



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

### COMMUNITY-BASED PROJECTS IMPLEMENTATION 2014-15

## TR'ONDËK-KLONDIKE World Heritage Project

### **Advisory Committee Meeting – Thursday, March 5, 2015**

Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Natural Resources (Lands) Conference Room, 12 noon

**Members in attendance:** Lee Whalen (TH, Heritage), Debbie Nagano (TH, Heritage), Barb Hogan (YG, Historic Sites), Rick Lemaire (YG, Tourism & Culture), Dan Davidson (Dawson City Chamber of Commerce), Laura Gorecki (Parks Canada), Dick Van Nostrand (Resident), Samson Hartland (Yukon Chamber of Mines), Tara Christie (KPMA liaison), Paula Hassard (TH, Heritage, WH Project Manager)

Communications Strategy contractors in attendance: Patti Balsillie (Patti Balsillie Management Consulting) and Scott Westerlaken (Outcrop Yukon)

**Regrets:** Frank Blanchard (TH Citizen), Paul Robitaille (KVA), Samson Hartland (Yukon Chamber of Mines), Myrna Butterworth (Resident), Laura Mann (Dawson City Museum)

**Chair:** Debbie Nagano

**Recorder:** Evelyn Pollock

### **Review minutes of January 15, 2015**

Re: questions from last meeting, Paula did follow up and send cash flows to Paul Robitaille.

Minutes accepted.

### **Communications Strategy**

On Feb. 23rd, the Advisory Committee participated in a teleconference meeting with Patti Balsillie and Scott Westerlaken from the Communications Strategy contract team, who outlined their SWOT analysis for the project

Discussion of the bench-marking survey, which was intended to get a sense of what the understanding is in the community about the project:

The contractor concluded that perceptions were diverse across the ten Advisory Committee (current and former) members tested in the survey. For example she saw disagreement around UNESCO WHS designation impeding mining, mandated protection and use of the word, the priority of job creation, whether grey areas are real, and the primary OUV. The contractor felt this was a significant 'split' that must be addressed in future communications.

Discussion of the ambiguous wording of the statements in the survey, including multiple options within each, and the different ways people may have answered depending on how statements were interpreted, etc. The Advisory Committee agreed that while perceptions in the community differ, and may be at odds on some topics, the Committee has a good understanding and is not divided.

### **Project Management Committee Report**

- Working flat out on RFP evaluations and hiring (14 contracts and 10 different contractors)
- Now reviewing drafts of the work, and it's great: we're getting lots done that will provide content for our submission.
- Please let Paula know if you want to see the scopes of work or more detailed information about these contracts and projects.
  
- **Land Use Research and Analysis** - Jim Taggart, Crocus Bluff Consulting was awarded the contract. This work involves looking at what protections are already in place within the proposed world heritage site and describing how they operate. Ex. although UNESCO will not introduce new protection regulations, they do want to know that measures are already in place to protect the values, integrity and authenticity and must be demonstrated in our submission.
  
- Discussion of the word 'protection' and its meaning and relationship to WHS status. Discussion of UNESCO designation being about honoring rather than regulating, and that perhaps the word 'maintain' is more accurate in some contexts (ie. TH traditional use of land, and placer mining).
  - o Committee members have been trying to pass the message along that the World Heritage project is interested in maintaining active industrial activities (placer mining), and in fact that active placer mining is an essential part of the bid for designation, but perceptions to the contrary are a key challenge to our project. Again this highlights the need to increase and focus our communications activities.
  - o It is easy for our messages to get confused, further reiterating the importance of working closely with the strategy team.
  
- **Moosehide Community Plan**- this work is to understand how the site is currently managed and look at how people want it to be managed in the

future. We'll be working through some protocols, procedures, and policy, but also best practices, future development of the site, how it would occur to reflect interests of the community. It's an historical village where people live, so there are lots of things to consider. Whether or not Moosehide is included in the World Heritage Site, there are some key issues that possible designation is raising in terms of access and increased tourism, so this process will draw out the values of the community, which is important to do, regardless of the final boundary of the site.

- **Tr'ondëk Klondike Thematic Research- Fishing:** The contractor selected through the RFP process was Allie Winton (Crowberry). She is conducting oral histories, and looking at TH relationship to the land through fishing (past and contemporary) and will be writing a thematic research paper on this.
- Stantec has been hired to conduct an investigation of the **archaeology** of sites that are related to fishing. Primarily a desktop overview of existing or 'may exist' sites.
- **Research - Placer mining:** Sally Robinson and Greg Skuce (Vintage Ventures) have been contracted to conduct historical research. This work will mesh with Tara Christie's placer mining oral histories. Tara is putting together summaries of interviews, and continuing with additional interviews in March. Establishing a contact list of claim holders, etc. So far, the miners are interested, and have had some great interviews about the love of placer mining, the area, amazing stories of resilience and determination. Scheduling has been tough, but it has been a great opportunity to explain how mining is an important part of our vision of the Klondike as a world heritage site.
- Project Management Committee has been working on refining the boundary.
- Competition for World Heritage Project Assistant position through TH to start mid-April.

(For further details, please see Project Management Report)

### **Stakeholder Engagement**

- *Members of the Advisory Committee along with other community groups, made presentations to the head of CanNor about 2012-14 Regional Economic Development Plan related projects (of which the World Heritage project was one). CanNor were impressed with our community and the kinds of things we have been able to accomplish working together.*

- Tara Christie gave a presentation to KPMA in Vancouver, with 5 of their directors present. It was a good thing to do- a lot of the same concerns we have heard before came up. They were optimistic about process. They were really keen on the mining history aspect of our project.

### **Plans for TIAY**

- **Tr'ondëk Klondike** Project was invited to bring up a world heritage speaker for TIAY conference, and we have chosen Jenna Boon from Joggins, NS. She will give a presentation and workshop on April 18 about the success story of Joggins and maximizing the benefit of designation. We'll arrange for available committee members to meet with her on the 17<sup>th</sup> April. It looks like Dale Jarvis is also planned as a speaker; he is a cultural landscapes/intangible heritage professional, so the conference will be relevant and interesting.

### **Gold Show- May 15/16**

- World Heritage Project has booked a booth at the Gold Show. Keep the dates in mind, and it would be great to have volunteers from the Committee help out.

### **Date for Next meeting**

April 2 at noon, Tr'ondëk Hwëch'in Natural Resources (Lands) Conference Room.