

Nicola Lake Working Group - Meeting Notes

Meeting Information

Topic: Sustainable Tourism & Recreation Development – Sydney Johnsen, Peak Planning Associates

Date & Time: April 8th, 2013 from 12 to 4 PM

Attendance: Mike & Jenny Ohata, Lorna Latremouille, Randy Murray, Jo-Ann Fox, Kim Poupard, Christine Saddleman, Sydney Johnsen (guest speaker), Harry Saunders, Tracy Thomas, Mike Simpson, Cam Donavin Q101 Radio (portion)

Agenda

1. Welcome & Introductions

Mike Simpson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Sydney Johnsen Presentation

Sydney is a consultant to the tourism and recreation industry, and also teaches a course at Thompson Rivers University. She introduced tourism as an industry, just like any other. She raised issues including “leakage”, where supplies/food/etc. required for tourism in a given area, are sourced from outside that area. She provided overviews of tourism successes and failures and pointed out that a town/lake/region etc. need to know what they want to be marketed as. She noted that marketing an area as “relaxing” does not mean that those people that participate in activities that are loud/thrilling/etc. will stop coming. People need to be clear what the product is that is being offered. Sydney’s presentation will be posted on the Nicola webpage at www.nicolaplan.ca.

There was discussion around noise bylaws. The sentiment was that bylaws should only be put in place where there is ability/funding to enforce them.

3. Feedback & Revisions - Nicola Lake Plan

- The group made changes to the draft Nicola Lake Plan to objectives and action items in the recreation & development theme area; those changes are recorded in the April 8th version. The updated draft Plan will be posted at www.nicolaplan.ca

4. Erosion and High Water at Nicola Lake

- Mike Ohata gave a presentation with photos of erosion of the foreshore happening at Monck Park, and suggested this is representative of other places around the lake. The new target lake level with the dam is 2.83m higher than the previous level of 623m ASL, and this is impacting the shoreline.
 - It was agreed that there are numerous issues requiring the participation of DFO and MFLNRO/MOE at a future meeting, including shoreline erosion, clarification of high water mark and property boundaries, draw down of the dam to manage Eurasian watermilfoil, and approvals needed to rototill EWM
5. **Fraser Basin Council Update**
- Meeting preparation and background work for NLWG meetings and June 8th public meeting
 - Presentation to Upper Nicola Band Chief and Council – the March 8th and April 8th meetings were cancelled – planning to attend the next one
6. **Funding and Budget**
- \$140,000 has been approved by the TNRD Board to fund the Nicola Lake Planning project. Funding was provided by Electoral Areas M, N, I and the City of Merritt.
 - Either cut and paste the draft budget here, or circulate with the draft notes
7. **June Meeting Agenda**
- The draft agenda for the June 8 public meeting was reviewed on screen.
 - It was agreed that Front Counter BC will have an information display with staff present to provide information on authorizations needed for foreshore modifications
8. **Story Teller Update**
- **Action: Tracy will contact Janet McMaster and the NVIT Elder's Council regarding story telling**
 - On June 8 there will be three story-telling opportunities on the agenda, one for Nlaka'pamux, one for Okanagan (Upper Nicola Band), and one for ranching history
9. **Upcoming Events:**
- April 30th – NLWG Meeting – Sustainable Development
 - Public Meeting – June 8th, 2013 – Cultural History (story telling)

4:10 PM Meeting Adjourned