



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

COMMUNITY-BASED PROJECTS IMPLEMENTATION 2014-15

TR'ONDËK-KLONDIKE World Heritage Project

Project Management Report – for December 4, 2014

The last two months have been a bit of a roller coaster, but we have wonderful news! A resolution to continue working on the Tr'ondëk-Klondike World Heritage proposal was passed by the Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in General Assembly on Nov. 2nd, as well as by the Yukon Legislature on Nov. 5th. On Nov. 14th we received confirmation that the Yukon Government would contribute for three years, which means that we can access the CanNor funds that were already approved. Everyone is pretty excited! We are now furiously in the midst of work planning so that the application can be re-profiled for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Outstanding Universal Values (OUV) and Boundary

The Project Management Committee met on September 30th for a last teleconference with consultant Christophe Rivet, to review and make final edits to his report '*Strategic Direction for the Tr'ondëk-Klondike WH Proposal*'. This document helped hone down and articulate our story in a language more compatible with World Heritage. We met again on Oct. 9th and 20th to discuss the themes and ensure a balanced weighting of the story between newcomer and indigenous peoples. This resulted in further changes to Christophe's 'wide' option proposal. These include adding within a buffer zone a section of the Yukon River to Forty Mile to include the town site as an important related story, and to increase the geographic representation of Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in land-use. Another addition was the including the Ridge Road Heritage Trail within a buffer. These changes and other minor boundary refinements will be reflected in updated maps, and the Project Management Committee developed a written description tying the story to the places.

We also noted that a representative example of tailing piles would be required to tell the story of corporate mining and its mark on the landscape. While this has been discussed in the community for many years, the tailings in the Klondike valley have largely been flattened and are not protected. The Project Management Committee researched areas close to town that could reasonably be set aside as a heritage reserve or municipal historic site. Myrna Butterworth will propose the idea to the City of Dawson as an individual community member. Myrna has a longstanding connection to the heritage of YCGC and Bear Creek, and is leading this initiative.

Buffer Zone Working Group

Work continued with the Mining Industry Sub-group, with a teleconference between the Project Management Committee and Tara Christie (KPMA) on Oct. 27th, and another teleconference with Tara Christie and Samson Hartland (YCM) on Oct. 27th.

Re-convening the TH Sub-group – A meeting was not possible prior to the GA, however we were able to meet with Roberta Joseph in her new role as Chief (see below).

As indicated in the funding Progress report, the working group reviewed the draft boundary and preliminary maps, discussed various aspects such as view lines and possible attributes and is currently working on identifying potential issues and solutions. Initial concerns were captured in meeting notes. Specific recommendations include data gathering, development of task lists, communications strategies, and administrative tools to assist miners with YESAB applications.

This work is ongoing.

Funding Situation

The Project Manager met with Senior Business Development Officer for YG Economic Development on Oct. 16th to update her on the progress of the Buffer Zone Development Project. This was an interim project that was carried out from June 2nd to Sept. 30th, with funding from the Strategic Industries Fund. The deliverables – a refined boundary and buffer map, socio-cultural impact study and progress report were submitted in November.

In July, CanNor approved funding for the project over 2 years, but this was contingent on contributions from other sources.

On November 14th we received confirmation that the Department of Economic Development is willing to support the project over three fiscal years (2015/16, 2016/17, 2017/18) in furtherance of the Tr'ondëk-Klondike World Heritage Site Nomination Dossier development. This commitment from YG provides CanNor with the assurance they need to allow the project to proceed in the current year. The Project Management Committee is developing a work plan and has re-engaged Across The River Consulting to help calculate a revised set of fiscal year cash flow forecasts.

We have finally reached a major milestone in securing consistent funding, and are looking forward to working with all our stakeholders in developing this exciting proposal!

Next Steps

The main next steps are developing a communications strategy and detailed work plan, a review and further refinement of the OUV and boundary proposal by our International Programs advisors, and thematic and technical research.

Community & Stakeholder Engagement

- Advisory Committee members Debbie, Lee, and Paula gave a slide presentation to the Elders' Council on Oct. 14th. Preliminary communications included writing and submitting a written update, as well as meeting with the Chair of the Elders' Council.
- Paula gave a World Heritage update at the Klondike Visitors Association Tourism Roundup on Oct. 16th.
- Paula attended a roundtable discussion about heritage values that was organized by David Neufeld on Oct. 29th. This related to World Heritage and was a good check-in with the TH Heritage Department as well as Elder Percy Henry.
- Debbie and Paula gave a World Heritage slide presentation at the TH General Assembly on Nov. 2nd. In preparation, Debbie and Paula met on Oct. 29th with Chief Roberta Joseph to seek advice on appropriate ways to present the material. Other preliminary work included writing and submitting a written update, draft resolution, and handout notes with the slides. Executive Director Jackie Olson assisted in answering questions. There was quite a bit of discussion and the resolution was passed.