <p>June 28</p>
Gather content	July 4
Visual identity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provide two options ○ Present final option 	<p>July 4</p> <p>July 12</p>
Design and populate site <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ First draft (preview) ○ Final version 	<p>July 15</p> <p>July 18</p>
Search Engine Optimization and Google Analytics	July 22
Training	July 23
Social media integration	July 30

Thanks!

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