



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

**Steering Committee Meeting #4 (2008-09)**

**Location:** Room 220, Pavillon P.A.Landry, Université de Moncton

**Date:** Friday, February 27, 2009

**Time:** 9am

The Attending Members:

David Boyce, Canad. Agro-Sustainability Partnership	Allister Marshall, Chapel Island First Nation
Chantal Gagnon, 2C1 Forest	Alice Power, Friends of the Pugwash Estuary
Marie-Hélène Thériault, DFO	Irene Novaczek, UPEI
Rémi Donelle, Coalition des b.v. de Kent	Harry Collins, MREAC
Lisa Arsenault, Comité ZIP	Julie Whalen, Coalition staff
Nadine Gauvin, Coalition Executive Director	Monique Brideau, Coalition staff
Kathryn Parlee, Environment Canada	Jane Tims, NB Government
David Garbary, St.F.X.University	Nadine LaPlante, Coalition staff
P.Nagarajan, UPEI	Randy Angus, Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI

Guests:

Jean Lambert, Rural Secretariat

Ray MacIsaac, DFO

Regrets:

Justin Huston, NS Government

David vanVelzen, NS Consultant

John Legault, DFO

Jean Goguen, Kent Planning Commission

Denis Desrosiers, Sentinel Systems Ltd.

Willi Nolan, IICforPH

Omer Chouinard, UdeM

Marie-Hélène Rondeau

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**1. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order by Coalition Chairperson, David Boyce at 9:05am. 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 Chantal Gagnon.

**3. Approval of previous minutes (Dec.4, 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 Alice Power.

**4. Matters arising from minutes**

Nadine covered the two action items from the December 4, 2008 meeting minutes. Action item #2 (to develop a dependent care remuneration policy) is ongoing and will be presented at the AGM.

**Action item #01: The Management Committee is to prepare a dependent care policy for proposal at the next Steering Committee Meeting.**

**5. Financial Report**

Nadine provided the financial report. The revenue received up until February 26 was reported as \$289,075.93 and the expenses accumulated up until February 26 was \$274,172.07 with a positive balance of \$14,903.86. It was explained that there are several cheques to be received in the next few weeks. It was recommended to indicate the completion of projects with an asterisk. Chantal Gagnon proposed that the financial report be accepted as presented and Allister Marshall seconded the motion.

**Action item #02: Future financial reports will indicate completed projects with an asterisk (\*).**





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

**Social Economy Summit** – Nadine reported that all of the financial obligations for the Summit have been completed and a report will be submitted to the Rural Secretariat early March.

**Coastal Erosion** – Kathryn reported that she hopes to revive the WG if funding is approved for the recently submitted proposal - *Coastal Erosion Monitoring & Awareness for Improved Decision-making*. She also reported that she is still seeking a volunteer to co-chair the committee. David Garbary requested to be added to the WG's distribution list. It was suggested to host a Coastal Erosion WG meeting post AGM on June 12<sup>th</sup>, in order to learn of the UPEI/Trout River coastal erosion project sponsored by Parks Canada.

**Action item #03: David Garbary's name is to be added to the Coastal Erosion WG email listserv.**

**Communications & Education** – Nadine reported that due to a career move, Marc-André has resigned from the Steering Committee and as president of the WG. The WG is seeking a new chairperson. Nadine also reported that she will be seeking opportunities to hire a co-op communications student to begin undertaking the Communications tasks identified earlier by the WG.

**Constitution Committee** – Chantal reported the committee's work will be reported under item #9.

**Fund/Development** – Ray reported that the WG has been meeting regularly. Ticket sales for the bike raffle will commence on Earth Day and the draw will be held at the AGM. Permits have gone out to each province to sell tickets.

**Science, Research & Habitat** – Marie-Hélène Thériault reported that a new document was developed that outlines the roles of DFO, the community groups and the Coalition with respect to undertaking each of the recommendations made at last March's CAMP workshop. Julie provided an update on the on-line atlas and how it is used to store CAMP data. It was suggested that an atlas demo be provided at the AGM. Discussion ensued on tying in the previous indicators work with the atlas; linking in with the Gulf of Maine Council's indicators work; and the upcoming ACCESS conference.

**Action item #04: To include a demonstration of the on-line regional sustainability atlas at the AGM.**

**Action item #05: Nadine to contact Justin Huston to see if there's an opportunity to present the Coalition at the GOM meeting in Halifax in June.**

**Action item #06: Nadine to circulate the ACCESS conference info to Steering Committee members.**

**Technical Advisory** – Nadine reported on John's behalf. The WG has been inactive but will most likely seek opportunities to apply for further GeoConnections funding on the category of publishing themed data.

**Traditional Ecological Knowledge** – Chantal and Allister reported that the WG met in January to develop a 2009-2010 work-plan and that the Environment Canada sponsored project '*Sharing climate change related traditional medicine knowledge in First Nation communities in the Southern Gulf of St-Lawrence region*' is moving ahead nicely.

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

Nadine provided the Coordinator's report which detailed the activities of the Coalition administration over the past few months. She also announced that the Coalition recently won a competition for free advertising space with the Atlantic Business Magazine! Our article will appear in the June 2009 issue. Finally, Nadine encouraged members to vote for their preferred AGM theme on the Coalition website at [www.coalition-sgsl.ca](http://www.coalition-sgsl.ca).

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

Irene Novaczek provided an update on the Northumberland Strait Ecosystem Working Group and reported the WG is expected to reconvene sometime this year. The purpose will be to review the recommendations and to see what's been happening in response to the recommendations.

### **9. Constitution Amendments**

Chantal Gagnon informed there were two parts to this session. First, she reviewed the constitution amendments which were distributed to the Steering Committee previously. Discussion ensued on the translation of the amendments; wordsmithing; and how the Coalition can better share tools, resources. Chantal moved for the adoption of the constitution amendments as presented; Irene Novaczek seconded the motion. Adoption of the motion was accepted unanimously.

**Action item #07: To ensure the translation of the amendments is reviewed by an editing team.**





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**Action item #08: Nadine to circulate the constitution amendments to the Steering Committee so they may wordsmith the document.**

Secondly, Chantal reviewed the five recommendations developed by the committee for consideration by the Steering Committee. Discussion ensued on opportunities to increase Steering Committee member participation and with surveying members for direction on changing the governance structure to be more representative of all geographic areas and sectors. Chantal moved to hire a coordinator to work on the governance structure changes as identified in recommendation #2, contingent upon funding; P.Nagarajan seconded the motion. Adoption of the motion was accepted unanimously.

**Action item #09: Coalition staff to investigate video-conferencing opportunities with universities within the Southern Gulf.**

**Action item #10: Nadine to incorporate the coordinator's costs above in the new fiscal year budget.**

**10. 2008-2013 Strategic plan update**

Nadine presented an update on the projects & activities completed this fiscal year that align with our five-year strategic plan and demonstrated that activities in each of four strategic priorities have been accomplished. It was suggested to include another column to demonstrate the internal priorities, ie. Communications, etc.

**Action item #11: Nadine to include reporting on internal priorities in future strategic plan updates.**

**11. Annual General Meeting (PEI)**

Nadine informed that this year's AGM will be held on June 11<sup>th</sup> in Emerald, PEI in partnership with the Bedeque Bay Environmental Management Association (BBEMA); and suggested that the format could be similar to last year's (evening session with one high-profile guest speaker followed by a wine & cheese networking social). Discussion ensued on AGM themes. Suggestions included: What are the sustainable resources on PEI; the Mi'kmaq Confederacy mapping projects; a 10 year review (to tie-in with the Coalition's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary) – What has happened to the ecosystem in the past 10 years, what we need to do; a stream of success stories over the past 10 years; and Elizabeth May was suggested as a motivational guest speaker. It was also suggested to create a panel discussion as per the theme selected. Irene, Randy Angus, P.Nagarajan and David Boyce all agreed to sit on the AGM working group to help organize the event.

**Action item #12: To add the suggested themes above on the Coalition website poll.**

**Action item #13: To organize an AGM Working Group meeting asap.**

**12. Other business**

There was no other business.

**13. 2009-2010 planning**

Nadine presented a table to be completed as a group for the 2009-2010 work-plan. Each of the working group chairs provided input. It was suggested to include the Summit 2008's seven recommendations into the work-plan. Discussion ensued that the Summit recommendations require some re-working and this could be done as part of the governance structure project (Item #9, part II). The governance structure project could also include recommendations on how the Coalition can assess member needs over the long term, which could all be completed and presented in time for the AGM. It was also suggested to include the Communications & Education WG item (Re-identify the target market – government (3 levels/ first nations), business, academia, communities and NGO's by reviewing the current membership and identifying any gaps of new members to recruit) into the governance project.

**Action item #14: Once the 7 Summit recommendations have been re-worked, Nadine will send to Noreen of the Social Economy and Sustainability Network**

**Action item #15: Include the Communications & Education WG's item above in the governance project.**

**Action item #16: Nadine to send out the 2009-2010 work-plan for comment by the Steering Committee, then the Management Committee will work on its budget.**

**14. Adjournment**

Allister Marshall delivered the closing prayer for the meeting which adjourned at 2:35pm.

