

COALITION POUR LA VIABILITÉ DU SUD DU GOLFE DU SAINT-LAURENT
SOUTHERN GULF OF ST-LAWRENCE COALITION ON SUSTAINABILITY

Steering Committee Meeting #13

Minutes: Miramichi Boardrooms, 6th floor, Moncton, New Brunswick
Date: Saturday Mai 11th, 2002
Time: 9:00 – 3:00pm

Attending members:

Allister Marshall
Anita Vézina
Cindy Crane
David Boyce
Irené Novazcek
Isabelle Hubert
Jocelyne Gauvin
Larry Hildebrand
Liette Vasseur
Marianne Janowick
Michael Butler
Paul Jordan
Stéphanie Hopper

Attending observers :

Claudette LeBlanc
Jean-Paul Vanderlinden

Support :

Mathieu David Vautour, Coordinator

Absent members :

Henry Augustine
Gary Simon
Harry Collins
Éric Giguère
Kyle McKenzie
Claude Rioux



1. **Call to order**
Meeting started at 9:10am
2. **Introductions and opening remarks**
All attending introduced themselves
3. **Presentation of the new Management Committee**
L. Vasseur presented the new Management Committee.
4. **Approval of Agenda**
The agenda was approved as it was presented.
5. **Approval of last meeting Minutes (February 9, 2002)**
Because of technical difficulties (photocopier wouldn't work) this item was skipped and put away for future attention
6. **Review of Action Items (from last meeting)**
Action items are reviewed.
7. **Budget**
 - The budget was presented by L. Vasseur.
 - D. Boyce mentioned that there is only \$7000 left in the bank.
 - It was brought forth by Larry that the budget presented was a very conservative one and more realistic needs had to be taken into account. He assured us that after the end of year report on the agreement that there shouldn't be any problems for funding through Environment Canada.
 - An urgent Management Committee meeting was suggested in order to discuss the budget and the tight funds.

- Larry brought forth a reminder that some of the expenses could be covered in kind by different member organisations.
- (Action item) All working groups must submit a budget by the end of the week.

8. **Strategic plan**

L.Vasseur presented the Strategic Plan and suggested that a reader friendly summarised version be made.

(Action item) Summarise the Strategic Plan to a reader friendly format.

9. **Working group reports**

I. Communications – Paul Jordan

A map of the gulf should be almost ready (similar to the one from the gulf of Maine)

Web site is a priority: interactivity, domain name registration, etc... should be taken care of pretty soon.

The budget consists of the following:

Web page management	\$2000
Finalizing the communication strategy.	\$0
Continue with the E-News.	\$0
Promotional material for the folders. (Letter head, business cards, etc...)	\$2000
Community outreach (Workshops and presentations)	\$3000
Finalizing Fact Sheets (translation)	\$650

- I. Novaczek suggested that the communication group get fact sheets from other groups in the gulf.
- S. Hopper mentioned that translation of official documents could be done by DFO.
- J. Gauvin suggested the group look into ways of reaching people who aren't on email.
- A variety of suggestions were brought forth by the members: Radio, overhead projector, etc...

II. Harmonisation of government policies – Larry Hilderbrand

Larry spoke of the federal/provincial meeting that was organized on the 19h of April.

And presented the work plan.

- Ensure that all 4 provincial jurisdictions in the Southern Gulf are represented by at least one government agency and actively participating on the Coalition's Steering Committee. Continue to expand the number of federal government agencies actively participating and providing support.

- Invite at least one federal or provincial agency to make a presentation on their mandate, activities and areas of potential support to the Coalition's Steering Committee at each of its quarterly meetings.

- Build and maintain a diverse working group comprised of government, non-government and business interests to discuss and identify priority areas of focus for harmonization.

- Ensure that information on government policies, programs and activities relevant to the sustainability agenda of the Coalition, is made readily available on the Coalition's website.

- Encourage and support a focused case study examination of existing levels of cooperation and harmonization in one area of the Southern Gulf. The Baie des Chaleurs, which is shared by the provinces of New Brunswick and Québec, is an

area of responsibility and interest by many different agencies, and has active community programs on both sides of the bay, presents a good opportunity. No funds are required for the Harmonisation of government policies working group.

- III. Habitat – Jocelyne Gauvin**
The first meeting hasn't happened yet. The goals and the work plan remain the items that were suggested at the AGM. A budget should be sent to the coordinator before the end of the week.
- IV. Ecosystem Charter – nobody**
The ecosystem charter working group is now inexistent and the duty of writing an ecosystem charter now falls between the communication and the public environmental education working groups. No funds are required
- V. Oil & Gas – Larry Hildebrand**
L. Hilderbrand and I. Novaczek will continue to send information to the coordinator for it to get put on the web site. No funds are required
- VI. Public Environmental Education – David Boyce**
The first meeting hasn't happened yet. The goals and the work plan remain the items that were suggested at the AGM. A budget should be sent to the coordinator before the end of the week.
- VII. Science & Research – Irené Novaczek**
Focusing on tracking change in the gulf is the priority for this working group and the three items to focus this are: Networking with researchers, Identifying data sources and selecting indicators from already existing ones. J.P. Vanderlinden and L. Vasseur might have post-graduate students to help with research. \$5000 is budgeted for this year allocated to travel expenses and research incentive.
- VIII. Constitution and Policy – Jean-Paul Vanderlinden**
The group will pursue the challenges linked with fiscal autonomy and adapt the constitution or develop policies accordingly. A few definitions might need to be cleared up (member, stakeholder). This working group will only need funds for the ProBono program (\$500). A path was proposed for the incorporation. First off, the CVSGSLinc members would be made out of the SGSLCS steering committee. The CVSGSLinc board will be represented by the 4 non-civil servants from the SGSLCS Management Committee and 3 non-voting civil servants.
- S. Hopper thinks that DFO will need a clearer definition between the Corporation and the Coalition
 - We might have to stick with this present fiscal structure in order to get funding from Environment Canada because they won't accept mid-year changes.
- (Action item) This working group must make out a web content policy.
- 10. Lunch (moved earlier in the agenda and shortened to 30mins)**
- 11. Vacant Seats**
There are still 15 vacant seats. 8 from industry, 4 from municipality, 1 community and 2 province.
- M. Janowicz will look into NB seats
 - I. Novaczek will look into PEI seats
 - Recruiting should be somewhat strategic, no one should be on the SC unless they want to sacrifice time and effort.
 - J.P. Vanderlinden suggested that DFO invite the Maritime Fishers Union
 - M. Janowicz will come up with a contact name for the municipality association.

- (Action item) Coordinator to send a copy of the SC list to all SC members.

12. Presentation by members

- **Jean-Paul Vanderlinden, U. de Moncton, NB**

J.-P. Vanderlinden spoke about the environmental studies program available at U. de Moncton. First referring to the scholastic aspect and then the research aspect. The program has an interdisciplinary focus and is constructed around 4 compulsory courses, 2 elective courses, an internship and a thesis. The main research focus from faculty staff runs around socio-economics, aquaculture, fisheries, property rights, sustainable community development and ocean and coastal zone management. The environmental studies Masters at U. de Moncton contributes to the Coalition's vision by training competent sustainable development practitioners and scientists. It also contributes to the Coalition by enhancing the local knowledge on change and its impacts on the Southern Gulf's sustainability. The Coalition, on the other hand, can contribute to the program by directing dynamic applicants and by providing internships and job opportunities.

- **Mike Butler, ACZISC, NS**

M. Butler presented his own involvement with different groups that contribute to the Coalition. He first spoke of the International Ocean's Institute of Canada and its partnerships and how the IOIC works to encourage sustainability of the oceans. Secondly, M. Butler spoke of the Ocean's Management Research Network, this network functions on three nodes, Traditional Eco-knowledge, Sustainability and Integrity Management. This network is destined to take into account social sciences in ocean research. He distributed some material on the OMRN. Thirdly, M. Butler spoke about another organisation, of which he is particularly proud, the Atlantic Coastal Zone Information Steering Committee, ACZISC. This organisation was established 10 years ago and is popular for its meta-directory. It has organized workshops on coastal mapping and it has active working groups. Its website is pretty extensive and contains much information that can benefit the Coalition. More information sheets were passed around.

13. Others

- M. Janowicz mentioned the environmental leadership award available through the province.
- S. Hopper brought forth the idea that DFO had about a meeting on June 19th preceding the workshop at U. de Moncton. to present the Canadian Ocean Strategy. DFO invites the Coalition to help with this meeting in order to encourage feedback from the public. The Coalition accepts and considers it an opportunity to increase its membership.
- (Action Item) M. Janowicz will be attending meetings early the following week and would like the coordinator to send her fact sheets on the Coalition.
- (Action Item) The Steering Committee would like a coordinator update at each meeting as of August 10th.

14. Next meeting is set for August 10th 2002 in Moncton.

15. Meeting adjourned at 2:15pm