

# Summary of Meeting Horsefly River Roundtable Draft as at 21 Sept 2007

**Date:** 20 Sept 2007

**Time:** 7:00 to 9:10pm

**Present:** Linda Bartsch, Bill Webb, Mike Lloyd, Sue Hemphill, Barry Booth, Rick Davies, Bob Gardner, Bruce MacLeod, Judy Hillaby, Cecil Morhart, Wilf & Marlene Sikorra, Mike Simpson

## 1. Community input for a hands-on project

Bill Webb provided additional details about the **pedestrian bridge** across the river. He does not yet have support of the Board of Trade (HDBT), but will be meeting with them. He will be meeting with engineer Robin Zirnhelt in October. Landowner Carol Funk has agreed in principle to the project. Constraints are the cost of a structure, and the floodplain of the river and location. There was much discussion about

The roundtable agreed to support the idea of a safe walkway across the river.

**ACTION #1:** **Linda** will submit a letter of interest for federal funding by the 14 Oct 2007 deadline for funds to do the entire bridge project, starting with a feasibility study, **Sue** will provide Linda the details required, and **Judy** will provide a photo that emphasizes safety.

**ACTION #2:** **Bill** will do the following before the next meeting:

- Contact Robin Zirnhelt, local bridge engineer, for a conceptual design, cost, and potential locations
- Present this idea to the Horsefly Board of Trade

Bruce MacLeod presented the idea of creating access to Harper's Lake using a **boardwalk**. This would serve as a nature trail, and educational opportunity for kids, and a tourist attraction. Constraints are the need for an easement to allow universal access, liability insurance.

Sue presented the idea improving and caring for the **campground**, installing a proper toilet, having a **caretaker** during summer months, and staffing/supporting the tourism centre. Constraints are DFO ownership of the land.

Cecil presented the idea of improving the safety and impacts of **river recreation** such as tubing, rafting, kayaking, and canoeing. Access points for recreationists on the 100 road need to be improved to ensure their safety. Education regarding river hazards, impacts of pollution, and other topics is needed.

The roundtable agreed that these last 3 ideas are all integrated, and fit together under the theme of **improving visitor experiences** which also benefit residents. The roundtable agreed to support all of them.

## **2. Funding/logistics related to hands-on project**

This will be assigned to the coordinator, when hired.

## **3. Funding confirmed**

Maureen has secured \$3000 from Learning Initiatives for Rural and Northern BC, to fund an event to build capacity in the HRR. Maureen and Linda have secured \$40 000 from Pacific Salmon Foundation, Fraser Salmon and Watershed Programs, to do a watershed-based fisheries sustainability plan by the end of March 2008.

## **4. Next steps/logistics in response to funding received**

Draft job descriptions were discussed and reviewed, and Linda will make changes to them from the comments received. Both positions will be contract, and the contractors will provide their own WCB coverage, computer, vehicle, office space, etc. Job descriptions were approved, and it was agreed to advertise throughout the Cariboo ASAP with a deadline for resumes by early October.

The roundtable agreed that it needs to incorporate as a society, as the HDBT is only administrating our funds on an interim basis. Incorporation will be done by the coordinator, when hired. There was discussion about merging the salmon festival with the HRR, but no agreement – it will be discussed at a future meeting.

**ACTION #3:** Linda will get edits to **Maureen**, who will advertise the positions.

**ACTION #4:** A team of **Barry, Cecil, Linda, Maureen**, with support from **Judy** will review resumes and do interviews.

**ACTION #5:** **Sue** will talk to other past salmon festival organizers to see if there is any concern about merging it with the HRR.

## **5. Old Business**

Mike Lloyd presented a literature review of past research on the Horsefly.

**ACTION #5:** Mauro, Geoff and Hugh or Ryan need to summarize past research.

## **6. Other business**

Sue raised the idea of a community forest, should the community pursue one? Mike Lloyd suggested there are no more government opportunities for them. A presentation from the Likely/Xats'ull Community Forest would be welcome later in 2008.

There was much uncertainty about what exactly Mt. Polley is trying to achieve with their application for a permit to dump effluent in Hazeltine Creek. The roundtable agreed that Mike Simpson will ask them to present to the entire community in the near future, outside of a HRR meeting.

**ACTION #8:** **Mike Simpson** will contact Ron Martel of Mt. Polley to present to the entire community.

## 7. Speaker schedule

The following are the speakers and topics lined up for 2007/08:

Date	Speaker	Topic
Oct 17*	Bob Godfrey	Cattlemens'
Nov 15	Katherine VanSpall and/or King Campbell	Ducks Unlimited
Dec 20	Tony Fiala and Linda Sheffield, FrontCounterBC	Land exchanges
Jan 17	Pat Teti, Ministry of Forests and Range	Hydrology
Feb 21	Rob Dolighan, MOE	Freshwater fisheries mgmt
March 20	Keri Benner, DFO	Salmon stock assessments
April 17		
May 15		
June 19		

\*tentative – have to check with Bob

**Next meeting** – \*tentatively Wednesday 17 Oct 2007\*, to be confirmed!

It was agreed that due to a public meeting by the Pacific Fisheries Resource Conservation Council in Williams Lake the same night as our next scheduled meeting, 18 Oct 2007, that we would have our next meeting on the 17<sup>th</sup> (tentatively), provided our guest speaker Bob Godfrey is able to attend on the 17<sup>th</sup>.