

**Web Summary of Steering Committee Meeting Minutes  
Partnering for Sustainable Resource Management  
CURA SC Meeting**

February 21, 2006  
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
UNBC, room 6-211

**Members Present:**

Principal Investigator (PI)  
Co-Investigator, IP Co-Leader  
UNBC Junior Coordinator, IP student  
TI'azt'en Coordinator, IP Co-Leader  
TI'azt'en Education Stream Leader  
UNBC Education Stream Leader  
UNBC Ecotourism Stream Leader  
UNBC TEK Stream Leader

**Others Present:**

IP Research Associate  
TI'azt'en Research Assistant (IP)

**Absent:**

TI'azt'en TEK Stream Leader  
TI'azt'en Member at Large (vacant)  
TI'azt'en Member at Large

1. Welcome and Opening Prayer: Introductions, prayer
2. Adoption of Agenda: New item - Research protocol
3. Correction and Adoption of December 13, 2005 Minutes
4. Stream Updates

**TEK**

*Place-names Research:* Graduate student is integrating comments from committee on her thesis draft; TI'azt'en review is needed on chapter with Dakelh content. She is currently writing final chapter on curriculum recommendations. PI will ask student to send tapes, Dak'elh content and curriculum to TI'azt'en Coordinator and TI'azt'en Education Stream Leader, and to write an article for CURA newsletter.

*Birch Project:* Once report is reviewed by TI'azt'en TEK leader, an article can be written for the next CURA newsletter, as well as other extension materials such as poster and community presentation. It is expected that the community will be interested in these results, particularly elders. UNBC TEK leader will forward birch report to TI'azt'en Education leader once reviewed.

Potential new TEK graduate student has applied for MNRES program as it allows for social and natural science research which is complimentary to the community and CURA. TEK leaders will discuss research plans once student is accepted.

**Improving Partnerships**

*Measures of JPRF Successes:* IP grad student had produced draft results, which are under review by JPRF staff and participants. She submitted abstracts for

two conferences - Western Division of Canadian Association of Geographers (WDCAG) and the International Symposium on Society and Resource Management.

*Research Ethics:* TI'azt'en Coordinator had been occupied with coordination duties, and is making steady progress through literature collection; she will prepare a short report in later stages.

*JPRF History Project:* Associate researcher (non-CURA funded) is completing interviews on history of JPRF. Archival work has been completed, and a TI'azt'en Research Assistant has been hired to assist with this. A poster will be submitted for the WDCAG.

### Ecotourism

Two potential Ecotourism graduate students have applied to UNBC, and are expected to start in September. Another potential graduate student from Nak'azdli has applied, and UNBC Ecotourism leader has agreed to supervise, although there is not CURA money to support him. The TI'azt'en Coordinator will focus on finding a TI'azt'en Ecotourism leader. UNBC Ecotourism leader and a colleague plan to present in Quebec at an Aboriginal tourism conference in mid-March where they will discuss how to work with universities as partners, using CURA as a model.

### Education

The TI'azt'en Education Centre has been closed until further notice due to budget cutbacks; however TI'azt'en Education leader is interested in continuing as Stream Leader. TI'azt'en Coordinator will meet with Chief and Council to request that TI'azt'en Education leader continue in her position. Education stream and coordinators began data analysis but more work is needed.

### **Old Business**

**5. Contract and Budget:** Budgets for TEK and Education are still outstanding; IP budget is complete. Budget meetings are needed for TEK and for Education. Tentative time is scheduled.

**6. Members at Large:** TI'azt'en member at large (1) is no longer employed by TI'azt'en Nation, and stepped down. TI'azt'en Coordinator will meet with Chief and Council to determine her replacement.

**7. Grad Students, summer students:** Discussion about non-CURA funded UNBC students working with TI'azt'en Nation. IP Associate Partner plans to accept a student to do research on environmental monitoring, and is currently seeking supplementary funding. SC needs to confirm graduate student schedule. PI will meet with PhD student supervisor.

**8. Community Workshop:** Coordinators have tentatively scheduled community workshop for early May. Possible topics include JPRF Measures, place names,

birch uses, Education, JPRF history, and research protocols work. It is also a great opportunity to introduce new students.

**9. Mid-term review:** SC discusses reporting requirements, including community impact and support. PI will draft SSHRC report by April, for review by SC members. PI to contact Tl'azt'en SC members regarding reporting on CURA accomplishments; all SC members to review milestones and deliverables.

#### **10 Extension**

Newsletter: UNBC coordinator requests specific articles

Cultural Survival Quarterly: PI states article is still in review; will contact CSQ

Forest Chronicle: Further edits were required (submitted in late 2005), PI will contact editor.

**11. Tl'azt'en Student Visit to UNBC:** Money may be available to bring Tl'azt'en students to UNBC; discussion about coordinating this considering loss of Tl'azt'en Education Department. UNBC coordinator to contact Fort St. James secondary school First Nations liaison.

**12. SSHRC KIS Grant:** PI had hoped to fund senior CURA coordinator (currently on leave) with this grant; however, matching funds could not be secured in limited time, and application would be competing one from First Nations Studies. PI did not submit, but may consider if available again in the future.

#### **New Business**

**13. Schedule next SC meeting**

**14. Research Protocol:** SC plans to submit to Tl'azt'en Chief all presentation materials based on CURA research before they are presented. Previous presentation materials will also be submitted.