

SRSF Steering Committee Meeting MINUTES August 4th, 2000

Steering Committee members in attendance: Richard Apostle, Sandy Benoit, Tony Davis, Tony Charles, John Kearney, Flora Murphy, Lynn Patterson, Pat Rhynold.

Arthur Bull unable to attend with regrets.

Community Research Coordinators and Student Interns in attendance: Ashley Bouchie, Ginny Boudreau, Kerry Prosper, Jana Purdy, Kay Wallace

Chair: Tony Davis

Minutes: Flora Murphy

2:30 - 4:30pm

Location: John Kearney's home (Antigonish)

Approval of June 9, 2000 Steering Committee Minutes

- no changes Moved Sandy Benoit / seconded Pat Rhynold

Business Arising from June 9, 2000 Minutes

- Ecological Knowledge Conference - The Ecolknow conference was held at St. Francis Xavier University in June. Arising from this conference is a handbook on ecological knowledge research methodology. This handbook should be useful for the partners of the SRSF. As well a number of the social researchers participating in the conference have agreed to have their names and expertise added to the SRSF researcher resource pool.
- The Researcher Pool will soon be loaded to the web site, it will contain a list of the researchers who have agreed to work with the SRSF, their area of expertise, and their contact information.
- Hiring reports have been received from Guysborough County Inshore Fishermen's Association for Virginia (Ginny) Boudreau and The Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Centre for Bill Crossman and have been loaded onto the web site. Reports are still needed from the Mi'kmaq Fish and Wildlife Commission for Kerry Prosper and for Gulf Nova Scotia Bonafide Fishermen's Association for Kay Wallace.

New Business

1. Director's Report

- Review of Budget
 - Slightly over budget on the hardware for the project.
 - Under budget for the seminars/conferences.
 - Overall the project is on track, but Tony Davis will confirm that the budget can be carried over from each fiscal year.

2. CD Writer

- The SRSF has purchased a portable CD writer to be shared among the partners. The writer is important in light of the necessity for archival of the SRSF documents and correspondence.
- After the first set of documents have been completed the CD writer will be shared among the partners, allowing two copies to be made, one for the partners and the second to be stored at St. Francis Xavier University.
- The CD writer is another technical resource for the partners and therefore may be used for work not directly related to the SRSF.

3. Publisher Software

- The partners have been asked to consider the need for publisher software for their associations (brochures, newsletters, business cards, etc.).
- Pat Rhynold has experience with previous version of the Microsoft Publisher and did not find it to be useful.
- Corel has a version which should be looked into if the project is considering purchasing for the project. Suggestion that a scanner may also be useful technical software to purchase for the project. Tony Davis will check the possibility of using St. Francis Xavier University scanners.
- GIS technology may be another useful tool that partners should keep in mind as the project continues.

4. Mugs

- An agreement was reached by the partners present that the SRSF will purchase mugs as a token of appreciation for the researchers who have and will participate, as well as for all others involved with the project. The agreed design is to have the logo on both sides, writing on one (Social Research for Sustainable Fisheries), and a C-style handle.

5. Dates on Deliverables

- The original agreement on dates of the delivery of the initial background documents has been pushed back from August 7, 2000 to August 15, 2000 due to late hiring dates. Tony Davis and Flora Murphy will be making visits to the partners next week to assist working on the documents.
- What will be the role of St. Francis Xavier University (i.e. John Kearney, Tony Davis and Flora Murphy) when the partner documents are compiled? Each of the partners is asked to think about what role they see St. F.X. taking when the documents are finalized.

• Partner Progress Report:

- Guysborough County Inshore Fishermen's Association: The first document on the Association and the newsletter have been completed. The second document, the profile of Guysborough County is not yet complete, but may be done by August 15, 2000.

- Mi'Kmaq Fish and Wildlife Commission: They have been doing a lot of background reading to get a sense of the language and talking with elders, but they would like to have more on paper. The summer has been difficult because people are away.

- Gulf Nova Scotia Bonafide Fishermen's Association: Finding it difficult to narrow down all the information, they also need to get more down on paper. The association will need to the end of the month to compile the initial document.

- The Bay of Fundy Marine Resources Centre: According to John Kearney the MRC will need another week.

6. Dissemination of Completed Documents

- The partners should discuss and possibly choose which documents they would like to load to the web site and share with the general public. Secondly what format would they like the documents to be presented. (The Guysborough County Inshore Fishermen's Association web site already holds a substantial amount of their research information collected to date).
- There is a modest publishing budget in the SRSF budget to assist the partners.

7. Possible Full Year Interns

- The idea of full year graduate interns was raised for discussion with the partners present, there was a consensus to explore it further, Flora and Lynn will continue to look for funding. The project does not presently have funding for the interns; HRDC may be a potential source, although their grant will need to be partnered with additional sources.

8. Funders

- Sable Gas Grants
 - Both Tony Davis and the Guysborough County Inshore Fishermen's Association applications to the Sable Offshore Gas for research funding were rejected. Tony has indicated that it important that they follow up on this, first determining who funding was granted to, secondly insure that Sable is meeting the require of its contract under the Canadian Petroleum Board. If they are not meeting their committee to fund research in the area then a formal complaint will be logged with the Petroleum Board.
- Canadian Petroleum Institute
 - The Canadian Petroleum Institute has money for research. John Kearney has had some contact with institute in regards to this. The partners have agreed to ask him to look further into the potential and conditions of the funding. But taking into consideration the implications that may be associated with being funded by the institute, i.e. what would the perceptions be in the community. Secondly who owns the research if they are the major funders.
 - It is important the associations member's are consulted and feel comfortable with the potential funding agreement.
 - If the partners come together as they are under the SRSF it may have the potential to legitimize the partnership and not appear to be co-opting with the corporations.
 - Agreement to have John Kearney explore further the potential and conditions of what a financial partnership Canadian Petroleum Institute may have to offer the SRSF partners. He will circulate the information to the partners.
- ACOA (Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency) Funding
 - Kay Wallace provided information on ACOA funding available through their FRAM program (Nova Scotia Economic Development Component Fishery Restructuring and Adjustment Measures). The program offers financial support to rural and coastal communities affected by the downturn in the groundfishery. The SRSF will look into this potential for additional funding, as it may be accessible for the partners.

9. Researchers Engagement

- As the summer CRC and intern research seminars come to end what is the next step that the SRSF will take in regards to researcher engagement. A general consensus was reached by the partners present that a second general workshop should be held in November. A tentative date set for the November 18, 2000 weekend.
- The workshop would be designed to focus on the research issues of the partners.
- Focus on the 2001 research issues that the partners have already laid out. A 2-3 page summary of the research to date would be useful to present to the researchers.
- The SRSF needs to find away to develop the involvement of the researchers.
- Look into the potential of having natural science researchers as consultants, the SRSF does not have the financial resources to support that type of research.
- Collectively the partners should look at engaging the membership of their groups, the SRSF has the ability to contribute to the livelihood of communities.
- Encourage the possibility of joint projects and joint methods between partners.

Adjourned