



STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT #4

April 20, 2022 Meeting



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Prepared by



GROUNDSWELL
PLANNING

May 2022

BACKGROUND

In March 2020, Government of Yukon (YG) and Kwanlin Dün First Nation (KDFN) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to work jointly towards a local area plan for the Łu Zil Män (Fish Lake) area. A Steering Committee comprised of three representatives of each government was appointed in Fall 2021. The Committee held its third meeting at KDFN’s multi-purpose building on April 20, 2022 from 5:00 -7:30 pm.

ATTENDEES

Jasmine Bill (KDFN member)
Kathy Elliot (YG member)
Jane Koepke (Facilitator)
Jocelyne Leblanc (YG member)
Natalie Leclerc (TKC staff)
Margaret McKay (KDFN member)

Roy Neilson (KDFN staff)
Bengt Pettersson (YG member – via Zoom)
Steven Shorty (KDFN member)
Michelle Sicotte (YG staff)
Karee Vallevand (KDFN staff)

MEETING OBJECTIVES

1. Report back on changes being made to the Summary Document;
2. Gather initial Committee feedback on the Background Document;
3. Present and discuss a draft engagement strategy; and
4. Seek Committee feedback on a land use application in the planning area.

DISCUSSION

TKC Participation

Natalie greeted the Committee and explained TKC’s interests in the planning process. TKC has a Site-Specific parcel and an overlap in Traditional Territory but, more broadly, citizens currently or historically have used the area.

March 9th Meeting Minutes

Minutes were reviewed. Steven motioned to adopt the minutes without changes and Jocelyne seconded.

Summary Background Report Changes

- Roy shared that, at the suggestion of KDFN Committee members, a follow-up session was held with KDFN’s LZM community working group to discuss the traditional/contemporary use map in the summary report. Direction was given to remove it and replace it with a “heat map” that provides a good indication of which areas are more frequently used without the sharing of potentially sensitive information.
- Jane directed the Committee to the “Draft Summary Report Committee Review” document Roy had compiled to indicate how KDFN/YG staff had actioned Committee suggestions. Most

changes have been made; a few may not be made if they create layout or formatting challenges (i.e., budget increases) and are not deemed to be significant.

Background Report Changes

- Roy shared that the KDFN working group had determined that the traditional place names map was appropriate for public sharing, but the archaeological resource map (as well as aforementioned traditional/contemporary use map) were not. Roy also noted that KDFN's Heritage Manager was providing a final review and comments for the traditional use section of the report.
- Jane noted that more thought would be given to the format in which the background report would be shared with the public. The summary document was created as the main public-facing information piece, whereas the rather lengthy background document may be better suited to sharing in topic-specific sections for members of the public with a strong interest.
- No major "red flags" were noted by Committee members. Bengt noted that he had forwarded some suggested corrections to Larissa and noted that the PDF may be formatted for side-by-side reading instead of vertical/sequential.
- Margaret asked about the real audience for the background report and spoke to the importance of being thoughtful about the story, feeling and lessons it was sharing with that audience. She also spoke to the stewardship and use of the area for Yukon First Nation people, not just KDFN citizens, and that the message that LZM is not a free-for-all place is important. Roy clarified that the background report audience is primarily the Committee itself; the summary report will be the main story that the public interacts with.
 - Other Committee members responded to the idea of story and messaging that LZM is a place deserving of respect and protection, not consumption. They shared concerns about the environmental impacts of over-use and inappropriate uses of the area and how its accessibility belies its intrinsic wilderness qualities.

Engagement

- **Events** – The draft engagement outline included three potential events – one for citizens at the Jackson Lake Healing Camp, one for Fish Lake area residents, and another public event in Whitehorse. Points of discussion included:
 - Steven suggested that Chief and Council be invited to the Jackson Lake event;
 - Natalie shared that in past discussions, the idea of a good kick-off event involved bringing TKC citizens from Lake Laberge to Fish Lake as per the traditional route (except using a bus);
 - The group discussed pros and cons of having a combined event for citizens and area residents. Kathy and Jocelyne noted that there may be more comfort in having the event elsewhere; on the other hand, hosting at the camp could be a way to strengthen connections between the facility/KDFN and its neighbours.

- In the interests of capacity (see below), the Committee supported the idea of combining the KDFN and resident events and adapting the public event to a lower barrier “pop up” at the Farmer’s Market that can be advertised.
- **Capacity** – Engagement can be a very time/effort intensive undertaking. Michelle shared that Larissa will be going on maternity leave in early June and that it wasn’t certain when a replacement would be in place. Roy indicated that this project remains high priority for KDFN and he was having internal discussions with staff and contractors to pinpoint capacity. Combining and prioritizing citizen/resident events and providing a lower effort opportunity for the general public (i.e., Farmer’s Market) were supported strategies.

Land Use Application

Roy explained that the Memorandum of Understanding between YG and KDFN speaks to the type of land use applications that may be considered by the partners while the LAP is underway. KDFN Heritage, Lands and Resources (HLR) has received a land use permit application for a temporary use in the planning area on Settlement Land. The ensuing discussion included:

- A Committee member suggested that it might be premature for the Committee to weigh in on land use matters such as these, while another expressed the view that the Committee should get involved with ongoing management issues;
- KDFN Committee members generally expressed support for the intent of the application (i.e., KDFN youth recreation programming);
- Committee members shared some concern that authorization could lead to unpermitted future use (residential) and/or development (permanent buildings);
- It was noted that the size of the application area (3.69 ha) is large compared to intended use; and,
- A few Committee members suggested that permit conditions limit length of the authorization and prevent the authorization from being transferred to another person or party.

There was interest in receiving more information on how conditions of authorization would be monitored by KDFN HLR. No decision was made as to whether these initial comments would be formally submitted to HLR.

NEXT STEPS

Next Meeting

- The meeting is tentatively scheduled for late May or early June. The agenda will include a review of the engagement materials and more detailed planning and scheduling for upcoming events, as well as a follow-up discussion on the KDFN land use application.

Action Items

Action Items not implied by the draft April meeting agenda above include:

- Draft and send out April 20 meeting minutes to Committee (Jane/Roy/Larissa)

- Schedule next meeting with Committee members (Roy/Larissa)
- Amend and expand on the draft engagement strategy to reflect Committee discussion