

HERITAGE STEERING COMMITTEE

January 9, 2024

Cariboo Regional District Boardroom & Teleconference

Present: Committee Chair John Massier (CRD Director Area C), Committee Vice-Chair Betty Anderson (CRD Director Area K), Brent Rutherford, George Atamanenko, Kathie Vilkas (CRD Regional Economic Development Officer), Nigel Whitehead (CRD Staff Liaison)

VIA Teleconference: Greg Atherton

Regrets: Mayor Paull (City of Quesnel), Jim Gibson, Marilyn Buyar, Elizabeth Hunter

1. Meeting called to order: 10:10 AM by Committee Chair John Massier
2. Agenda adopted as presented. Moved: B. Rutherford; Second: B. Anderson; Carried.
3. Approval of meeting minutes from November 7, 2023. Moved: B. Anderson; Second: G. Atamanenko; Carried.
4. Delegation: James Evans, General Manager Economic Development, Yunešit'in Government.
 - a. J. Evans provided an overview of Yenesit'in and greater Tsilqot'in activities related to economic development and cultural tourism.
 - b. The committee engaged in a discussion regarding the importance of indigenous representation of heritage and cultural heritage and the need to work together to recognize all history throughout the region.
5. Review of 2024 Business Plan
 - a. N. Whitehead provided an overview of the proposed 2024 Business Plan.
 - b. Committee discussed future plans for the committee and utilization of the accumulated operating surplus.
 - i. G. Atamanenko recapped the history of the committee. Noted that since inception and original list of SoS's only two have been added in the past 19 years of the committee. Urged the committee to move forward. Cited example of District of Saanich heritage revitalization grant. Discussion ensued around balancing the funds and priorities. Not a significant amount of funding to use for all committee priorities. Committee will have more in-depth discussion and make a decision on operating surplus in 2024.
 - ii. Committee discussed the 150 Mile House Courthouse. Recognition that property is challenged with no access. G. Atamanenko explained the original intent was to develop a small heritage site. There may be opportunity to move the structure to the proposed City heritage site, although movement on the City site seems to have stalled out.
 - c. Committee resolved to accept the 2024 Business Plan as presented. Moved: B. Rutherford; Second: B. Anderson; Carried.
6. Statement of Significance (SoS) discussion.
 - a. Committee discussed draft SoS for Big Lake Heritage site and agreed that it was ready for submission.
 - b. Committee resolved that the draft Statement of Significance for the Big Lake Heritage Site be forwarded to the CRD Board of Directors for consideration and recommendation of submission to the BC Heritage Branch. Moved: B. Rutherford; Seconded: B. Anderson; Carried.

7. Regional Heritage Network Update
 - a. Deferred until E. Hunter returns.

8. Action Tracking Updates & Discussion
 - a. G. Atamanenko will attempt again to contact Mayor Rathor.
 - b. K. Vilkas confirmed the City of Williams Lake Heritage Committee folded a number of years ago.
 - c. Committee discussed the loss of heritage structures over time. Discussed bringing awareness and a concept of a competition to nominate future SoS locations. Committee agreed that an UpFront newsletter article could explore nominations for future SoS locations.

9. Roundtable:
 - a. Committee discussed importance and sensitivity of Indigenous heritage sites.
 - b. J. Evans/K.Vilkas/N.Whitehead will connect with Shane Doddridge of TNG re: Heritage work and presentation to committee.
 - c. B. Rutherford discussed the progress of the NStQ Cultural Heritage Centre at 108 Mile Ranch. He will invite Graham Leslie to a future committee meeting to provide an update.
 - d. B. Anderson discussed the importance of Farwell Canyon to both Indigenous and non-Indigenous residents, and the possibility of this committee recognizing such importance.
 - e. J. Evans provided an update on the redevelopment plans for Lee's Corner and the potential for heritage recognition.

10. Next Meeting.
 - a. Next Meeting: February 27, 2024; 10:00 AM: CRD Boardroom and via teleconference.

11. Adjournment: Moved: J. Massier; Seconded: B. Anderson; Carried
 - a. Adjourned 11:30 AM

Action Tracking		
Member	Meeting	Action
J. Massier	Jan 17/23	Photos of Beaver Pass House to committee after snowmelt/flooding
J. Massier	Jun 20/23	Contact Chief Sellars re: Committee representation
N. Whitehead	Jun 20/23	Contact Xat'sull First Nation and Sugarcane Archeology re: Committee presentation
K. Vilkas	Jun 20/23	Contact Beth Veenkamp at the City of Williams Lake re: First Nation Relation Committee
G. Atamanenko	June 20/23	Call WL Mayor Rathor, discuss bringing back city's Heritage Committee
N. Whitehead	Jan 9/24	Final edit on Big Lake SoS and prepare for Board Meeting
N. Whitehead	Jan 9/24	UpFront article asking for SoS site nominations.
N. Whitehead	Jan 9/24	Connect with S. Doddridge and invite to committee
B. Rutherford	Jan 9/24	Invite G. Leslie to provide update on NStQ Cultural Heritage Centre