

SRSF Steering Committee Meeting – March 22, 2002

Bloomfield Centre, Rm. 416

Present: Tony Davis, John Wagner, Kerry Prosper, Ginny Boudreau, Pat Rhynold, Mary Jane Paulette, Monica Diochon, Kay Wallace, Christie Dyer, Jessica Paterson

Regrets: Barbara Neis, Richard Apostle

Guest: Rana - Concordia University "Capacity Building and Leadership at the Grassroots" project

Chair: Tony Davis

Minutes: Jessica Paterson

1. Approval of Minutes

- Kerry Prosper moves to accept minutes. Monica Diochon seconded. All in favour.
- Minutes pass, no changes.

2. Business Arising from Minutes

- No business arising.

3. Director's Report

- **Fact Sheets** –
 - Oil and Gas: original file was corrupted and Kay re-entered changes from the last draft. Will be sent to Casket for printing next week.
 - Mi'kmaq Relationship with Kat (eel) - finished will sent to Casket for printing next week. Will also be sent to the Mi'kmaq-Maliseet News for potential printing with the next issue.
 - Organizations - John is eagerly awaiting for emails from Kay and Ginny !
 - Social rootedness of fishing - tables that Tony put together - have not yet been sent out but will be this coming week, as the other fact sheets have been completed.
 - As the research with each partner progresses, need to think about and discuss what we (SRSF) see as points of intersection between this project and the communities represented? How will the final year of the project be shaped to ensure that the goals and objectives of the partners, the research and the communities are met.
 - **Budget** - on track with the spending. At the end of this month SRSF will have approximately \$200, 000.00 in account - about where we should be with the given amount of time left. **Tony will send copies of the budget to all present (budget has not been available for the February meeting as well as this meeting.)**
 - Interviews are moving along. On Guysborough side - Canso nearly completed, moving on to Queensport/Half Island Cove. On St. Georges bay side - moving along, fair number completed.
 - Research with Paqtnkek (Afton) is progressing - household survey is being designed - when it is drafted, will invite the other partners to workshop it.
4. **CRC Reports**– there is some question about what form this report should take and what is expected to be contained within the report – everyone has a copy of the CRC workplans – is it a listing of what has been accomplished and what is yet to be?

- **Ginny** – continuing with interviews - just finishing up Canso and will start at Queensport soon. Work on the research resource inventory (RRI) is ongoing. Many different funding resources are being explored - received two DFO science horizon internships for 6 months to work on the Lobster Larval Retention project. The association is now in the midst of 2 different lobster projects. In February there were several workshops held at GCIFA and attended by GCIFA - workshop on Fisherman's Income Tax prep and recent changes to fishermen's EI claims; DFO Policy - Understanding the Structure and Development of Policy workshop on Feb. 27th - it went well. Attended the ESSIM conference and the Fisherman's and Scientist Research Society conference - both went very well - the work of GCIFA was well received. All of the material that was brought to the ESSIM conference and was on the GCIFA display disappeared - had taken copies of all the fact sheets and all the background documents, along with the amended brochures and other info. Some of the things that are working on at the moment - preparing and planning for the summer students and their projects, planning and coordinating the next workshops and meetings.
- **Kerry** – moving along in planning the interview phase of the eel research - finished the consent form and the letter of introduction to the community members that will be sent out along with the fact sheets. Are planning an "eel day" - a meal and games for the community as a way to introduce the project and to get people talking about eels. Planning in doing a household survey of Afton about eel fishing and consumption. When the survey has been drafted, will workshop it with Ginny and Kay. Have been awarded a DFO science horizon internship - it is for an aboriginal science graduate and is for 8 months in collaboration with Norm Seymour (StFX biology prof) and David Cairns (DFO Eel Scientist from PEI). Also are looking to find further funding and so are planning on setting up

the Paqtnkek Fish and Wildlife Commission as a non-profit and met with XEDC to discuss about the process of becoming a non-profit. Went to the Mi'kmaq Resource Centre at UCCB - found more information and are now familiar with what resources they have and what help they can offer - quite an impressive centre. Information was brought back and has been added to the Research Resource Inventory - the RRI is moving along well and will continue to be added to. Also went to the TARR Centre to discuss with Gillian Allen and Jim Michaels about their experiences with interviewing for the Traditional Use Study - who were the interviewers, how did they store the information they collected, how do they archive, who were the Mi'kmaq transcribers. It was a very informative meeting.

- **Kay** – interviewing is going really well - many interviews have been completed. The RRI has been completed - has decided not to enter the information that is in her filing cabinet because it is dated and there is too much. A committee has been set up to meet with the Afton Band - there is a meeting to be held soon.

5. **External Evaluation - Debriefing and Direction**

- All partners are to compile an inventory of the documents each organization has made available – this is important for continuation application (important for CURA to see what SRSF has developed and made available to the partners)
- There has not been a firm deadline set for receipt of the report. However, in a couple of weeks, Tony will send a "soft" email asking when we could expect the report. And will proceed from there.
- Jay and Steve are aware of the necessity to have a relatively quick turnaround on the reporting of the evaluation.

6. **Staffing/Funding - DFO Science Horizon, HRDC, DFO Subvention**

- **GCIFA** - awarded 2 DFO Science Horizon Internship positions for 6 months each. Also have applied for 2 HRDC placements and will have Judy as the SRSF summer student intern. Also applying for 2 high school student summer employment positions. Ginny will be required to supervise all these positions - something to keep in mind when scheduling and planning during the summer.
- **GNSBFA** - through hake stomach project, have been awarded 1 science horizon internship with Tony for 12 months. Also will have 1 SRSF summer student intern. These positions will be based at StFX and will travel out to Lakevale when Kay is available - these individuals will have to be comfortable with independence and self-direction. Tony would like these interns to assume some of the responsibilities that Christie and Jessica have been doing.
- **Paqtnkek** - awarded 1 DFO science horizon internship position for 8 months (May - December). Also have 1 SRSF summer student intern position available - this can be used to continue to support Mary Jane's position once her current funding runs out or if alternative funding is found for Mary Jane's position than this position can made be available to another student.
- Potential for 3-4 months of support for Christie **or** Jessica, if so desire. *Collective nod that moves the air - Tony is tasked to discuss with Christie and Jessica about this possibility*
- John will be in Papua New Guinea April 23rd - May 18th. As per the original employment agreement, SRSF is paying for his air ticket.

7. **New Business**

- The website has been updated by the new webmaster - Ryley Breen. If there are any changes to be made or questions/concerns - he can be contacted at : rybreen@theberries.ns.ca

Kay Wallace moved to adjourn, Pat Rhynold seconded. All in favour.

****Next meeting has not yet been scheduled****