

**CLAYOQUOT BIOSPHERE TRUST  
Culture Committee**

**Wednesday, February 07, 2007  
6pm – 9pm  
Toquaht Band Office, Ucluelet**

Meeting Summary and Next Steps

Present: Marissa Bennett, Ursula Banke, Anne Morgan, Nadine Crookes, Richard Lucas, Tim Paul, Gail Johnson, Gary Johnsen

Staff: David Fraser, Rebecca Vines, Jean Wylie

1. Dinner 6:00 – 6:30

2. Approve agenda

David welcomed the group and began by thanking the members for their commitment. There were two major focuses for this meeting – an update of all of the goings on at the CBT and consideration of the applications for discretionary spending. David noted the success of the call for proposals and the opportunity that the committee now has to have more strategic discussions.

3. Project Funding Update

The committee has \$6500 remaining from the 2006 discretionary spending budget, as well as a new allocation of \$10,000 for this year, plus a renewed \$5,000 for logistical support. David updated the group on the 2006 Call for Proposals and noted that all proponents have received their funds and their projects are underway, with the exception of the Wolf Study.

4. 2007 – 2009 Business Plan

David introduced the newly approved business plan, which has seven focus areas. He spoke to the need for the CBT to define clear outcomes, which will be a focus of the coming year. David summarized the seven key priorities that including fund development, enhancing the committee process, promotion of the Biosphere Reserve, the Indicator Monitoring program, improving outreach (i.e the Call for Proposals and event sponsorship), recruiting a new Executive Director and national and international networking. The Business Plan is supported by the budget, which includes \$25,000 towards promotion of the Biosphere Reserve and a significant budget for research and indicator monitoring. For 2007 project funding, the Board has already committed some funds through the multi-year funding and will commit a further \$44,000 to the funding call this year. While the trust fund is very healthy, the Board is remaining conservative over the next year.

5. Recruitment Strategy

One of the pieces of feedback that we heard at the committee feedback meeting was the need to do a better job of connecting with the First Nations communities. While the membership of this committee has been fairly constant, David is committed to putting an announcement in the newspapers to invite new members. It is likely that we could increase participation through interaction – for example, we could showcase the cultural projects and programs approved to date in Ahousaht. How can we take the committee to the next level in connecting with communities? Richard suggested that we do a lot of work to involve people, especially with those people who were included at the beginning. Richard has noted that FN

participation has really dropped off. We have to be realistic about the commitment people make in order to participate and we need to do our best to communicate. Everyone is agreed to increasing the connection with the remote communities and will aim to hold a meeting in Ahousaht to continue this conversation. Ursula recommended having a liaison person for the communities, who could be the contact person. This would help to capture the good ideas that exist, create employment, show relevance, and have working representation in the communities. While the Board cannot receive an honorarium because they are restricted by the Canada Fund Agreement, Gary suggested that the group consider using the committee's logistical support funds to reimburse the committee volunteers. The Board also needs to be held up to the task of communicating with their representative communities. David will be bringing these thoughts forward at the upcoming board meeting in Ahousaht. Nadine noted that it is important to be creative at all opportunities. She suggested creating an opportunity for community members and the committees to jointly orient to one and other, which is more descriptive and less business oriented. Gary recognized that this is not a new problem, and has been addressed to some extent by the formation of the committees. The committee members also have a role as representatives. David described the process that we are undertaking to plan our upcoming board meeting in Ahousaht, and Nadine suggested tempering expectations, as we are inviting people to a board/bored meeting – we need to do more to exchange information, in the form of a cultural exchange. Jean noted the importance of following protocol when going out into the communities.

## 6. Discretionary Funding Requests

Tim and Richard attended the meeting to speak to the proposal that Francis Frank has submitted from the Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council. Richard has experience creating a documentary film (New Moon), which has been very widely viewed in Europe and the United States. Tim is now developing a new project and is looking for seed money, to assist in the search for funding from the National Film Board, etc. Tim has a connection with nature and feels a passion towards informing people and passing on his respect. Tim will follow his family's cultural teachings to say what needs to be said about nature. We need to reeducate ourselves to flourish in nature, rather than be at odds with it. Ursula asked how we can turn these visionary thoughts into a form that we can approve, such as a proposal. How big of a seed are you looking for? Tim needs to know what the committee requires and then will be able to work towards that. David suggested that any involvement from the committee will likely be a staged approach. David can sit down with Tim and Richard to work out some of the details, and put it into a format that the committee can look at. David may also be able to assist in the search for other funding.

The Tonquin application is very thorough and is easily supported by the committee. The committee agreed to support the project to the requested \$1363. There were many questions regarding the request from the TinWis to support the LeLaLa Dancers. Is this cross cultural or a tourism promotion? Who are the participants? Are they local people – are they non-native people? What non-profit or group are they working with? Tla-o-qui-aht? Committee members suggested joining forces with another festival to increase publicity. The committee would like to see cost sharing with the TinWis in order to reduce the food costs. The budget also includes expenses for George's time, which could be donated by the TinWis. Richard will be in touch with the facilitator to ask some of these questions as well.

The committee also considered two applications for funding from writers to publish books focusing on the west coast. Both are individuals that are representing the project, not a group. The committee agreed that they would be setting a precedent by funding an individual to write and suggested that is the purpose of the Canada Council granting program. How much is from the First Nations? How does this represent the whole Biosphere, research, education & culture? The committee is uncomfortable with PRAS acting as a conduit for funding and the committee does not want to encourage that sort of arrangement. How are they supporting this application? The committee will support the project in the form of a letter

of support for other funding applications, such as the Canada Council. The second application, from the World Rainforest Network is not clearly enough tied to the committees mandate. Again, they were concerned with setting a precedent. This project includes a lot of support for travel for someone outside of the region. The committee would prefer to see a local organization taking the lead on this. There is also a concern that this project is focused very strictly on conservation, rather than a more balance approach.

In light of receiving this amount of applications for discretionary funding, the committee would like to further develop their criteria to help streamline the process. The group would like to get away from the subjective approach and be able to provide more information to proponents up front.

#### 7. Indicator Monitoring Initiative

As it was late in the evening, Rebecca referred the committee members to the briefing material provided in their packages and suggested that she follow up via email. She invited the committee members to a presentation on February 22.07 by Steve Litke of the Fraser Basin Council on developing a sustainability indicator monitoring strategy.

*8. Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, March 21st, 2007 in Tofino – location to be announced.*