

CLAYOQUOT BIOSPHERE TRUST
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
DRAFT MINUTES

Thursday, September 17, 2020
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
By video conference

Present: Alan McCarthy, Geoff Lyons, Ruth Charleson, Nicky Ling, Naomi Mack, Mike Davis, Hannah Nicholls, Elyse Goatcher-Bergmann, Denise Koshowski, Brian Retzer, Mary Toews

Guests: Bob Prenovost, Tyson Atleo, Eric Delvin,

Staff: Rebecca Hurwitz, Laura Loucks, Brett Freake, Brooke Wood, Colin Robinson,

Nuu-chah-nulth word of the meeting: Alan shared the word *Hiuchkuh* – the name of a type of chiton that Alan learned from his grandmother when they would camp down at the Kwisitis part of Long Beach.

Policy of the meeting: see enclosed UNESCO Periodic Review form.

1. Welcome and Introductions

Geoff called the meeting to order and Alan shared the NCN word of the meeting. Hannah Nicholls, the newly appointed treasurer provided a brief financial update.

2. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of the agenda

Rebecca asked to have Director Updates added to the consent agenda.

- b. Board of Directors meeting minutes June 18, 2020
- c. Board of Directors meeting minutes June 25, 2020
- d. Executive Committee meeting minutes September 3, 2020
- e. Executive Director Report
 - i. Neighbourhood Small Grants report for the year to date
 - ii. Financial reports
 - 1. CBT balance sheet July 31.20
 - 2. CBT income statement July 31.20
 - 3. CBT all funds balance sheet July 31.20
 - 4. CBT all funds income statement July 31.20
 - 5. CBT community endowment funds balance statement July 31.20

6. CBT community endowment funds income statement July 31.20

Motion to approve the consent agenda as amended carried by consensus.

3. Revised 2020 Budgets

Rebecca explained that staff have prepared revised budgets for the operating fund and the West Coast N.E.S.T. fund to reflect spending changes due to COVID as well a number of significant grants received. New funds included various COVID-19 response grants, as well as the DFO Species at Risk grant and a grant focusing on SDGs from the federal SDG Unit. She spoke about the NEST budget and how the NEST has adapted to play a primary role in the SDG grant delivery. Overall, there were significant reductions in costs associated with reduced in-person meetings, travel, and office expenses. She noted that members of the Executive Committee reviewed the statements in detail and recommend the revised budget to the Board.

Motion to approve the revised budgets as enclosed carried by consensus.

4. Education Award Deferral Requests

Staff have received three deferral requests from CBT education award students. The policy allows for a deferral due to medical or compassionate reasons, and staff recommends that the impacts of COVID warrant flexibility on the part of the CBT. Brett Freake, CBT Program Coordinator, updated the board about how CBT education award students are feeling about returning (or not returning) to school.

Motion to approve all education award deferral requests which are a result of COVID impacts carried by consensus.

5. Director Updates

Directors provided brief updates on items that related to CBT.

6. Biosphere Centre

Bob Prenovost, Project Manager, joined the call to present an update as well as review the pro forma financial analysis of various business case options for the Biosphere Centre.

This was an opportunity for the board to receive the recommendation of the Biosphere Centre Development Committee regarding the capital-funding model and to determine the preferred option of four, which Bob outlined in his presentation. The four scenarios included blends of Canada Fund reallocation, federal/provincial infrastructure grants, CBT's contribution to the centre's revenue, and community bonds/mortgages.

The board discussed the options before endorsing the Development Committee's recommendation to pursue the "option three," which involved no Canada Fund reallocation, a large federal/provincial infrastructure grant, a rent-equivalent contribution from CBT, and a community bond/mortgage. The board agreed as a fall-back option, they would also pursue a reallocation from the Canada Fund.

Motion to use scenario three as the preferred option with scenario four as the default, with board workshops and presentations on community funds and capital fund raising carried by consensus.

Rebecca noted that the current CBT office lease with Mamook Development Corporation expires at the end of the calendar year. She hopes to renegotiate the lease with similar terms (allowing for a small increase) and asked the board to authorize her to negotiate the terms of a renewal.

Motion to authorize Rebecca Hurwitz to initiate lease renewal discussions approved by consensus.

7. Coastal Family Resource Coalition

The CBT has been administering (through an ad-hoc committee) and coordinating the Coastal Family Resource Coalition (CFRC) for three years. Brett provided background about the CFRC before he and Brooke presented a summary of the recent CFRC activities. These included:

- Increased numbers of meetings following outbreak of COVID-19
- New community priority focuses including: Food security, mental health, housing, and childcare
- Increased number of regular working group meetings including:
 - Youth Workers, Harm Reduction, West Coast Seniors Services
- Special Projects including the West Coast Children's Resilience Initiative and the biennial Coming Together Forum regional health planning session

Brooke then explained that literacy has been part of the CFRC since 2009 with support from Decoda Literacy Solutions. Dual Language (Nuu-chah-nulth and English) Literacy programs have been active for youth and adult learning opportunities. She noted recent highlights including the 2018 Language Gathering, a 2019 series of grass-roots language projects through Neighbourhood Small Grants, and regular gatherings of a Language Committee throughout. She explained that she feels a NCN person should be in this role and the hope is to have this as a part-time capacity-building role on the CBT team.

Motion to renew the CFRC ad-hoc policy for another two-year term carried by consensus.

Tyson Atleo and Eric Delvin joined the call

8. Periodic Review Update

Rebecca introduced the Periodic Review process before noting the significant announcements regarding old growth conservation in Clayoquot Sound and the important work conducted through the Ahousaht Land Use Vision, other Nations in Clayoquot Sound and the Nature Conservancy.

Tyson introduced his hereditary roles within Ahousaht and at Maaqtusiis Hahoulthee Stewardship Society (MHSS), Chief and Council, and also as the Economic Development Lead for the Nature Conservancy of Canada. Eric Delvin explained that TNC has been working at the invitation of the Clayoquot Sound Nations for 10 years.

Tyson reviewed the MHSS, noting it is directed by the hereditary chiefs in formal relationship with the elected chief and council. It focuses on stewardship of natural resources and related economic development. The goal is to re-empower Ahousaht's traditional government system, building an administration around that body as Ahousaht is managing increasingly large projects, lands, and waters.

TNC was invited by Ahousaht (and Hesquiaht and Tla-o-qui-aht, but Tyson noted that he was speaking only for Ahousaht in this meeting) in 2008-9 to explore possibility of a "Great Bear Rainforest" style agreement to transition timber licenses to protected areas with development managed by Nations. In the Great Bear, there are 27 Nations involved, and development is supported through Coast Opportunity Funds. Tyson explained that in Clayoquot Sound, it has been a long and bumpy road, but progress has been made slowly to vision a future that is not rooted in Crown Tenures. In 2017, an Ahousaht Land Use Vision was announced. The LUV:

- The roots in the planning process date back millennia but most recent processes began in 2012 through rounds of community input and endorsed by Hawiik in 2017
- Areas of territory were described and management intent and objects (allowable and prohibited activities) were delineated for:
 - Taquiihahk – the marine and foreshore area
 - Muuthsik – shoreline
 - Hiis sapat – harvest bays / mouths of watersheds
 - Ma?as – Community development areas; establishing new designations in areas where old village sites were Ahousaht nations came from
 - Laaslaasa uuhwalth hitaqkas – Ahousaht forest management frameworks focusing on second-growth while stewarding old growth
 - Wiklakwiik – Ahousaht cultural and natural areas over existing TFLs promoting conservation and restoration activities

He then overviewed the existing crown tenures TFLs 54 and 57 and Parks designated areas and compared these to a new map delineated to the areas described above.

The current licensee for the TFLs is Mamook and Ahousaht's position since 2017 has been against large-scale logging. They are currently working on the valuation with Coretex Consultants for the carbon and timber of the TFLs, and replacing these with a new framework. They are now looking at what the recent Old Growth Strategic Review announcements do and don't do for the licensee. Ahousaht is actively working with the licensee and ensuring that there is awareness and support among hereditary and elected leadership.

In 2016, TNC conducted a comparative analysis report for the Ahousaht LUV and the existing Provincial Crown tenures. This demonstrated a pathway forward with the province and Ahousaht is hoping to achieve a draft framework agreement (economic development agreement becoming a reconciliation agreement) with BC by December 2020, and the Feds shortly after.

The recent announcements means the province is willing to work with Ahousaht and committed to discussing Ahousaht forest management interests imminently (Tyson noted that the vast majority of the areas referenced in the Old Growth Strategic Review are in Clayoquot Sound/Ahousaht Territory). Ahousaht is supportive of the deferral as it provides space for the discussion – and it opens door for chats with ECCC about the areas discussed in the LUV. The government has shown that this path to title-and-rights approaches is working and the incremental achievement of the LUV is working well.

Eric Delvin then clarified that TNC exists to protect the lands and waters on which all life depends – they've worked at invitation of the First Nations, and bring

private/philanthropy fundraising capacity as well as technical capacity in mapping and GIS. They are hoping to develop a carbon offset project and identifying corporate buyers in advance. They also assist with forestry planning and pursuit of other economic development opportunities.

Rebecca thanked Eric and Tyson and acknowledged the complexity and hard work, and thanked them for sharing with the board, underscoring the importance of a shared understanding of the Ahousaht LUV, TNC's role, and the Old Growth strategy and their interconnections.

Mary explained her involvement is fairly peripheral, but emphasized that the report orders the deferral of old growth harvesting and the number one recommendation is engagement and involvement with First Nation community leaders.

Brian recounted that he chatted with Rebecca and Laura about the periodic review, Biosphere zonation and any changes. The Old Growth Report means that the core protected areas may actually be increasing, as does the Ahousaht LUV. He noted that the announcement is new to most bureaucrats and has resulted in a flurry of activity – there will be a lot of work generated by this – working to integrate the federal plans with plans like the Ahousaht LUV and those of other nations.

Responding to a question from Geoff about how the LUV relates to the treaty process, Tyson clarified that Ahousaht is looking at a different pathway outside treaty for reconciliation, but the values of the treaty process are going to be integrated. He encouraged the group to think of the LUV process like a new iteration of treaty better suited for reconciliation.

Mike asked about the vague definition of old growth, wanted to know if this referred to these age 250+ stands, if there are there spatial parameters around the definition. Mary responded that there are maps and shape files outlining what areas these are referring to, but the definition of old growth is definitely vague and nuanced.

Rebecca emphasized CBT's desire to support the process and also be a bridge between communities to support this process in a good way moving forward.

9. Board Self-Assessment

As per CBT policy, the Board is due to complete a biennial self-assessment and develop an action plan to strengthen the Board's effectiveness. Each director agreed to complete the survey online following the meeting. Staff will collate the results and share with the Executive Committee and Board at their next meetings. The

questionnaire was developed in 2012 and will be modified slightly to reflect COVID and current priorities.

10. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn carried by consensus.

The next CBT Board meeting will be held Thursday, October 29th.