

SRSF Steering Committee Meeting – December 7, 2001

Bloomfield Room 416, 11:00am

Agenda

Present: Tony Davis, John Wagner, Lynn Patterson, Pat Rhynold, Ginny Boudreau, Kerry Prosper, Kay Wallace, Monica Diochon, Christie Dyer, Jessica Paterson.

Richard Apostle and Barbara Neis joins by conference call.

Regrets: Peter Clancy

Chair: Tony Davis

Minutes: Christie Dyer & Jessica Paterson

Approval of December 7th, 2001 Steering Committee Minutes

- Monica moved to accept the minutes. Pat seconded. All in favour.
- Minutes pass, no changes.

Business Arising from December 7th, 2001 Minutes

Mi'kmaw Ethics Committee Research Application

- Afton received, on November 22, 2001, from the Mi'kmaw Ethics Committee, an official letter stating that their application to conduct research in the Afton community has been approved. The only additional comments on the letter from the Ethics Committee were:

Please make all information from the research conducted available to the communities involved. Also, should this research be published at any time that royalties be appropriately dispersed.

Kerry thought that the Afton – SRSF project is was one of the first applications the Ethics Committee has reviewed.

SRSF Fact Sheets

- Two SRSF fact sheets are now at the printers:
 1. Lobster Policy: Inconsistencies in Regulation and Questions about Conservation Measures, written by GCIFA summer interns, Judy Peitzche and Mathew Beason.
 2. Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence Herring Fishery, written by GNSBFA summer intern, Sarah Kinney.
- Once these fact sheets have been printed another will be on its way, Kat (American Eel) Life History, written by Kerry and Mary Jane. They are also working on another fact sheet, The Mi'kmaq Relationship with Kat (American Eel).
- Two other fact sheets are also in development, based on data from the phone surveys on both the Guysborough and Antigonish County sides. These fact sheets address:
 1. Personal computer usage – Small Boat Fishermen are 'Wired' and 'Ready'.
 2. Organizational Participation.

Grant Foundations Guide (2002), the Atlantic Provinces Government Programs Guide (2002), Fundraising Methods for Non-Profit Entities and the Guide for Granting Corporations:

- This package of information has been purchased by St.FX University and can be accessed by contacting John Blackwell, the grants administrator at the university. The information is compiled on two compact discs. Jessica and Christie currently have the discs at their office if anyone's interested in having a look at them.

New Business

- **1. Director's Report**
- Barbara Neis has sent SRSF – Tony a video that she was involved in producing, entitled Rising from the Ashes. It shows highlights from a global fisher woman conference that took place in NFLD in 2000 and discusses the impact of the globalization of fisheries on women and the sustainability of their fishing communities.
- Tony received an email from a CURA project in Victoria that said they are going to do an evaluation. However, Tony was not clear if they intended to evaluate the entire CURA program or just their individual CURA project. Tony will email them back for further information.

External Evaluation

- We are now assembling a binder-box containing SRSF documents and information, to be sent to Jean Schensul, the evaluator, prior to December 21, 2001 so that she will

have adequate time to review the information before arriving in Nova Scotia.

- Evaluation Information Package Includes:
 1. SRSF Chronology of Events and Developments
 2. Community-University Research Alliance (CURA) Application
 3. Memorandum of Understanding
 4. Website Information
 5. Budget Summaries
 6. Research: processes, tools, reports
 7. Publications: fact sheets, academic papers, newspaper articles, poster, pamphlet, background documents, newsletters, student papers.
- If anyone has a document they would like to contribute please send it to the St.FX – SRSF office, prior to Dec. 21, 2001.
- At the last steering committee meeting people asked for a description of what was stated in the CURA – SRSF research application with respect to the external evaluation. This information was circulated to the steering committee prior to this meeting. Tony explained that the description was intended to be broad so that the process could be left open and up to the evaluators discretion in order to allow for independence of meetings and movement between the evaluator and all individuals connected to and part of SRSF (past and present).
- Jean Schensul, the evaluator hasn't indicated that she requires further direction-information.
- Richard inquired if SRSF has checked with SSHERC to see if they are doing their own evaluation of the CURA program that could augment our own. SSHERC is not doing an evaluation of the CURA program, giving lack of funds as the reason. Yves Mougeot, CURA program director, would however, like to be present during our evaluation.
- Tony stressed that the evaluator will be given the chance to meet individually with groups and persons connected to SRSF.
- Specific points to be addressed by the evaluator were discussed, including:
 1. Sustainability of the capacity that we are developing. How will this continue once our project finishes?
 2. Highlight the nature of the relationships between the partners.
 3. Look at the administrative role of the project. What support do the partners need?
 4. Does our SRSF model, designed with much emphasis on the community research coordinators work? Does information translate down to the partners' memberships?
- If anyone has other comments for the evaluator please let us know before December 21, 2001.

• 2. CRCs Work Plans

- The CRC workplans were faxed to the steering committee just prior to this meeting. It was decided that any documents that the steering committee will be asked to refer to or review must reach them at least three days prior to the meeting.
- Steering committee members can review the workplans over the next month and at our next meeting they will be a top agenda item.
- Tony noted that time lining in the workplans is important and should be included in revisions of the plans.
- It was also noted that now the CRCs will have a better idea of what each other is doing and can communicate more directly with each other instead of through the ST.FX SRSF office.

• 3. Research Progress

- A debriefing meeting, with respect to the GCIFA and GNSBFA interviews completed to date will be on Monday, December 10, 2001, to discuss lessons and challenges and refine the third phase of the interviewing, Part III Defining the Local Fishing Grounds, the ecological knowledge documentation phase. The first two phases of the interviewing are:
 1. Part I – Family and Community History in Fishing
 2. Part II – Life History in Fishing
- Next week the initial five interviews will be fully transcribed, composing 350 pages in total. Transcribers are charging \$12 / hour for their services.
- Barbara asked about the destination for the transcripts. The interviewees receive a copy of the transcripts, along with the tapes. The partners receive the transcripts both in digital and hardcopy form. The SRSF university office will also house a set of the transcripts, which, at the end of SRSF project timeline will be housed in the library archives.
- Access to the transcripts will only be provided once all research partners have reviewed requests for access and agreed to allow access, as stated in the consent form.
- Copies of all information gathered, including research and interview notes, transcriptions and nautical charts, will be stripped of any personal identifiers, as per the consent form.
- Barbara spoke of a project she is working on where they have stipulated that to access archived research material gained from interviews, the individual interviewees must be contacted and asked for their consent before any information can be released. The archivist enforces this.
- Barbara requested copies of the SRSF consent form.
- Tony gave a brief overview of the interviews completed to date in the GCIFA and

GNSBFA projects.

Interviewing is scheduled to take place on the Guysborough County side in 7 communities around Chedabucto Bay: Canso, Little Dover, Half Island Cove – Queensport, Petite-Gras – Arichat, Whitehead. To date 5 interviews of the first two phases have been completed in Canso.

Interviewing in Antigonish County, around St. Georges Bay, is planned for possibly 6 communities, including: Ballantyne's Cove, Lismore, Arisaig, Cribbon's Point, Antigonish Harbour - Bayfield, Tracadie – Auld's Cove. To date only one interview of the first two phases has been completed in Cribbon's Point.

- With respect to the Afton project, Kerry and Mary Jane are now thinking of questions they would like to ask in their interviewing.

• **4. Research Resource Inventories (RRI)**

- The RRI are bibliographic databases housing the various types of data and research information CRCs have been gathering in the SRSF project. The rationale behind the RRI is that in order to maximize access to and benefits from these resources and information for organization members, community members and researchers, it is essential that the research resources and information be outlined and described in a 'Research Resource Inventory'. The software being used for these databases is ProCite, which John is familiar with and has been helping the CRCs learn to use.
- John has created a standard database form for easy data entry. Ginny suggested that she could use another form for referencing excel data files.
- Barbara requested that John email ProCite information to her.
- It was decided that CRCs would have a draft RRI completed for the next steering committee meeting.

• **5. New Business**

- Fishermen's Scientist Research Society is having their 9th Annual Conference February 22 & 23, 2002 at the Howard Johnson Hotel in Halifax. Ginny can fax people further information with respect to this.
- GCIFA have now held the first two fishermen training workshops in the series they have planned (funded through their other SSHERC project). The first workshop was Roles, Responsibilities and Liabilities and was attended by three fishermen. Their second workshop was called Effective Meetings and was attended by approximately 16-19 fishermen. The third workshop is planned for January 30 / 31, 2002. The topic will be How DFO and DFA Policies are Constructed. Ginny is currently putting together a panel of speakers for this workshop including representatives from DFO, DFA, academics and fishermen. Everyone is invited to attend.
- Both Afton and GNSBFA have applied for DFO Subvention grants. The announcement of recipients is in January, 2002.
- Vacation time for CRCs is to be determined by their employers – organization.
- Decided that the next steering committee meeting will be January 11, 2002.

• **Adjourned**