

YUKON SALMON SUB-COMMITTEE SUMMER MEETING
August 10, 2020
MINUTES
YFWMB Boardroom

DAY 1: Monday, August 10, 2020

PRESENT: Al von Finster – Chair (VGG Nominee), Harvey Jessup – YSSC Member (Federal Nominee), Stanley Njootli Sr. – YSSC Member (VGG Nominee), Carl Sidney – Vice-Chair (YFWMB Appointee), Tim Gerberding – YSSC (Federal Nominee), Jason Jim – 2nd Vice Chair (CAFN Nominee)

REGRETS: Roger Alfred – YSSC Member (CYFN Appointee), Ed Long – YSSC Member (CAFN Nominee), Michelle Dawson-Beattie – YSSC Member (YFWMB Appointee)

SUPPORT: Elizabeth MacDonald (Executive Director)

OPENING PRAYER — Carl Sidney

CALL TO ORDER AND AGENDA REVIEW/APPROVAL

Al von Finster asked for additions.

- Correspondence issues will be discussed.

Motion 1 – YSSC accept the August 10, 2020 agenda as amended.

Moved by: Carl Sidney

Seconded by: Harvey Jessup

Passed by: Consensus

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES & SUMMARY MINUTES

- February 26 and 27
 - Members agreed that minutes will be short summary minutes including vital information, motions, and action items only. Recordings of the meetings will be stored for seven years. An external hard drive will be purchased as required.
- June 2, 2020
- July 31, 2020
 - Approval of the July 31, 2020 minutes will be tabled to the next meeting.

Motion 2 – YSSC accept the February 26 & 27 minutes and June 2, 2020 minutes as presented.

Moved by: Carl Sidney

Seconded by: Harvey Jessup

Passed by: Consensus

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL REVIEW

Budget

- Current Budget Status (2020-2021) — Elizabeth reviewed the summary budget.
 - Correspondence regarding carryover — A discussion with the minister is required. A response letter should be sent.
 - Honoraria — Honoraria should not be constrained for unanticipated events affecting meeting duration. This could be addressed by operating procedures.
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CORRESPONDENCE & NEWS

Members discussed the following correspondence:

- Fish and Game Association — A response was sent indicating the subcommittee is not in a position to review the Fish and Wildlife Management Board. Elizabeth reviewed the correspondence.
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MINISTER RECOMMENDATIONS

Al Von Finster provided a brief overview.

- Elizabeth McDonald shared CIRNAC's email reply to the Yukon River Panel letter to the minister regarding honoraria increase. The response indicated that DFO was the correct contact. DFO was copied on the response. Members discussed a further response.
- Long-term funding for YSSC — According to the agreement, the Sub-committee can carry over any amount annually, but must have a zero balance by the end date of the Contribution Agreement, which differs from the Implementation Review recommendation.
- The YSSC review by DFO is postponed until the fall. That would be a good opportunity to have a conversation about Contributions Agreements and funding.

ACTION ITEM 1 — Tim to draft letter RE YRP Honoraria rates stating not solely DFO's responsibility to CIRNA Minister CC DFO & IRS Ministers, finalize at next meeting

ACTION ITEM 2 — Respond to Minister regarding letter saying there is no 15 percent carryover between contribution agreements and finalize the letter at the next meeting

ACTION ITEM 3 — Draft a letter to all Parties requesting a funding increase as their recommendations were accepted and finalize the letter at the next meeting

- Committee members will further discuss the letters at the October meeting. Members will be invited to participate in drafting the letters. Harvey Jessup will no longer be a Member of the Subcommittee in October. He volunteered to review and assist.

ACTION ITEM 4 — Host a YSSC meeting October 14 to 17, 2020.

YSSC REPORT CARD – ACTION ITEMS FROM THE LAST MEETING

Elizabeth McDonald reviewed the report card. There has been limited response from the Minister on correspondence since December 2019.

The following items are still outstanding:

- Letter to parties requesting direction to resolve the confidentiality clause 16.8 and conflicting opinions. The letter will be sent to all Yukon First Nations and CYFN.
 - Harvey Jessup contacted Jim Bishop regarding the confidentiality issue in 2019. He was too busy to have a full discussion, but he did say it was clear under 16.8 of the UFA. Harvey also provided background and an overview of how the conflicting opinions issue arose from meetings with Yukon First Nation Lands and Resources directors.
 - Currently the Sub-Committee provides First Nations the “What we heard” document. The recommendations come out of that document. The Sub-Committee will continue this practice.
- Al von Finster will draft a letter indicating the Sub-Committee considers it appropriate for the Yukon to remain in the Pacific region given the strong cultural and scientific support for salmon management, management of fish in Yukon and transboundary rivers, and the Pacific Salmon Treaty. Elizabeth will circulate the letter once it is drafted.

ACTION ITEM 5 — Al will draft a letter to not include Yukon in the Arctic Region (website does include Yukon).

- Letter to RDG requesting a seat on the Transboundary Panel
- Meet with Larry Bagnell and Pat Duncan regarding the Arctic region as follow-up to the letter

- Yukon River Salmon Summit
- Request that Jeska from DFO provide a presentation on DFO's new habitat section, including a summary of salmon habitat, at the October meeting. The Sub-Committee will schedule half a day (morning or afternoon). This should also include the Yukon Mineral Development Strategy which may significantly impact salmon habitat.
- Al von Finster will draft a submission to the Yukon Mineral Development Strategy including overarching issues by Thursday, August 13, 2020 and will provide it to Elizabeth to circulate to Members for comment. Al von Finster will then incorporate comments into a letter. Yukon Mineral Development Strategy public engagement ends on August 31, 2020.

ACTION ITEM 6 — Al will draft a letter to Mineral Development Strategy asking for an extension to look at their submissions.

- CYFN's traditional knowledge workshop has been postponed. Carl Sidney attended an Assembly of First Nations Traditional Knowledge meeting. Carl can contact AFN about their protocol. The Traditional Knowledge Working Group activities will resume.

ACTION ITEM 7 — Re-start the TK work as it could be a considerable time before we can meet in person

YUKON RIVER FIRST NATION FISHERY RECOMMENDATION

Elizabeth McDonald shared the boarder escapement numbers and daily counts. Members discussed next steps.

- Members discussed and agreed to draft a follow-up letter regarding recent counts and the recommendation to stop fishing Chinook salmon in the Yukon River and its tributaries. It is appropriate for the Sub-Committee to write the letter and to copy DFO. The letter will be sent at the end of the day or tomorrow morning. It will be included in the bi-weekly update.

ACTION ITEM 8 — Letter recommending FNs stop fishing Chinook on the Yukon River and tributaries to be sent today or tomorrow. Follow up with a Press Release.

POTENTIAL RESTORATION ENHANCEMENT SUBMISSIONS FOR 2021

Elizabeth McDonald introduced Restoration Enhancement project submissions, due October 1, 2020, including:

- **CURRENT PROJECT:** Chum food fishery angling project — Elizabeth wasn't sure this project could be completed given the COVID-19 restrictions. If necessary, the Sub-Committee can request an extension to host it next year.
- Salmon Summit Meeting, submit a proposal to plan a Salmon Summit Meeting in 2022.
- Educational Exchange proposal to take Canadians to Alaska was discussed. This falls under the Yukon River Panel. As panel members, the Sub-Committee can talk to the bilateral panel and shape the exchange, but the Sub-Committee is not the appropriate body to submit the application. It should be the Communications Subcommittee.

ACTION ITEM 9 — Email Communication Subcommittee Co-Chairs & CC Tom that YSSC won't submit Educational Exchange proposal as it is a YRP project but will still participate at the discretion of the Communication Subcommittee.

- Salmon Summit 2022 — The 2020 funding proposal will cover the planning and development of the Salmon Summit for 2022. The 2021 proposal will cover coordination of the 2022 event.

ACTION ITEM 10 — Submit RE proposal to plan a Salmon Summit in 2022.

ABORIGINAL AQUATIC RESOURCE AND OCEANS MANAGEMENT (AAROM) UPDATE

Dennis Zimmerman joined the meeting to provide a brief overview and update as the CYFN contractor. A formal working group will be established in the fall. Projects vary and may focus on: water quality, habitat, effluence, recreational fishing, assessment projects, restoration, and data aggregation and utilization. Typically, the AAROM is used to support hiring an executive director, senior biologist, administrative functions such as finance and HR and other resource people as required. They have sent out questionnaires to FNs to determine FN support, where AAROM should be housed, the governance structure, the function and focus of AAROM, and what information FNs would need to sign on. Right now, Dennis is working on identifying the priorities of the Yukon First Nations.

Dennis will send Elizabeth a link to a website that showcases other Indigenous consortiums.

IN-CAMERA DISCUSSION

The meeting went in camera. No minutes were recorded.

ACTION ITEM 11 — Card of condolence for Pete Hagen

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