



STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT #5

June 8, 2022 Meeting



Prepared by

Credit: YG/Cathie Archbould



GROUNDSWELL
PLANNING

June 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 fifth meeting at KDFN's multi-purpose building on June 8, 2022 from 5:00 -7:30 pm.

ATTENDEES

Jasmine Bill (KDFN member)
Kathy Elliot (YG member)
Jane Koepke (Facilitator)
Jocelyne Leblanc (YG member)

Mathieu Marois (City of Whitehorse staff)
Jocelyn McDowell (YG staff)
Margaret McKay (KDFN member)
Roy Neilson (KDFN staff)
Karee Vallevand (KDFN staff)

Regrets

Bengt Pettersson (YG member)
Steven Shorty (KDFN member)

MEETING OBJECTIVES

1. Report back on final changes made to the summary and background reports;
2. Update Committee on engagement activities;
3. Orient Committee to some of the previous communications products created for the process;
4. Seek Committee guidance on outstanding engagement plans; and
5. Discuss some Committee operational issues.

DISCUSSION

April 20th Meeting Minutes

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

Summary and Background Report Changes

Roy showed the Committee the final public versions of the summary and background reports. Most of the changes made from the previous versions reflected Committee input and/or guidance provided to the Committee via the KDFN community working group. Roy highlighted the new maps, which include a larger-scale map of the Fish Lake/Jackson Lake roads and private properties and a heat map showing First Nation contemporary and traditional uses (which replaced the original more descriptive map deemed too sensitive for public distribution).

KDFN Residences in Fish Lake Area

A question was asked about the tenure of a private residence located at the junction of Fish and Jackson Lake roads on KDFN Settlement Land. Roy explained that the residence has no specific tenure, similar to other KDFN dwellings in the planning area. With the passing of KDFN's Lands Act in 2020, the government now has a mechanism to formalize tenure, such as leases, for residences such as these. These historical submissions (i.e., for long-utilized dwellings) are being addressed prior to KDFN considering new applications for tenure.

Engagement Activities

The planning team updated the Committee on their efforts to implement the engagement strategy it reviewed at the April meeting:

- **Survey** – The survey has been drafted to be about 10 or so minutes in length.
 - Online version will be hosted by Yukon Bureau of Statistics;
 - Questions are a mix of multiple choice and open-ended questions that ask about how people use the planning area, what they value, their ideas and vision, and their demographics;
 - Paper versions will be made available at any events and mailed out to KDFN citizens and Fish Lake area residents;
 - Tentative launch date had been June 15 but will more likely be a week or so later, hopefully in time for Indigenous Peoples Day;
 - Committee requested that the survey timeline be extended to the end of August to allow for greater participation during the busy summer months.
- **Digital map** – YG has created a digital map for people to access as part of the survey (along with the background reports).
- **Videos** - The group previewed one of five videos that were created from interviews held in February 2021 at the Kwanlin Dün Cultural Centre. The intention was to use short videos in a variety of applications to help put a human (versus government) face on the planning process. Each video is between 1-2 minutes in length and feature Gary Bailie (KDFN citizen and Kwanlin Koyotes founder), now-Committee members Margaret and Jocelyne, Irma Scarff (KDFN citizen), Christian Thomas (YG archaeologist) and Brandy Mayes and Cheyenne Bradley with the KDFN Lands Department.
- **Farmer's Market** – A booth has been reserved for July 14, 21 and 28 at Shipyard's Park. Paper surveys will be available, in addition to potential installations (see below) and hopefully the videos. A YG summer student has been recruited to help. Margaret suggested that KDFN youth might want to get involved too. Ideally Committee members would each attend one evening as well.
- **Direct outreach** – A brief backgrounder and survey will be mailed to KDFN citizens. A letter with the survey will be sent out to area residents. An email will be sent out to about two

dozen organizations who may have a direct or indirect interest in the process, asking them to identify their interest, review/confirm report content, and (as applicable) promote the survey to their membership.

- **Installations** – Jane shared that a physical installation could be incorporated into events and the Farmer’s Market booth to create visual interest for participants and allow everyone to collectively create or share something. Potential ideas include a group map where people can place flags indicating locations of interest (i.e., ideas, concerns, stories/memories, etc.) and an art project. Committee members expressed support for an installation.
- **Promotions** – YG staff have been working on QR codes and these will be available on posters promoting the survey, including ones that will be installed at key locations in the planning area itself. Radio and print ads are also being drafted and arranged. Social media will also be used.
- **Shared resident/citizen event** – Roy and the KDFN Committee members reported back on discussion that occurred at the KDFN community working group meeting the week prior. Elders advised them that more time and preparation was needed to do an on-the-land event, and that there should be an opportunity for citizens and area residents to meet, share and build a relationship without a specific planning objective in mind. This relationship building piece will continue to be discussed and developed by governments and Committee, but for now, separate Vision/Values focused events will be held for KDFN and area residents.
- **KDFN event** – KDFN event will be held during the summer and may involve a Vision/Values session with the KDFN community working group, a community event at the outdoor rink, or similar.
- **Area resident event** – Jocelyne and Kathy spoke to the importance of hosting a resident event to provide better clarity about the process. The resident letter will give everyone notice of the date and people can choose to complete the survey beforehand if they choose. The event will be held in August at Sky High after Jocelyne returns from holidays. (Post-script: the date has been set for August 18th).

Committee Operations

The Committee briefly discussed some operational issues:

- **Public access to meeting minutes** – The sharing of Committee meeting minutes for local area plans is at the discretion of Committee members. Committee members felt it was important to be transparent and ensure that the people they are representing in the process can follow the Committee’s work.
- **Meeting guests/observers/presenters** – The MOU allows for the Committee to invite special guests or observers at its meetings. The idea of having KDFN Elders attend and share with the Committee was raised at the KDFN community working group meeting the week prior. The Committee was receptive to this idea. The ideal meeting for such an exchange would be one where substantive issues, versus logistics, are the main topic of agenda.

- **Land use applications** – Roy advised the Committee that KDFN had decided on the land use application he presented at the April meeting. The application was accepted and some of the Committee’s suggestions were reflected in the terms and conditions; for example, the permission is for a short-term period and is non-transferable to another individual.

Other applications can be expected to come during the process and it would be helpful for the Committee to have clarity around whether it formally provides comment. The initial discussion in April revealed differing ideas on this point; the next meeting would be a good time to resolve this. A request was made for the Committee to have something to review in advance so that it better understands the considerations and options going into this conversation.

NEXT STEPS

Engagement Wrap-Up

After the survey closes at end of August, Jane will compile results from all the engagement opportunities and write a “What We Heard” report. From this, she will also develop a short draft Vision and Values paper that the Committee can review.

Next Meeting

The next Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for late September or early October, about a month after engagement concludes. Engagement results will be discussed and the Committee will work through the Vision and Values paper to arrive at a final version.

Action Items

Action Items generated during the meeting include:

- Send copies of summary report and survey poster to Committee once they are received from the printer (Jocelyn/Roy)
- Schedule date/time for the Fish Lake area resident event (Jocelyn/Jocelyne)
- Schedule date/time for KDFN event (Roy/Karee/Jane)
- Reach out to KDFN youth to see if there is interest in helping with engagement (Margaret/Karee)
- Put videos in a folder for Committee viewing (Jane)
- Discuss and confirm installation approach for events (Jane/Roy/Jocelyn)
- Schedule Committee attendance at the Farmer’s Market (Karee/Jocelyn)
- Determine when/how to make existing minutes public (Roy/Jocelyn)
- Draft a brief discussion paper outlining potential land use decisions and options for Committee review before the next meeting and Committee decision (Roy/Jocelyn)