

Lower Fraser Fisheries Peacemakers Meeting – Summary Notes



Tuesday May 14th, 2013

Sumas First Nation

Attendance:

Rod Clapton, BC Federation of Driftfishers – Acting Chair
Don Simpson, Lower Fraser Fisheries Alliance – notes
Leah McCracken, BC Federation of Driftfishers
Saramae Tran, Christopher Vang Memorial Fund
Scott Maloney, RCMP

1. Notes and action points from April meeting

- Rod reviewed the agenda and proceeded to review the notes from April 9, 2013.
- Tony Nootbos is replacing Vic Carro on the CRC, and will be working with Ernie Crey for the 2013 season.

2. Updates on Formal Ratification of Peacemakers TOR by member Organizations welcomed (Sts'ail'es, SFAB)

- SFAB has officially endorsed the ToR
- LFFA has placed the opportunity into regional Aboriginal groups such as Sto:lo Tribal Council (STC), Sto:lo Nation (SN), and St'ail'es as well as independent First Nations for internal approval purposes.
- RCMP has also endorsed the ToR.

3. Work Planning 2013/14

a. Outreach- Materials and presentations are suggested for the Fall 2013 when organizations are meeting more regularly.

b. 2013 Fraser River Festival organization plan (building on 2012 Celebration of culture and safety on the River – follow-up by with Sara - Christopher Vang Memorial Fund)

- Sara met with Megan Stuart and was informed on all aspects of the event coordination, planning, and management.
- The work load is challenging for one person who is working full time as well.
- The entire file that was generated by Megan last year was made available to Sara, and ultimately to Peacemakers as well.

- FVRD is not in a position to support an event like last year, and it is determined to seek alternatives by next year while maintaining communications with all participants this year.
- Sara has volunteered to send out communications to distribution list acquired from Megan.
- Event permits, liability concerns, and other legal aspects were covered by FVRD last year, and must be addressed for any similar, upcoming event.

Action: Peacemakers table to defer the “go-no go” decision date to June, 2013 meeting, however recommended a communication strategy for 2013 and plan for 2014 to exceed last years’ success.

Action: Option 1) Don to seek feasibility of collaborating with LFFA on a Fisher’s Forum event with the LFFA Executive Committee in the near future, and report back at the June, 2013 meeting.

Action: Option 2) Ernie Crey to seek feasibility of inclusion with the Cheam Beach BBQ event (if running this year). Report back at the June, 2013 meeting.

Action: Option 3) Sto:lo Nation’s Children’s Festival is another event typically held in August. Report back at the June, 2013 meeting.

c. PFD’s – building a strategy to improve the use of lifejackets/PFD’s in both fisheries (rolling discussion with Sara - Christopher Vang Memorial Fund)

d. New and emerging fisheries dialogue (when and where needed?)

- There is a consensus that a recommendation to foster similar talks as those experienced by 30 or so DFO, RCMP, Sports sector, and Aboriginal fishers last year at Sumas First Nation be sought in the future.
- A concern from First Nations that some confusion may result from the perception that similar multi-tier talks has the potential to impeded progress at other tables where fisheries planning, management, and operational agreements are negotiated or consulted on.

Action: Peacemakers to consider and determine scope and readiness to engage in proactive meetings

e. Joint monitoring project (when, where, how – to come after meeting with LF DFO)?

Action: Dave Barrett to follow up with and update on the Joint Monitoring Project and potential Face-to-Face meeting with DFO at the Lower Fraser Area office on Annacis Island office to Peacemakers table at a future meeting.

Other discussion:

- Participants to seek feasibility of the use of organizational web-sites for outreach communications.
- Peacemakers to define and develop Communications and Fraser River Festival Committees to oversee the development and success of initiatives.

Action: Dave Moore to make PFD survey more engaging to forward an electronic version of the Peacemaker table delegates.

Meeting concluded: 16:20

