



Coalition pour la viabilité du sud du Golfe du Saint-Laurent  
Southern Gulf of St. Lawrence Coalition on Sustainability

**Steering Committee Meeting #3 (2008-09)**

**Location:** Motel Grand-Pré, Bonaventure, Qc

**Date:** Thursday, December 4, 2008

**Time:** 6pm

The Attending Members:

David Boyce, CASP

Chantal Gagnon, 2C1 Forest

Marie-Hélène Thériault, DFO

Rémi Donelle, Coalition des b.v. de Kent

Omer Chouinard, Université de Moncton

Nadine Gauvin, Coalition Executive Director

Chris McKnight, Coalition staff

Allister Marshall, Chapel Island First Nation

Alice Power, Friends of the Pugwash Estuary

Irene Novaczek, UPEI

Marie-Hélène Rondeau, PESCA Environnement

Julie Whalen, Coalition staff

Monique Brideau, Coalition staff

Guests:

Jean Lambert, Rural Secretariat

Gretchen Hall, GAMS

Frédéric Paillard, VisionH20

Élie Rousselle, Comité Gestion Environmental de la  
Rivière Pokemouche

Regrets:

Justin Huston, NS Government

David Garbary, St.F.X.

Lisa Arsenaault, Comité ZIP Baie des Chaleurs

Randy Angus, Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI

Harry Collins, MREAC

Jean Goguen, Kent Planning Commission

Denis Desrosiers, Sentinel Systems Ltd.

David vanVelzen, NS Consultant

P.Nagarajan, UPEI

Marc-André Plourde, Les Ami(e)s de la Kouchib

Kathryn Parlee, Environment Canada

John Legault, DFO

Willi Nolan, IICforPH

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**1. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order by Coalition Chairperson, David Boyce at 6:10pm. Allister Marshall delivered the opening prayer. Meeting participants introduced themselves.

**2. Approval of agenda**

Approval of the agenda was moved by Irene Novaczek and seconded by Allister Marshall.

**3. Approval of previous minutes (Sept.26, 2008)**

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed and there were no outstanding issues. Approval of the minutes was moved by Marie-Hélène Thériault and seconded by Allister Marshall.

**4. Matters arising from minutes**

Nadine covered the 10 action items from the September 26, 2008 minutes and reported that Action Items number 3, 8 & 10 are ongoing and due to the special circumstance of this meeting being in Bonaventure, item number 4 (John to demo the atlas at the December SC meeting) was deferred. It was suggested that the upcoming Quebec-NB Inter-provincial Government Cooperation meeting would be a good opportunity for the Coalition to secure Quebec government support and a representative for the Steering Committee.

**5. Financial Report**

Chantal and Nadine provided the financial report. The revenue received up until November 30 was reported as \$223,069.53 and the expenses accumulated up until November 30 was \$168,960.35 with a positive balance of \$54,109.18. It was explained that the large balance was due to late project start-ups and the balance should





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be reduced by year-end. Remi Donelle proposed that the financial report be accepted as presented and Irene Novaczek seconded the motion.

### **6. Working Group updates**

**Social Economy Summit** – Nadine reported that the Summit logistics have all been prepared, thanks to the fine detail of CREGIM, and tomorrow's event should be a success.

**Coastal Erosion** – This WG has been inactive.

**Communications & Education** – Nadine reported on Marc-André's behalf that the WG has finalized the Call for Expressions of Interest to hire a communications expert and it will be distributed asap. The WG is also preparing the next issue of the Messenger which is scheduled to go out before Christmas.

**Constitution Committee** – Chantal reported that the Committee met for an in-person day long meeting on November 24<sup>th</sup> and they will propose the many necessary constitution amendments for adoption by the Steering Cttee in February. They also discussed governance changes and suggested time be allotted next Steering Committee meeting for discussion at this level.

**Fund/Development** – Monique reported on Ray's behalf that the WG purchased several bikes and are busy working to organize a bike raffle to be held on World Oceans Day in June, 2009 during our AGM.

**Science, Research & Habitat** – Marie-Hélène Theriault reported that the WG met in October and are working to address the priority recommendations made at the March 2008 CAMP workshop. They have also prepared an EcoAction proposal to tie-in with the CAMP project. Finally, the WG is looking into how CAMP data can be used for more effective decision making at the community level.

**Technical Advisory** – Nadine reported on John's behalf that GeoConnections will be approving a second contract that will serve to provide training to the NGO sector on how to use the atlas. The on-line regional sustainability atlas is undergoing some final tweaking and should be up and running on the coalition website soon.

**Traditional Ecological Knowledge** – Chantal and Allister provided an update on the Environment Canada sponsored project '*Sharing climate change related traditional medicine knowledge in First Nation communities in the Southern Gulf of St-Lawrence region*'. They also introduced Chris McKnight as the new Project Coordinator.

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

Nadine provided the Coordinator's report which detailed the activities of the Coalition administration over the past few months.

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

Irene Novaczek provided an update on the Northumberland Strait Ecosystem Working Group which remains inactive. However she mentioned the new Northumberland Strait Ecosystem Research Initiative (ERI) Advisory Committee struck at the Southern Gulf Research network whose purpose is to monitor research plans, methodologies and progress of ERI projects undertaken by DFO; and to provide recommendations to Gulf Region Science Director on the design and implementation of research; and to also advise on dissemination of information; and identify actions that need to be taken based on research findings. The committee will exist for the next 3 years – the duration of current funding for science research in the Strait.

### **9. Policies**

**Reserve Fund Policy** – deferred until next meeting

**Procurement Guideline** – Chantal moved to accept this guideline for Coalition purchases; Irene seconded the motion. Adoption of the motion was accepted unanimously. It was suggested to laminate this and post it on the office wall.

**Action item 01: Nadine to laminate Procurement policy for display in the Coalition office.**

**Dependant care/remuneration policy** – Nadine reported in order to provide assistance for 6 individuals per meeting to cover childcare or dependant care expenses per quarterly meeting it would cost the Coalition \$1,200 annually. If such a policy was adopted it could be put into place for next fiscal year's budget.





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**Action item 02: Management Committee to develop a policy to propose for adoption at the next Steering Committee meeting.**

**10. Other Business**

There was no other business for discussion.

**11. 2008-2013 Strategic plan update**

David reported that the Management Committee is still working on a reporting template. He urged that the working groups need to bring forth their initiatives on what they'd like to work on in the coming year.

**12. Adjournment**

Chantal moved to adjourn. Allister Marshall delivered the closing prayer for the meeting which adjourned at 7:35pm.

**13. Guest speaker**

Caroline Duchesne, Executive Director of the 'Conseil Régional de l'environnement Gaspésie-îles-de-la-Madeleine (CREGÎM)' provided a presentation on the CREGÎM's mandate and activities.

