

Nanaimo River Watershed Roundtable

TimberWest Office, Port Place Mall, 201-648 Terminal Avenue

November 26th, 2014 1:00 pm

MEETING NOTES

In Attendance: Gail Adrienne (NALT staff), David Bramley (Harmac), Colin Brown (VIU), Paul Chapman (NALT staff), Bob Colclough (LSA), Deryck Cowling (NALT), Molly Hudson (TimberWest), Matt Kellow (VIU Recreation), Bob Kissinger (IWFF), Joe Materi (Ursus Env.), Emily Matheson (Canada World Youth observer), Julie Pisani (RDN), Bill Sims (CoN), Marjorie Stewart (community/meeting facilitator), Nicolette Watson (DFO) and Jeni Wile (Canada World Youth observer)

Special Presentation Coal Tenure– Kim Stone, Senior Advisor, Coal Titles, Mineral Titles Branch (by Phone)

- Kim explained the process of vetting an application for Coal Tenure. This only applies to Crown-held coal rights, if the coal rights are not Crown-held then the application is closed.
- The Skyland Resources application for Coal Tenure is currently being assessed to see if there any Crown-held coal tenures in the areas covered by the application.
- The E&N Land Grant adds a layer of complexity as the original subsurface rights have been disposed of in a variety of ways to various entities. Kim believes it is most likely that the Skyland Tenure applications in the watershed do not contain crown-held coal.
- Free-hold coal rights can be negotiated for outside of the Coal Tenure application process. Any coal production beyond exploratory activities, either as Crown or Free-hold requires a Notice of Work application and approval along with an Environmental Impact Assessment and other regulatory hurdles.
- During the processes for applications for Tenure or Notice of Work, the Mineral Titles Branch contacts local First Nations, City and Regional Governments and landowners to assess the impacts of the proposal. The opportunity for public input is during City and Regional government Council/Board meetings when the Agenda deals with the application(s).
- The South Nanaimo River watershed is covered by a no registrations reserve for mineral and placer rights and the Mineral Titles Branch is going to request a coal reserve be placed over the same area.

ACTION: Paul to circulate Coal Tenure Application map to NRWR participants

1) Approval of Agenda – approved by consensus

2) Review of Notes from Last Meeting, September 10th, 2014 – approved by consensus

3) Business Arising from Notes

-Committee Updates:

- **Communications Committee – Bob Colclough**
 - Bob has been working with V3 Media on the website: nanaimoriverwatershed.com
 - Content has been furnished by copying from NRWR documents.
 - Participants are encouraged to share documents and photos for the website.
 - A list of NRWR participant contacts was generated for the website.

ACTION: Bob will look into having a traffic counter installed

- **Budget Committee – Gail Adrienne**

- Gail circulated a Draft Financial Report at the meeting and will present a Year-end report at the next meeting of the Roundtable.

- As of November 24th, the combined allocated and unallocated funds in the account equal \$6,244.

ACTION: Gail will produce Year-end Financial Report for March 4th meeting

- **Education and Awareness Committee – Deryck Cowling**

- Deryck introduced the CWY observers, Emily Matheson and Jeni Wile, to the Roundtable.

- Attendance on the Roundtable-sponsored tours and at the Rivers Day celebration in Bowen Park were better this year, due in part to accommodating the schedule of the watershed tour (Friday), in part to great weather, and also better promotion. A video from Shaw TV's Go Island! was viewed by the Roundtable.

- The tours generated a profit of \$1,155

- Recommendations for next year include expanding more tours to weekdays, improving promotion of the events and the NRWR, and focusing on an activity.

- All present expressed thanks to Deryck and the committee for coordinating the tours and working with the City of Nanaimo to make this event a growing success.

-School District 68

ACTION: Paul to draft and circulate to the NRWR a letter introducing the Roundtable to School District 68.

-NALT Acquisition update – Gail Adrienne

- A draft proposal is being finalized by NALT prior to presentation to Couverdon.

4) New Business

-A Project for the Roundtable

- There was general discussion about the Roundtable undertaking a project.

- Some suggestions included a general expression of support for Morden Mines preservation with a related action/donation; working with the hatchery; developing and carrying out a fish habitat enhancement project as per Dave Clough's recommendations; asking the various NRWR committees to generate projects.

ACTION: Project ideas will be brought to the next meeting

5) Next Meeting – March 4th, 2015 at Harmac

6) Adjournment at 2:20