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**Steering Committee Meeting #2 (2006-07)**

**Location:** Margaree Room, Gulf Fisheries Centre, Moncton, NB  
**Date:** Friday, September 15, 2006  
**Time:** 10:00am

**The Attending Members:**

Omer Chouinard, Université de Moncton	Nadine Gauvin, Coalition Coordinator
David Boyce, SEA	Éric Arsenault, MFU
Jenny Guignard, Coalition Admin Assist	Julie Turcotte, Coalition Staff
Marianne Janowicz, NBDELG	Jean Goguen, NB Planners Assoc.
Alice Power, Friends of the Pugwash Estuary	P.Nagarajan, UPEI
Lisa Arsenault, Comité ZIP	John Legault, DFO
Harry Collins, MREAC	Jocelyne Gauvin, gddpc
Allister Marshall, Po'tlo'tek Fish and Wildlife Assoc	

**Guests:**

Douglas Deacon, scholarship recipient  
Ray MacIssac, DFO  
Denis Richard, Ville de Buctouche



**1. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:03. Allister delivered the opening prayer. Introductions of meeting participants were made around the table.

**2. Approval of agenda**

Approval of agenda was moved by J.Gauvin and seconded by M.Janowicz.

**3. Approval of previous minutes (June 9th, 2006)**

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed. An omission was noted in the minutes under 'Guests'. The guests' affiliations should have been included next to their name as follows: Douglas Deacon – scholarship recipient, Peter Dysart – gddpc and Odette Landry-Godin – gddpc. Approval of the minutes, as amended, was moved by D. Boyce and seconded by M.Janowicz.

**4. Matters arising from minutes**

Nadine covered the nine action items from the June 9th minutes. There were on outstanding issues.

**5. Financial Report**

As treasurer, D. Boyce presented the Coalition financial report. David moved that the financial report be accepted as presented and H.Collins seconded the motion.

**6. Working Group updates**

**AGM 2007 WG** – Justin Huston agreed to chair this committee. In Justin's absence, Nadine reported that the WG met via conference call on Sept.7. Nagarajan pointed out that the workshop will incorporate Agenda 21, which was adopted by the United Nations in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. Very little has been done in Canada with respect to chapter 8 of Agenda 21, 'Local Authorities' Initiatives in Support of Agenda 21'. The workshop offers an opportunity to re-ignite Canada's commitment to Agenda 21.



It was suggested that the AGM itself should take place as a party sometime during the middle of the workshop and not on a Saturday afternoon. Harry suggested that BoFEP be considered as a partner in the workshop as they may have funds to offer. Marianne informed that her department is mandating sustainable communities as an initiative;.

**Action Item 01: Nadine to recommend to AGM 2007 Workshop Committee that the AGM be scheduled during the workshop and not after.**

**Action Item 02: Marianne to bring message to BoFEP to determine their interests on partnering with the Coalition on this workshop. She is to also investigate provincial opportunities to enhance this workshop through her department.**

**Coastal Erosion WG** – the Working Group has not met recently.

Harry expressed concern on the Shell Environmental Fund sponsored project on coastal erosion. Each of the five participating communities measured coastal erosion differently. He questioned how these will be compared and useful.

**Action Item 03: Nadine to bring this concern forth to the Coastal Erosion WG.**

**Communications & Education WG** – Nadine reported in Audrey's absence that the WG met via conference call on July 26 and the main focus of the meeting was with renewing the Coalition website. A local company has been contracted and a new website should be ready by end of September 2006.

**Funding/Development WG** – this is an ad-hoc committee and no report is available as this WG has not recently met.

**Science, Research & Habitat WG** – Marianne deferred to Julie Turcotte - Project Coordinator for the sustainability indicators project, to report. Julie reported that the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of the Sustainability Indicators project, funded by EcoAction, has been completed. All of the eight participating community groups had valuable feedback to offer on their involvement with populating the indicators. Two funding proposals are now being prepared to move into phase 3 of the project – one is with GeoConnections to build a regional atlas and the second is the Agriculture Canada's Rural Secretariat. A partnership is being pursued with La Collectivité ingénieuse de la Péninsule acadienne (CIPA) with the GeoConnections proposal. Lisa, of Comité ZIP, suggested that two groups of Gaspésie worked on a regional atlas last year.

**Action Item 04: Nadine to invite CIPA to assume a seat on the Steering Committee.**

**Action Item 05: Lisa to send Nadine the link for the Gaspésie regional atlas.**

**Technical Advisory** – It was reported that the survey to NGO groups has been completed. The Coalition summer student surveyed community groups to gain insight into their data storehouse and technical capacities. A synopsis report will be made available on-line soon. Jocelyne suggested that Nathalie LeBlanc-Poirier become a member of the WG – to move forward technical objectives from the Kent Coalition.

**Action Item 06: Nadine to invite Nathalie LeBlanc-Poirier to join the Technical Advisory WG.**

**Traditional Ecological Knowledge WG** – Allister reported on the funding proposal, *Increasing resiliency of traditional resources to climate changes using traditional knowledge in a Mi'kmaq community: Pilot Project* submitted by the WG in response to the Indian and Northern Affairs Canada's call. Recipients should be notified soon. Nadine informed that matching funds were also sought with the GeoConnections call, 'Developing Geospatial applications for decision-making', through a letter of intent.

## **7. Coordinator's Report**

Nadine provided the coordinator's report. It was suggested that we continue sending each Coalition newsletter - *The Messenger* to media.

## **8. Northumberland Strait Ecosystem Working Group Update**

Nadine reported a meeting was held for the entire WG on July 6 to review the parameters of study with AMEC Consultants on the ecosystem overview assessment report. Members of the WG (mostly fishermen) were disturbed that suspended solids was not one of the parameters. With help of the MFU, BIO and local fishermen a monitoring program was established to test for suspended solids.



Technical workshops are presently being planned for October and November for experts to share information on research, etc. Discussion on how the public can continue to play a role on shaping future research, addressing issues of concern, contributing with local knowledge, etc was discussed at length. It was suggested that the Coalition urge the WG to keep top of mind the report from the public consultation sessions held last winter. Also, the NGO report on Integrated Management completed by the Coalition should be part of the data library for this WG.

**Action Item 07: The Coalition president to write a letter to the Northumberland Strait Ecosystem Working Group and urge that the social input capacity continue to be incorporated in the technical workshops and with the EOAR.**

**Action Item 08: Nadine to ensure the NGO Integrated Management report be included in the data library of the WG.**

#### **9. Other Business:**

The following three items were identified for discussion under other business:

- I. ISPOT
- II. Letter to DFO
- III. Nearshore Marine Monitoring Workshop
- IV. Sedimentation

I. David informed that SEA had been awarded funding with the Invasive Species Program. Their funding activity will include adding on a component to the CAMP program to identify invasive species. Both Eric and Jocelyne informed that they had each applied to this program as well. Apparently, the review process and communications of selected projects was weak. It was suggested that the Coalition should play a role with tracking proposals submitted by members to various funding agencies in order to allow for future partnership opportunities.

II. At a recent Coalition Management Committee meeting, it was suggested that because DFO's yearly contribution is awarded near fiscal year end, the Coalition needs to re-assert itself with DFO as a major player in the Oceans Action Plan with a letter to the Regional Director. David moved that a letter to Jim Jones be prepared by the Coalition President and first circulated to the Management Committee for approval. Allister seconded the motion.

**Action Item 09: Omer to prepare a letter to Jim Jones for circulation first to the Mngt. Cttee.**

**Action Item 10: Marianne to source a previous similar letter prepared by her and Sophie several years ago.**

III. David announced that the Nearshore Marine Monitoring Workshop report is now available on-line at <http://www.eman-rese.ca/eman/reports/publications/intro.html>.

IV. Harry asked how we can learn more about sedimentation (referring to the discussion earlier on the Northumberland Strait Ecosystem WG). Marianne suggested we invite sedimentation experts such as Jeff Ollerhead, Tim Milligan, Daniel Caissie or Eric Arsenault as guest speakers to a future Steering Committee meeting.

**10. Afternoon mini-forum:** Jim Weldon of Fisheries and Oceans Canada presented on the Community Aquatic Monitoring Program (CAMP) and Richard Matthews of Mount Allison University provided a second presentation on Free-Market Environmentalism and Ecological Feminism. Both initiated valuable discussion on these very important subjects.

#### **11. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm.