



Fraser River Peacemakers Meeting
March 17, 2016
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Sumas First Nation Boardroom- Abbotsford

Attendance: Ernie Crey, Dave Barrett, Cost. Allistair (RCMP), Leigh McCracken, Dale Joe, Erin Mussell, Tim Susic, Dean Werk, Stan Goto, Saramae Tran, Don Simpson (notes).

1. Agenda review

Additions:

- M&C Panel update – Dave Barrett
- Potential conflict on the river - 2016
- Stan Goto (WWU) update
- Peacemakers – “Road Show” and “All About Fishing” event report – Leigh M.
- Creation of a Petty Cash system for Peacemakers.

Decision: Agenda approved with the above additions.

2. Review of notes from January 19, 2016 Peacemakers meeting and Business committee meeting.

Decision: The January 19, 2016 Peacemakers summary notes were approved as presented.

3. Financial status review as at March 17, 2016.

Discussion:

- Approximately \$10,000 remains in FRP bank account from \$13,300
- Clarity on signatories to the bank account was requested. There are two signatories Ernie Crey and Rod Clapton. (Don Simpson is in the process of becoming an alternate signatory) Rod is required to be at the CIBC to confirm the designation of Don.
- Financial reporting to be monthly or quarterly? Quarterly or as directed by the Board of Directors.

4. Identify considerations and requirements for establishing and incorporating a Society

Discussion:

- A chronology of the Fraser River Peacemakers (FRP) - (formally the Joint Sports Fishers

and First Nations Working Group) was presented by Dave Barret with an emphasis on the formation of a society.

- Elements needed are a Constitution, Board of Directors, a mutually agreed upon definition of “what constitutes a member”.
- It was suggested to form a Board of Directors as a core for the first year, then after 365 days convene and execute an AGM at which time a new Board of Directors and membership will be defined and established. Clarity of purpose, roles, and responsibilities will need to be established throughout the entire process.
- The Fraser Valley Aboriginal Fisheries Society (FVAFS) membership is the Board of Directors and could be considered as a model for FRP to follow.
- Is there a call for FRP to become a membership organization?
- One possible requirement for membership (Board member) is to belong to an organization such as British Columbia Wildlife Federation (BCWF), British Columbia Federation of Drift Fishers (BCFDF), Fraser Valley Angling Guides Association (FVAGA), Fraser Valley Salmon Society (FVSS), BC Fresh Water Fisheries Society (BCFWFS), Fraser Basin Council (FBC), Pacific Salmon Foundation (PSF) Aboriginal Organizations, etc.
- There should be some sort of vetting process that is a standard, agreed upon process or policy established prior to and during proceedings.
- FVSS has a lot of directors as well as the Upper Fraser Valley Sports fishing Advisory Committee of the provincial Sports Fishing Advisory Board (SFAB) to ensure at least some attend the meetings.
- Those who sit at the table and do not belong to an organization can have a voice but no vote (if a voting process is adopted)
- Suggested to have twelve (12) Board members plus a chair. Six (6) First Nations, and six (6) from the recreational fisheries and community groups.
- How will interest groups be addressed or treated? Suggest they sit as ex-officios.
- First Nations’ groups instead of individuals.
- Flexibility is needed around ex-officios to accommodate RCMP, DFO C&P, etc.
- Considerations can be established in instruments such as the Constitution, By-laws, and Terms of Reference for the Board of Directors and any sub-committees with respect to issues such as quorum, decision-making, etc.
- The mailing address for the Fraser River Peacemakers will be the LFFA office:
C/O Fraser River Peacemakers,
2788 Sumas Mountain Road,
Abbotsford, BC. V3G 2J2
- The Board of Directors will be those who have been attending from the start as per their respective organizations.

- The origins of the Peacemakers was reviewed and it has been observed that many First Nations, while not attending, are aware of the group and its activities and purpose.
- The LFFA has specific reference to “Tier 3” engagement and development activities in their Strategic Plan and annual work plans. Tier 1 is First Nation to First Nation, Tier 2 is First Nation to Government (Federal) and is represented by DFO. Tier 3 is the private sector and non-government organizations (NGO)s.
- The general aims and objectives of the FRP are key to those who continue to attend.
- So discussion on how many for the first year was varied. 5, 6, with a chair, or more.
- Names that are candidates for the initial Board of Directors:
 - Leigh McCracken
 - Dale Joe
 - Tim Sucic (ex-officio)
 - Rod Clapton
 - Dean Werk
 - Dave Barret
 - Saramae (ex-officio)
 - Ernie Crey
 - Ed George
 - Kevin Estrada
 - Erin Mussell

Decision: Elect the candidates for the initial Board of Directors from those in attendance. (Note: Don also suggested to include those who confirmed their names from the January 19, 2016 FRP meeting).

5. Determine direct next steps to comply with the above identified requirements including Board selection criteria.

Addressed in Item #4

6. Determine responsibilities to Interim Steering Committee members with timelines

Addressed in Item #4

7. Other

a) Update from M&C Panel

Dave Barret provided an update from the M&C Panel activities.

- Ernie Crey is the Chair and Dave Barret is the Program Manager.
- A reference was made to the 2015 Risk Assessment Tool. Assessments have been conducted throughout BC in many First Nation, Sports, and commercial fisheries.
- The M&C Panel seeks to conduct an assessment in the Lower Fraser Area First Nations’ fishery at some point in the near future.
- Dave will bring in an electronic copy of the Risk Assessment Tool to do a mock trial exercise in the near future and discuss the results.

- DFO is aware of the tool and the M&C Panel is tasked with the implementation and reporting out on the Risk Assessment Tool applications.
- The whole goal is to achieve sustainability where fish are harvested by all users.

b) Potential conflict on the River 2016

- The SFAB's Upper Fraser Valley Sport Fishing Advisory Committee met during the week of March 12, 2016 and referred to a Chilliwack newspaper article regarding First Nations' access to fishing opportunities on the Fraser River.
- A reference was made to a meeting with the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans (Minister Hunter TooToo) with First nations representatives from BC and making the current Minister aware of the previous Conservative (Harper Government)'s legislation on "End Point" or 2% cap on all access to fishing opportunities by First Nations in BC and Canada.
- The Chilliwack newspaper article was a statement of the willingness of First Nations to revisit the End Point legislation in meaningful discussions with government and others and the article clearly underlines the reason why the Fraser River Peacemakers exist.
- Low abundance will drive conflict for both fish and space on the river.
- Chum fishery seems to be the only bright spot for the 2016 season for everyone.
- How does one divide the space and time within a small 10-12 kilometer section of the Fraser River near Chilliwack for a very few fish?
- Who has a "right" to be on a spot at any particular time? Being unresolved results in potential for a First Nations/Recreational fisher conflict. Where do we go for solutions?
- There is a distinction between First Nations Food, Social, and Ceremonial (FSC) and Economic Opportunity (EO) fisheries. FSC has top priority for First Nations and is supported by Supreme Court of Canada and the Constitution of Canada in Sec 35 (1).
- As for the Peacemakers there are Terms of Reference vs. Communications, and Boardroom discussions vs. riverbank level understandings. The challenge is to ensure information is available.
- All sectors provide input to the drafts of the Integrated Fisheries Management Plan (IFMP). A reference was made to the Four Pillars of the Fraser Salmon Table: First Nations, Sport fishing, Commercial fishing and Conservation.
- Suggested to draft a "Mandate to take proactive steps" with communications in the form of a memo to the regulators, user groups and the general public.

c) Leigh – Presentation Peacemakers "Road Show"

- "FVSS All About Fishing" event update was provided by Leigh. Most everyone knew of the Fraser River Peacemakers.
- Peacemakers had a copy of the Nuu Chat Nulth Court case decision that refers to the

right of First nations to sell their catch.

- Dean provided an overview of the FVSS All About Fishing event of March 12, 2016.
- Upwards of 2,000 to 3,000 attended throughout the day.
- Rodney Shu “Fishing with Rod”, Christina Toth (FBC), and others were on hand.

Action: Leigh to research “Trade show and Road show-style” presentation displays and set ups for Peacemakers.

Action: Stan Goto (WWU) to request the two students Daniel and Josh to prepare a PowerPoint presentation on the surveys that were conducted recently.

d) Stan Goto Mapping project update

- Stan Goto responds to January’s meeting request to postpone the Conflict Mapping Project from 2016 to a future season due to very poor forecasts and reduced fishing effort for all users, however, students that have committed to the project will prepare a draft survey of approximately 14 questions. A draft should be ready by next meeting.

e) Develop petty cash protocol(s)

Don and Tim to address at next meeting

8. Adjournment

Next meeting:

Tuesday - April 19, 2016