



# Fraser River Peacemakers

The British Columbia Wildlife Federation  
(BCWF) Boardroom

101-9706 188th Street Surrey, BC

September 9, 2014

2:00 pm – 5:00 pm

## Attendance:

Rod Clapton, President – BC Federation of Drift Fishers (BCFDF)	Co-Chair
Ernie Crey, Councillor - Cheam First Nation, FBC Director,	Co-Chair
Tim Susic, PSF	
Leigh McCracken, BCFDF Area Director, Langley	
David Marshal - Fraser Basin Council (FBC)	
Theresa Fresco – FBC	
Don Simpson, Program Coordinator – LFFA	Notes

## Summary Notes:

### 1) Review/approve agenda

Rod provided a review of the agenda for the day.

**Decision:** Agenda approved as presented.

### 2) Review of minutes of last meeting

Minutes from July 29, 2014 Peacemakers meeting held at Sumas First Nation Boardroom were reviewed. Some errors or amendments were identified as follows:

- Financial position is corrected as being a balance of \$6,340.15
- The Betty Moore foundation and amount - not applicable and to be omitted.
- Minutes to be edited as directed above.

**Decision:** Minutes approved as presented with changes mentioned above.

### 3) Review of Harmony on the Fraser initiative Aug 16th (Where do we go from here?)

Rod Clapton, Theresa Fresco, and Ernie Crey provided a review of the August 16, 2014 “Fly-the-Flag” event.

- Between 2500-3000 estimated sport fishers and users of the River travelled through the Island 22 boat launch area.



## Fraser River Peacemakers

- In general those attending were pleased with the outcomes of the day.
- Media coverage was well attended by local and regional Papers, CBC TV, and bloggers alike.
- For future events such as this one, both planning and communications will allow for more involvement from FBC, FVRD, Parks and other organizations was noted.
- Another observation is the need for a boat for press, charter, and transportation of guests and delegates on event day.
- Other sites such as Grassy Bar and Peg Leg are to be considered. Although those beach access sites are of a different clientele than Island 22.
- The presence and prevalent use of un-authorized launching and beach access sites along with their inherent hazards and negative environmental optics are all reasons that justify the development of clean, safe, authorized and managed sites for river access.
- There was a reference to approximately 37 individuals that were stranded on a newly formed bar island in the Peg Leg area. Proving the Fraser River is a hazardous place to be and not to be taken lightly.
- The growth of fishery is exponential in years of Sockeye abundance and much must be done to promote ethical and safe enjoyment of the river. On Sunday there may have been an estimated 10,000 fishers on the river between Vedder confluence and Hope Bridge.
- Many fishers have challenges in reading and speaking English. Attempts to communicate may be more effective if other languages were used. Item for further discussion.
- Collaboration with FBC, PSF, Schools, and other organizations for the purpose of developing and implementing communication strategies is a logical option.
- Peacemakers must take the lead in seeking creative funding sources and partnerships with contacts such as Andrew Williamson and Don Peterson

**Next Steps:** Theresa Fresco provided a review of the handout of which is the draft report for the Harmony on The Fraser Project.

- Long Term education
- Conditions of licence amendments
- Leverage websites and communication networks



# Fraser River Peacemakers

## 4) Update on sign installation

Rod and Theresa provided an overview and update on the signage. There are eight (8) signs that were a redo of previous signage and are erected with 4"x4" x 8' posts. The signs were funded by FBC and BC Parks.

### Discussion:

- Doug Bifford is good for two signs at Ferry Island.
- Rob Wilson of Parks is good to go.
- Cheam Indian Band is good for a sign at Cheam Fishing Village.
- The placement of 4-6 now and hold 2 or so for inventory is suggested.
- BC Trucking Association is interested in Peacemakers and the river access initiative.
- Ministry of Transportation (not yet)
- A follow up with Seabird Island and Chawathil is intended.

Next steps for October work-shop session:

- David Marshall suggests early October 2014 for a Harmony on The Fraser wrap up session.
- Is there funding available for the preparation of a PowerPoint presentation a a Harmony on the Fraser Flag?
- Review all funders for the 2014 season and plan for 2015. David Marshall will work on it.
- Consider "Green Money" as tax exemption activities as funding sources.

## 5) Update on website

Rod provided a brief update on website development for Peacemakers. It is still work in progress at this time as efforts to have the website fully operational with interactive email and features are being developed and confirmed.

### Discussion:

- A suggestion to use "Go-Daddy" for website development was made.
- Expertise is not an issue. Option to go to Denise at FBC was tabled.



# Fraser River Peacemakers

## 6) Business Committee report (PICFI application) - Member expenses?

Rod provided a brief overview of expectations and guidelines for the development of a Peacemakers' budget.

### Discussion:

- Suggested that paid positions for administration are not necessary-no wages.
- Travel and meals are acceptable expenses and will follow Treasury Board rates.
- A control mechanism should be in place for financial management.

## 7) PFD update

Leigh provided an overview of the PFD inventory and their use. of approximately 7 PFD by Katzie First Nation. Most did not get used due to size issues and not being large enough for some.

### Discussion:

- Storage will be at BCWF offices in Surrey-Port Kells
- There was a winner from the prize draw at Island 22 on August 16, 2014.
- Suggested that 1 PFD per regular Peacemaker participant be distributed for use and promotion of Peacemakers. 2 for BCWF AGM & 2 for BCFDF banquet and the rest of original 40 in inventory.

## 8) Cell phone app progress

Rod provided an overview of the cell phone catch monitoring and report application.

- There were challenges with the launch of the pilot to FVAGA guide boats for 2014.
- A review of the initiative to take place in the winter 2014-2015. Anglers are leery of participating in any reporting
- DFO is currently non-supportive of the cell phone app.
- There are 2 of 22 data sheets of which has little use for analysis, but is data non-the less.
- Arnold Smith of IQMI emailed a report from the trial app.
- Peacemakers will review and determine who and how to best address phone app in the future. IQMI must be in the mix of communications as ownership of the data, processes, and analysis is an issue.



## Fraser River Peacemakers

### 9) Report on Fraser Canyon (“alleged” shooting incident), and Grassy Bar area

- An alleged incident occurred in the Fraser Canyon in the Sailor Bar area.
- Rod reviewed some of the information pertaining to that incident.
- There are some email traffic with specific information and was referred to in the discussions.
- The Hope Detachment of the RCMP are now investigating the occurrence and Sgt. Gerry Hansom of The Chilliwack RCMP Aboriginal Policing Division has been notified as well.
- There were no casings found and there were no witnesses identified to date.
- Incident was reported to First Nations organizations executive and through them to Peacemakers through conflict resolution committee co-chair Ernie Crey.
- Peacemakers remain neutral as RCMP takes over the investigation.
- Grassy Bar incident as reported by an STS Guide boat with photos was discussed.
- Ernie Crey reviews a letter to DFO advocating for night drifting as an option to reduce impact of First Nations’ fishers on recreational fishers and vice-versa.
- Can a non-member contribute to the discussions and development of solutions to issues? Answer: Yes, most definitely.

### 10) Other business?

Peacemakers’ business cards are on for \$90 for 500. Information consists of generic items such as Logo, website, and email address with space for writing name and phone number at the discretion of the Peacemaker member.

**Decision:** All agree to go for preparation of cards as presented.

### 11) Next meeting (date & location)

TBD

### Adjournment