



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

Annual General Meeting of the Membership
Kouchibouguac, NB

Meeting and Supper will take place at:

L'Ancrage Bed & Breakfast

10617 Rue Principale, Saint-Louis de Kent, NB E4X 1G1

26th and 27th of June 2015

AGM Minutes

Opening Remarks, Welcome & Introductions: President Rémi Donelle

President's Message: Remi

- Remi has been the chair since 2010. He gave everyone an update on the coalition over this time. There have been a few rough periods over this time, with not having an executive director but this has changed since hiring Angela and projects are funding are flowing back into the Coalition. Remi will be stepping down as chair as he has several other commitments and a new baby girl to look after. The next AGM of the coalition is scheduled to be in Quebec (Restigouche?) or PEI. Over the next two years we will be revisiting how the coalition is organized re management committee and steering committee. It may make more sense to have more project-orientated committees. Remi also mentioned the Aster Cooperative that he is working on at the Shediac Bay Watershed Association.

Round table introductions

- Monica Boudreau (DFO)
- Simon Courtenay (CWN)
- Marc Skinner (Stantec)
- Remi Donelle (Shediac Bay)
- Annie Johnson (UNIR)
- Brigitte Leblon (UNB)
- Anita Doucet (Kouchibouguac)
- Sam Gallant (Kouchibouguac)
- Darlene Alward (South Eastern Anglers Assoc)
- Alice Power (Friends of the Pugwash Estuary)
- Mike Power (Friends of the Pugwash Estuary)
- Armand Laraque (UNB)

Approval of Agenda

- Motion to adopt the agenda as written moved by Remi, seconded by Brigitte. All in favor.

Approval of meeting minutes from last year and items arising from the minutes

- Fix the spelling of Brigitte's name as it appears the first time in the minutes.
- Motion to adopt the minutes moved by Brigitte, seconded by Alice. All in favor.

2015-2016 Projects:

Atlantic Eelgrass Monitoring Consortium

- Approved for funding through Environment Canada (AEI) \$200,000
- SeagrassNet training will be taking place in NFLD and NS July 13-19th.
- Remote sending meeting coming up.
- Waiting to hear back from the CERC in Aquatic Epidemiology proposal to look at wasting disease (with Dr. Maya Groner, AVC).
- Alice- The Nature Conservancy of Canada has been studying eelgrass in the Pugwash Estuary
- Brigitte- need to apply for funding through the Environmental Trust Fund this fall.

Community Aquatic Monitoring Program

- Monica: DO probes, will have to contact oceans group re DO probes that were supposed to be placed this year.

CAMP data analysis- 12 years of data - Kyle Kynish analyzed, Simon meeting Kyle re his work on PEI next week. A new graduate student will be starting in Sept to carry on the analysis. Also, a Phd student in Ontario is using the CAMP data from NB looking at functional groups, trophic groups, and is presenting a poster on a conference in Oregon next month. Simon will send this poster around. UPEI Professor Pedro Quijon also wants to look at database.

Brigitte- MSc of Environmental Management at UNB- she may have a student. Her and Simon will discuss as he still has adjunct status at UNB.

Brigitte- suggested that high schools be involved in CAMP. A peer reviewed paper with high school students can be a good project in certain citizen science situations.

Simon- in addition to CAMP- lots of learning via community based monitoring and citizen science. Perhaps it would be a good idea to take the extra day and get each provincial camp coordinator to do an educational school day in June.

Marc- Regarding open access is may be a good idea to start a challenge to analyse data set with a ~\$1000 prize and see who bites. Ecolog. See what we can do. Copyright for publication is the only issue with DFO.

Marie Helene- was working on a report card for estuaries with Geostatistical analysis being done by grad student. It is important that whoever is working with the data understand the background of the project. You would have to have this there somewhere in metadata: comprehensive description of the dat.

AZCISC Data Project

- Student hired for the summer to locate and add data sets to OBIS.
- Supervised by Angela, working with Mary Kennedy (retired DFO).

ECW Estuary Health Project

- \$23,000 funding to create an estuarine report card
- Angela completing the field work with Taylor (our PEI CAMP Coordinator).
- Orwell Bay Estuary is the study site (many closures to the shellfishery here over the years due to E.coli)
- Brigitte: ECW contracts out with Washington DC for remote sensing info- need a geomatics person. Could sell remote sensing to them? Angela will discuss with their ED.

Brigitte- Canada Summer jobs student approval. Angela found a placement with the Nashwaak Watershed group with the assistance of the Conservation Council for NB.

NorST-EMP

Angela and Simon discussed the larger role that the Coalition will play in the future of the NorSt-EMP. The Coalition will assist in facilitating communication and meetings. The node has been given an extension until March 2016 but a meeting should be held in November or December or in the spring to review projects and discuss how the information will be presented to government.

Financial Report & Future Project Funding : approval of auditors, bank signatories

Marc- Need to look at more non-federal government funding. Need to take into account money for overhead. ROI and leveraging opportunities use Angela's professional project management skills and folks will come to us with contracts. Act as a liaison between industry and academia. Contracts with universities to run programs and meetings, etc.

RFCPP, Env. Trust Fund, etc - lots of potential projects here.

Angela reviewed the financial statements prepared by Benoit, McGraw & Paulin.

Brigitte put forward a motion to adopt the financial report as presented, seconded by Monica. All in favor, so moved.

Nomination and election of Management Committee Officers and Members (2 year terms)

President- Remi is stepping down. Alice nominated Brigitte, asked for any more nominations from the floor three times. None. Brigitte is the new president by acclamation.

Vice President- Remi nominated Marc Skinner. Marc accepted the position and also offered to chair the eelgrass committee. No other nominations from the floor. Marc is the new VP by acclamation.

Secretary- Annie is on for another year as secretary.

Treasurer-Anita was nominated by Brigitte for the role of Treasurer. Seconded by Remi. No other nominations from the floor. Anita is the new treasurer by acclamation.

Counsellor NGO NS- Alice is stepping down. Need someone from Quebec on the board. Open position.

Public at large, NB- Brigitte is stepping down. Open position.

Counsellor NGO NB- Sam Gallant, nominated by Remi. Seconded by Anita. All in favor. So moved.

Project based committees are good, need to make sure we have involvement from all sectors.

Official motion to invite the steering committee to a meeting to discuss positions for the management committee and change the steering committee to a project –based committee. Fall steering committee meeting (project-based groups), AGM in the spring.

Roy Parker- Pictou, NS- former Env. Canada employee- would be a good candidate for the board.

Suggestion from Brigitte- Webinar- use webex access to our advantage- every two months- update everyone via webinar/increase engagement.

Next AGA

PEI (good combination with wrap up of NorSt-EMP and ACCESS Conference)

Quebec (Maggies or Gaspé or Restigouche area preferred). - Stephen Boothe a contact, eelgrass and salmon here. Need to start charging a fee for AGMs. Businesses demonstrating product with booth fees. Hawskins, etc.

Quebec- add members, contact Stephen Boothe.

Municipal NB-

Mike van den Heuvel

Migmaq conservation group – Annie will send details.

St. John River Group.

Mike Coffin- PEI Academic.

Remi proposed a motion that we remove David from signatory list at bank, Armand seconded. None opposed. So moved.

Anita proposes a Motion to stay as 3 signatories – Angela, Remi, and Anita, seconded by Marc. All in favor none opposed.

Roundtable

PEI is proposed as a meeting place for ACCESS next year- Marc proposes that we have our AGM on PEI next year around the same time (second week of May). Hawskins is there every year in terms of booths.

Dasco, UPEI Climate Change Lab. We could quarterback this for ACEESS.

Meeting Adjournment – Brigitte proposes that we adjourn, Annie seconds, meeting adjourned at 9:15 am