



## TR'ONDËK HWËCH'IN REGIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN (REDP)

### COMMUNITY-BASED PROJECTS IMPLEMENTATION 2014-15

## TR'ONDËK-KLONDIKE World Heritage Project

### ***Project Management Report – August 7, 2014***

Debbie Nagano has returned as the Chair and TH Heritage Director.

The Project Management Committee has been meeting frequently this last month, focusing on funding applications, organizing the buffer zone workshops and refining the OUV. We are making good progress with the mining industry and now have official representatives on the working group. In the midst of all of this was the Moosehide Gathering, an amazing celebration of Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in culture, which is appreciated by locals and visitors alike.

### **Outstanding Universal Values (OUV) Study**

The Project Management Committee met on June 25<sup>th</sup>, July 3<sup>rd</sup> and for an intensive 2 days on July 31- Aug. 1<sup>st</sup> to hone down the OUV length, messages and scope of the synthesis.

In preparation, we compiled the latest comments on the draft OUV from our Ottawa advisors, the OUV Working Group heritage professionals and Christophe Rivet, and contacted our Ottawa international programs advisor Rebecca Kennedy for advice on the format. Other examples from the World Heritage website were referenced, and a more succinct statement is starting to take shape e.g., *Tr'ondëk-Klondike is an outstanding example of a living cultural landscape which illustrates the resilience of indigenous people and newcomers in the face of extreme challenges experienced before, during and after the Klondike Gold Rush...* We are currently focusing on criteria iv) and vi). The Project Management Committee aims to produce a working version similar to the nomination dossier 'Executive Summary' in the Operational Guidelines.

Arrangements are underway to bring up former project manager from Grand Pré (Christophe Rivet) from August 27-30<sup>th</sup>. The purpose is to discuss the potential UNESCO site within the concept of 'cultural landscape'. This will feed into our work on both the OUV and geographic boundary/buffer zones.

### **Seeking Support for Funding**

There was much back and forth regarding our applications to the Strategic Industries Development (SID) fund to meet our short-term needs, and the longer term funding to fulfill our contribution agreement with CanNor and Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in.

The interim funding will be retroactive to June 1<sup>st</sup> as long as the objectives are achieved, so Across the River Consulting was hired to assist with the details while the Project Management Committee moved forward with accomplishing the work. On June 24<sup>th</sup> a meeting was held with the SID Senior Business Development Advisor to discuss the applications. It is important to keep up the momentum; we want to encourage Yukon Government to approve the long-term funding as soon as possible as this would allow for more efficient and productive use of time and resources.

### **Mining Industry Support**

Re: Yukon Chamber of Mines (YCM) – Paula spoke with Chamber of Mines E.D. on several occasions, and he requested reference materials to promote the project at the YCM Board of Directors meeting. He is enthusiastic about enhancing the relationship with Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in and asked if someone could come down to do a presentation. With Barb's assistance, Paula prepared a backgrounder that was geared to the mining industry as a handout, and gave a PowerPoint presentation to the YCM in Whitehorse on July 15<sup>th</sup>. This was well received, and much appreciation was expressed for the idea of commemorating both mining and First Nations traditions. There were concerns about industry access to rivers, and across buffer zones that are as yet undefined. The YCM Board agreed to send Samson Hartland as their representative to participate on the geographic working group. Another member has also been in contact and may be able to arrange a separate letter of support from his company.

Re: Klondike Placer Miners Association (KPMA) – The President asked local miner Tara Christie to look into the World Heritage proposal and write a letter to other KPMA members with her recommendations. Paula answered her questions by phone and email and sent her background material, including the backgrounder and powerpoint slides presented to the YCM. Tara was named as the KPMA representative to participate on the geographic working group.

These are both excellent people with which to build relationships with the mining industry, and we look forward to consultation throughout August and into September.

### **Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Stakeholder Support**

For the General Assembly that was planned for August 8<sup>th</sup>. Paula and Lee prepared a 4 page synopsis of the Executive summary to be included in the booklet mailed out in advance to Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in citizens. Included with a draft resolution to proceed with developing the nomination dossier, this would supplement our in-person presentation and allow for informed decision-making. The General Assembly was later postponed to

the weekend of September 20<sup>th</sup>, which allows us time to better prepare our communications and messaging.

With TH managing the project, support has broadened, and we are optimistic that the project will move ahead.

### **Current Resource Situation**

- Interim Yukon Government SID funding for June 1<sup>st</sup> to Sept. 31<sup>st</sup>. 2014 to obtain input from the mining industry and TH on the buffers and boundaries, has been approved.
- CanNor funding application for April 1, 2014 to March 31, 2016 is under review and looking positive.
- Long term Yukon Government application for Oct. 1, 2014 to July 31, 2017 is under review, subsequent to preliminary appraisal and amendments requested by project officer.
- The absence of written support from the mining industry was noted on the 4-year YG application (and may be taken into account) but by no means prevents it being assessed. Will expect to receive more questions and need for information as the application makes its rounds.

The Project Manager position has been extended on TH Economic Development funds to the end of September. It will be extended for at least two years when we obtain secure and consistent project funding.

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in will be reimbursed retroactive to June 1, 2014 for a portion of these costs by the SID interim funding, and if the CanNor funds come through, it will be retroactive to April 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **Community Engagement**

- TH Communications: Paula prepared a project submission for the TH July newsletter.
- Moosehide Gathering July 25-27<sup>th</sup>: a small World Heritage information display was set up inside the TH Heritage tent and manned on Friday by Paula, and on subsequent days by Lee, Debbie and other TH Heritage staff. We were able to connect with a wide range of audience from tourists to First Nations to locals and placer gold miners, which was particularly timely!

### **Updated Work Plan – short-term**

#### August 2014

- Continue refinement of OUV – Aug. 1-31
- Socio-cultural impact study – Aug.1 - 31
- Continue implementation of Communications Strategy – Aug. 1-31

- Presentation at KPMA meeting – TBD, possibly August 16
- Meetings of Geographic Buffer Zone Working Group – Aug 6, and TBD
- Workshop in Dawson with Christophe Rivet – August 28-30
- Discussion at KPMA General Meeting - August 30

#### September 2014

- Continue implementation of Communications Strategy – Sept.1-30
- Continue refinement of buffer zones and boundaries - Sept 1-15
- Presentation to Yukon Heritage Resources Board (?) - Sept 12-13
- Prepare for presentation to Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in General Assembly - Sept 15-17
- Completion of draft final reports - Sept 18-20 (I'll ask if I can hand these in to SIDF on Sept 22)
- Presentation to Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in General Assembly - Sept 20(?)
- Completion of final reports - Sept 30
- Obtain letters of support
- Revise terms of reference for World Heritage Advisory Committee and Project Management Committee