



**TRADITIONAL TERRITORY OF THE TR'ONDËK HWËCH'IN
REDP COMMUNITY-BASED PROJECTS**

**TR'ONDËK-KLONDIKE
World Heritage Nomination Project
2015-16**

Project Management Report – for January 15, 2015

Over the past month, the Project Management Committee focused on finalizing our funding situation and moving forward with the nomination proposal. This work included developing specifications for thematic and technical research and a communications strategy, further refinement of the OUV and boundary proposal, and a review by our International Programs advisors. On the management planning side, we are developing contracts for land use research and impact analysis, updating the socio-cultural report, and contributing to a TH community planning process. We engaged additional project and administrative support for this work from Across the River Consulting (ATR).

Funding Situation

CanNor funding was approved for two years in July 2014, contingent on other contributions. This could not be accessed until a territorial commitment was made on November 14, 2014. Both funders agreed to a coordinated approach i.e., to support the project with CanNor funds for the remainder of the fiscal year, and to start the Yukon Government funding in 2015/16. The decision was to allow time for Yukon government internal processes, and more effective use of the federal money, which cannot be 'carried over'.

In the meantime, the Project Management Committee met several times to develop a budget for December 2014 to March 2015, and ATR calculated a revised set of fiscal year cash flow forecasts (taking into account the new start times etc.) for both funders.

On December 9th we learned that we would need to seek project funding through the Community Development Fund. The Project Manager met with a CDF Community Development Advisor and the Regional Economic Development Advisor on Dec. 10th to discuss how to expedite the CDF application for a strict January 15th deadline. The draft CDF application was prepared by the end of the Christmas season and final paperwork submitted on January 13.

Staffing

As more than one full-time staff person is required to carry out a nomination project, we intend to hire an assistant for a 12 to 18 month term position. A draft job description has been developed, but due to the compressed timeline we have moved the start date to beginning of April in order to get our key contracts underway.

Positive Legal Opinion re: TH Rights

At the last TH General Assembly, a legal opinion was requested regarding the impact of world heritage designation. Lawyer Daryn Leas concluded:

The Convention confirms that the designation of an area as a world heritage site would not affect the sovereignty of the state party where the site is located or impact any property rights issued under that the laws of that state party. The Convention would not impose any restrictions, limitations or conditions with respect to the lands and resources within Tr'ondëk-Klondike.

This means that the current legal framework in Canada would continue to apply to the management and use of lands and resources within Tr'ondëk-Klondike and it be unaffected by the designation under the Convention. Under the current legal framework in Canada, the TH's treaty and aboriginal rights, titles and interests are protected under section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982.

Therefore, it is my view that the designation of Tr'ondëk-Klondike as a world heritage site would not affect the TH's treaty and aboriginal rights, titles and interests. The designation would not affect the TH's ownership of its parcels of settlement land located within Tr'ondëk-Klondike. It would not affect the authority of the TH to manage those parcels of settlement land, including its power to make laws relating to those lands. Lastly, it would not affect the ability of TH citizens to exercise rights within Tr'ondëk-Klondike in accordance with the Final Agreement, including the right to harvest for subsistence purposes.

Technical and thematic research

Research papers are required to support the story of resilience of both cultures since the time of the gold rush, and justification of their outstanding universal value. Thematic papers will be contracted – one on TH Traditional harvesting and landscape, focusing on the continuity of salmon fishing; another on the gold rush architecture/landscape; and another on mining history, focusing on the continuity of placer mining.

On Dec. 12th and January 8th the Project Management Committee met with Tara Christie, who has been contracted to conduct technical research on placer mining lifestyle history during the period from the 1930's to the present. This will involve interviewing a number of individuals and compiling the results.

Other technical contracts will research land use legislation, regulations and policies, and analyze the impact of the proposed boundary on land ownership and use. This work, as well as an expansion of the socio-cultural impact study, a separate TH community planning exercise for Moosehide, and a Tourism and Marketing Plan will feed into the future development of a management plan for the world heritage site.

Communications Strategy

Lee and Paula met with the TH Director of Communications on Dec. 15th to discuss his recommendations on a communications strategy to replace the one prepared in 2013. Over the next few weeks the Project Management Committee fine-tuned a request for

proposal (RFP) for the development of a Communications Strategy and plan for implementation, which is now being advertised. The strategy will focus on a detailed plan for the next fiscal year with recommendations for subsequent years and the post-designation period. The RFP will close on Jan. 20th and will be completed by March 31st.

Tara Christie has also been contracted to participate as a member of the Advisory Committee, Buffer Zone Working Group and provide communication and information links with the mining community.

We have engaged Spruce Tip Design (our previous website contractor) to provide interim updates to the website and social media and transition this work over to staff by spring. The project will also involve integrating social media sharing, announcing the nomination phase and profiling the places of Tr'ondëk-Klondike on the website, providing monthly images that people can use as their cover photo on Facebook (e.g., including the words "I support the Tr'ondëk-Klondike nomination"), transforming the News page into blog-type news feed - so that latest news items can be directly publicized to Facebook - and showcasing some of the video testimonials.

OUV and boundary refinement

The Project Management Committee continues to refine the maps, further honing the boundaries and buffer areas for review by Buffer Zone Working Group, and ultimately working toward the final draft boundary/buffer. A teleconference with Ottawa advisors will be held on Jan. 14th.

Community/Stakeholder Engagement - Upcoming

- Presentation to CanNor President by videoconference – Jan 23rd
- Presentation to Klondike Placer Miners Association (KPMA) Board of Directors – Jan 27th
- Presentation to TH General Assembly – March 7th or 8th
- Presentation to Tourism Industry Association – Yukon (TIAY) at Spring Conference in Dawson City - April 17th or 18th
- Presentation to Dawson City Chamber of Commerce – Board meeting TBD
- Presentation to Yukon Heritage Resources Board – meeting TBD