

COASTAL HABITAT RESEARCH PROGRAM
STEERING COMMITTEE
SIGNED MINUTES OF THE 7TH MEETING HELD IN MONTRÉAL ON
JUNE 14 AND 15, 2017

PRESENT:	Alain Tremblay	Hydro-Québec
	Carine Durocher	Hydro-Québec
	Jean-Philippe Gilbert	Hydro-Québec
	Marc Dunn	Niskamoon Corporation
	Norman Cheezo	Eastmain
	Réal Courcelles	Hydro-Québec
	Robbie Tapiatic	Chisasibi
	Simon Marcotte	Hydro-Québec
	William Blackned	Wemindji

GUESTS:	Dante Torio	U.N.H. (June 14)
	Nick Anderson	U.N.H. (June 14)
	John Paul Murdoch	Niskamoon (June 14)
	Josée Rousseau	Hydro-Québec
	Roderick Pachano	Chisasibi

Wednesday, June 14, 2017

CHAIR AND SECRETARY

Mr. Cheezo chaired the meeting of June 14, 2017. Ms. Rousseau acted as Secretary.

The meeting began at 11:15 a.m.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

The Chair reviewed the agenda.

Mr. Courcelles asked that "Update - meeting with the researchers on April 18, 2017" be added to the agenda as item 11 d).

Mr. Dunn asked Dante Torio (graduate student working with Fred Short) and Nick Anderson (post-doc) present their program for this summer first.

Mr. Torio stated that they will be in Chisasibi, Eastmain and Wemindji this summer to do follow-up research on eelgrass. He showed the SC members the type of instruments that will be used for the eelgrass research.

Mr. Torio confirmed that they should arrive in Chisasibi tomorrow and stay until the end of June. They should then go to Wemindji from July 10 to July 21, and to Eastmain from August 7 to August 25. The schedule is not yet final.

Mr. Torio said that they will deploy sensors and provide group training to the trappers concerning the instruments to be used and the various tasks to be carried out.

Mr. Dunn said that Ernie Rabbitskin will arrive in Chisasibi this Friday and that he should join the training group. He said that William Blackned and Norman Cheezo should do the same in Wemindji and Eastmain.

Mr. Torio said that the sensors will be used to measure water salinity and temperature.

Mr. Tremblay stated that nutrients, turbidity and water color should also be measured.

Mr. Torio answered that those parameters will be taken care of by the group in charge of the oceanography study.

Mr. Tremblay added that all the parameters must be measured at the same time rather than separately and every time a team goes on site, regardless of whether it is the ISMER team or Fred Short's team, as we want to link the eelgrass beds with the rest of the coastal area.

Mr. Dunn noted that all studies will have to be integrated.

Ms. Durocher said that Mr. Short said Cree people could take water samples that could be analysed later on.

Mr. Marcotte said that Mr. del Giorgio had suggested that the researchers communicate with each other to clearly identify their needs.

Mr. Torio replied that they will observe these parameters but do not have the instruments to measure them.

Mr. Murdoch clarified what Mr. Tremblay was saying, i.e., if they see eelgrass, they should take nutrient samples.

Mr. Dunn noted that dry-land training will be provided, followed by field training. He explained to Mr. Torio and Mr. Anderson why Ernie Rabbitskin will accompany them and asked them to listen to Mr. Rabbitskin's instructions carefully. He also said that

Mr. Tapiatic will introduce Mr. Rabbitskin to Mr. Torio and Mr. Anderson in Chisasibi next Monday.

The meeting paused for lunch at 12:00 and resumed at 1:25 p.m.

APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT MINUTES OF THE 6TH MEETING OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE

The Chair reviewed every page of the minutes of the 6th meeting. Some corrections were requested and the minutes were approved as corrected.

COMPREHENSIVE RESEARCH PROGRAM

Mr. Tremblay presented a document entitled "Comprehensive Research Program on Coastal Habitat of Eeyou Istchee." Ms. Rousseau distributed a copy of the document to all participants. A copy was appended to the minutes.

Mr. Dunn explained the purpose of this document and said that it must be as clear and concise as possible. He requested that it describe the nature, scope and objectives of the program, and that it link the different aspects of the program together.

Ms. Durocher said that this is a draft document for comment. She said that the main objective stated in the document was taken verbatim from the *Eelgrass Agreement*.

Ms. Durocher explained that Mr. Short will have to complete the section on eelgrass.

Mr. Dunn said that this document is a good start and is in line with what he had in mind, adding that it could be included in every contract.

Mr. Dunn suggested that "main objective" be replaced by "primary purpose."

A discussion followed concerning the wording of the research questions.

Mr. Courcelles suggested that Mr. Dunn complete Mr. Short's section and send it to Ms. Rousseau. It was agreed that Mr. Dunn will write up his comments and suggestions and send a revised version to Ms. Rousseau. Ms. Rousseau will then send a copy of the revised version to all SC members. The revised version of this document will be presented at the next SC meeting.

Mr. Dunn said that this document will be very useful and easy to circulate. He suggested adding the Niskamoon logo to the top of the document.

Mr. Pachano asked what "threat analysis" means. Mr. Dunn answered that it aims to determine the most predominant factors that constitute a threat to eelgrass.

Mr. Courcelles suggested that a detailed definition of "nutrients" be added to the document.

Mr. Dunn suggested that the research area be specified at the end of the document as being the east coast of Baie James (James Bay).

Mr. Dunn noted that the study area in Chisasibi does not include Great Whale, as the researchers thought it would be too much. He stated that we will need to explain this to the people in Great Whale to ensure they don't feel excluded.

A discussion followed concerning the need to include a map. It was agreed that Mr. Gilbert will be in charge of producing the map, which will include the trapline boundaries.

Mr. Murdoch said that he wonders how the expression "threat analysis" could be translated into Cree. Ms. Durocher suggested that it be replaced by "stress factors."

Mr. Courcelles concluded by saying that Mr. Dunn will come up with suggestions and send the revised version to Ms. Rousseau.

GOOSE POPULATION STATUS

Mr. Gilbert gave a PowerPoint presentation prepared by Mr. Jean Rodrigue, from Environment and Climate Change Canada, dated June 14, 2017, entitled "Canada Geese in Eeyou Istchee." A copy was appended to the minutes.

Mr. Gilbert explained that the PPT presentation is from the CWS and that Jean Rodrigue could not attend the meeting because he was away banding geese.

This document describes the kind of geese found in Eeyou Istchee, depending on the time of the year.

Mr. Murdoch asked why we put more emphasis on fall migration than spring migration.

Mr. Gilbert answered that people are more interested in fall migration, as eelgrass is at its full length at that time of year.

Mr. Murdoch asked which migration period we should focus on for budget considerations.

A discussion followed on whether the SC should focus on spring migration or fall migration.

Mr. Tapiatic stated that geese hunted on the eastern part of his territory are not banded, whereas those hunted in the western part are. He added that they are not the same size.

RESEARCH PROGRAM ON GEESE – OUTLINES AND RESEARCHER'S PROPOSAL

Mr. Gilbert gave a PowerPoint presentation dated June 14, 2017, entitled "Waterfowl Research Proposal, Montréal." A copy was appended to the minutes.

Mr. Dunn asked Mr. Gilbert who will report back to the SC about the information transmitted by the collars.

Mr. Gilbert answered that the CWS will report back.

Mr. Gilbert said that about one hundred geese could be equipped with this collar. He suggested we go with fifty.

Mr. Courcelles asked how much time the SC has to make a decision.

Mr. Gilbert said that the SC must decide by the third week of August.

Mr. Pachano asked what the collars' life expectancy would be.

Mr. Gilbert answered that it's at least three years, but according to the CWS, some can last up to four or five years.

Mr. Gilbert said that one limiting factor is that, for the data from their collars to be captured, the geese must fly close to a cellular antenna. He added that they should fly at a range of three or four kilometres from Chisasibi or Radisson.

Mr. Murdoch said that this is the only time we are going to know what happens between point A and point B and be able collect data about what we don't know.

Mr. Gilbert said that using colored bands would be a good idea since the geese would then be very easy to identify and, depending on the data collected, if the SC chooses to use GPS collars next year, we will be able to return to where we had equipped the geese with colored bands.

Mr. Dunn said that the additional bands would reinforce the data we already have.

Mr. Dunn said that while banding more birds makes sense from a scientific perspective, it does not make sense from the Cree perspective (**note to readers: Mr. Dunn said that this is more of a moral issue**), since out of one hundred geese banded (**note to readers: Mr. Dunn meant collared rather than banded**), 5% could die. He added that he will respect the SC members' decision.

Mr. Cheezo asked if the geese would be banded in the north, before they fly south. Mr. Gilbert confirmed that they would.

Mr. Tapiatic said that he is in favor of the banding.

Mr. Cheezo said he will confirm this with his people.

Mr. Pachano asked Mr. Gilbert if we are trying to identify the birds' current migration route and what we are going to compare it to.

Mr. Gilbert answered that it could provide information about what they feed on. He added that the numbers we have date from 2009 and don't indicate where they fly or how long they stay. He also added that we will learn about what has changed, compared to the little we know and Cree traditional knowledge. He said that we will need to integrate the two, but it won't be easy.

Mr. Pachano said that he wonders how we will be able to determine whether the geese are stopping because of the eelgrass or because of the corn spread by the Crees.

Mr. Murdoch said he was surprised by the data obtained during the EM-1 and Opinaca surveys on goose density. He added that even if we have spread corn along the coast, the geese may stop at Opinaca reservoir, for example.

Mr. Pachano said he still doesn't understand how we can find out whether the geese are stopping because of the eelgrass or because of the corn spread by the Crees.

Mr. Gilbert answered that we can't, but we are trying to figure out whether we need to invest in those migration measures.

Mr. Dunn noted that there is a risk that the hunters will not be informed and may get upset if the budget is passed right away.

Mr. Gilbert suggested conducting the survey using satellite imagery.

Mr. Dunn said he believes that the land users are concerned that we may create a disturbance if we do it while there are a lot of people in the field. He added that he shares this concern.

Mr. Tapiatic said that since the Crees now use corn, he is concerned that the helicopters may disturb the geese and ruin their hunt.

Mr. Gilbert answered that helicopters don't fly high. He asked Mr. Tapiatic what is the lowest altitude a helicopter could fly at without disturbing the geese. Mr. Tapiatic estimated it at 1,000 feet.

Mr. Gilbert said he believes an altitude of 800 feet would be required to obtain good resolution.

Mr. Dunn asked Mr. Gilbert if he will submit the terms of reference to the Cree members of the SC.

Mr. Gilbert said that he will confirm whether this is possible.

Mr. Dunn added that the Cree members will review the terms of reference and then suggest a researcher.

Mr. Gilbert said that it needs to be a professional researcher.

Mr. Courcelles said that it will be important to get their feedback before the banding starts in August.

Mr. Tapiatic asked Mr. Gilbert to provide Cree members with a list of questions to ask so they can get answers.

Mr. Pachano said that in his opinion, this is not a matter of "if" there is link between the geese and the eelgrass but rather, "when" the geese will come back to feed on the eelgrass. Mr. Dunn suggested linking it more to traditional knowledge.

The meeting paused at 4:25 p.m. and resumed at 4:30 p.m.

2017 ACTIVITIES: TIMELINE, MONITORING AND BUDGET APPROVED BY NISKAMOON

Mr. Dunn presented a document entitled "Budget Projections 2017-2019, July 1-July 31, U.N.H." A copy was appended to the minutes.

Mr. Dunn said that this budget sheet was approved at the Niskamoon Board meeting on June 6 and 7, 2017.

Mr. Dunn stated that Mr. Short will not be conducting fieldwork this summer, but only in the fall. He added that both ISMER and UQAM will conduct their fieldwork this fall, and that the budget has been adjusted.

Mr. Marcotte said he noticed that no helicopter fee appears in this budget.

Mr. Dunn answered that if needed, HQ's helicopters will be used and Niskamoon will deal directly with HQ regarding fees.

Mr. Marcotte stated that it is still important to get an estimate of their needs in terms of flight hours.

Mr. Dunn said that the next step for Niskamoon is to sign individual contracts with the researchers as soon as the content of the contracts is agreed upon.

Mr. Gilbert said that he doesn't expect to receive anything from Jean-François Giroux from UQAM on his program research before late fall 2017.

Mr. Dunn said that the UQAM budget would need to be approved at the next Niskamoon Board meeting in September.

Mr. Gilbert said that he will try to obtain a proposal from Jean-François Giroux.

Mr. Tremblay expressed a concern about Mr. Short's proposal because it represents a lot of money but is not very detailed. He added that as a committee, we should ask for more details before we sign a contract.

Mr. Dunn reiterated that Mr. Short must submit audited statements.

Ms. Durocher recalled that the SC had asked Mr. Short to produce a template for water color.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 15, 2017

The meeting began at 9:45 a.m.

CHARTERING OF HYDROPLANE OR HELICOPTER BY HYDRO-QUÉBEC

Mr. Dunn said that the oceanography and river project researchers wanted to travel by helicopter, but since they want the land users to be involved, they might change the program and use the helicopter less.

Mr. Dunn proposed that for distant locations, the tallymen meet them on site.

One possibility would be to have one person from the community go with them on the plane and meet with the researchers. He added that this is all subject to discussion and that nothing has been decided yet. Mr. Dunn said that he considers this a good time for the SC members to express their feelings about it.

Mr. Dunn said that for sites that are too far away, it is not going to be possible to go with more than one land user.

Mr. Dunn said that the oceanography and river study researchers will not be conducting any fieldwork this summer and that only Fred Short's team is going this year, so we don't yet know what the needs will be in terms of helicopter use.

Mr. Dunn stated that the SC has been clear since the beginning that we want land users to be involved, but that the researchers will not be able to accommodate 100%.

Mr. Marcotte said that the important thing to keep in mind is that the sooner we book, the less it will cost. He indicated that SOPFEU puts out its standing offers for helicopters in February.

Mr. Marcotte said that it will be very important to contact the researchers to determine their needs, i.e., what they will do and where they will go, so that we can select the most suitable helicopter.

Ms. Durocher said that it would be good if the researchers could provide us with a schedule. Mr. Dunn reiterated that he has been asking for this for a while. Ms. Durocher added that we don't need to know the exact date, but we should at least know which time of the month is scheduled, if possible.

Mr. Pachano stressed that in the fall, the weather would be a major factor. He asked why the researchers don't work in the summer. Mr. Dunn answered that the researchers will come next summer, but that they are not ready for this coming summer. He added that the researchers talked about late September or October.

Mr. Pachano asked why the researchers need graduate students. He questioned the necessity of hiring graduate students for the fieldwork.

Mr. Tremblay clarified the graduate students' role.

Mr. Pachano asked why the Cree students who graduated from the Niskamoon environmental training program in Chibougamau couldn't be hired.

Mr. Dunn reiterated that the researchers were warned not to go into the territory without the Crees. He added that if there are qualified Crees willing to work for us, we will always find a way to hire them.

Ms. Durocher said that the graduate students will come anyway, because it is part of their education and will help them understand and conduct the analysis.

Mr. Dunn reiterated that the SC wanted independent people to do the research.

Ms. Durocher said that she understood Mr. Pachano's question as being: Do we want the youth to be trained?

Mr. Dunn said this is something the SC needs to discuss.

Mr. Pachano stressed that it is important for Crees to see other Crees doing the same work as the graduate students.

Mr. Courcelles said that most of the teams will be built around Crees.

Mr. Dunn agreed with Mr. Pachano's last comment and confirmed that this is always the way Niskamoon works.

Mr. Courcelles said that in his opinion, the Crees will have a lot to do. He added that hopefully, the same Crees will come back next year and the year after that.

Mr. Dunn said that if we really want encourage our kids to become PhDs, we could ask the researchers to take kids in the boats with them and show them their work.

Mr. Marcotte said that the helicopters will need fuel and asked who will buy it: Hydro-Québec or Niskamoon. He added that the tricky part is determining where to drop the fuel.

Mr. Dunn said it will be important to set up a helicopter landing area in each community so that the pilots can overnight there.

Ms. Durocher suggested that Mr. Short be invited to the SC meeting this fall and that the logistics of this be discussed.

Mr. Dunn said that a reconnaissance meeting should be held this summer with the researchers.

Mr. Marcotte said that he understands that the researchers will need hydroplanes for their fieldwork from spring to fall, and helicopters in the winter.

COORDINATION AND COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE RESEARCHERS, THE SC AND NISKAMOON

Mr. Dunn said that this was a good time to share roles between the SC members. He added he believes the SC can agree on some roles.

Mr. Dunn suggested that staff from the community be the Cree representatives' responsibility. He also suggested that Ernie Rabbitskin be responsible for fieldwork-related questions such as equipment requirements.

Mr. Dunn suggested that one SC member be delegated to each researcher, as follows:

- Fred Short and his group: Marc Dunn and Robbie Tapiatic
- ISMER: Alain Tremblay
- Paul del Giorgio: Alain Tremblay
- Waterfowl: Jean-Philippe Gilbert

Mr. Dunn said he would continue to manage the budget, in collaboration with Mr. Tapiatic and Mr. Courcelles.

Mr. Tapiatic expressed concern that Mr. Short is only sending bits of information. He suggested the SC start thinking about other people for next year.

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Mr. Dunn said that he shares this concern. He added that the SC has been working with Mr. Short because he had a well-established relationship with the Chisasibi community during the past year of research.

Mr. Courcelles said that he also shares Mr. Tapiatic's concern and agrees with him.

Ms. Durocher suggested that the SC members write down their questions for Mr. Short. Mr. Tapiatic said that Mr. Short should be better informed and answer the SC's questions on the spot.

Mr. Dunn said that the SC could combine a meeting with the reconnaissance visit.

Mr. Dunn said he will tell Mr. Short that he would like him to come to the next meeting and that the SC will propose a list of questions for him.

INCLUSION OF ELEMENTS IN THE CONTRACT BETWEEN NISKAMOON AND THE RESEARCHERS

Mr. Pachano said that the director of the Wildlife Board had sent a letter to Violet Pachanos, asking that Sophie Fillion be given observer status on the SC. He said the director has been waiting months for a reply to this request.

Mr. Dunn apologized for having forgotten to bring the subject to the Niskamoon Board's attention. He added that he will request a special meeting to review the letter and discuss it.

To put the SC members in context, Mr. Dunn explained that the only contract signed is with the U.N.H. for 2016. He added that a template for 2017 is under review.

Mr. Dunn explained that the ISMER budget was planned as follows: 40% up front, 40% in November and 20% at the end of the contract.

Mr. Tremblay said that the last 20% should not be disbursed before the final report is submitted.

Mr. Dunn reiterated that the data will belong to Niskamoon (i.e., to the Crees) and that the analysis results will belong to the researchers.

Mr. Tremblay said that the data should constitute one of the deliverables. He added that if Niskamoon doesn't ask for the data, the researchers won't provide it.

Mr. Dunn said he will put Mr. Tremblay in contact with Kevin Roussel concerning the wording of this contractual clause.

Mr. Pachano asked what would happen to the equipment after the research.

A discussion followed concerning what could be included in the contract concerning the equipment to be used by ISMER and other researchers.

Mr. Courcelles said that it is important that the researchers provide proof of insurance to cover the equipment used.

Mr. Dunn suggested that the contract stipulate that Niskamoon has the option to recover the equipment upon completion of the research. He added that the current technology could be obsolete in three years, or the equipment could be too worn out once the research is completed.

Mr. Pachano asked whether clauses concerning training, active participation and transfer of Cree knowledge could be added to the contracts.

Mr. Dunn said that some clauses covering transfer of Cree knowledge could also be included in the contract.

Mr. Tremblay suggested that the contract include a clause stipulating that the researchers will participate in producing the research summary and report.

A discussion followed concerning the fact that the researchers will be required to participate in a symposium to be held once the synthesis report is completed.

Mr. Tremblay asked Mr. Dunn if it would be appropriate to have the contract state that he and Mr. Gilbert are authorized to answer to scientific questions.

Mr. Dunn answered that he will prepare a list of items to be included as an appendix to the contract, which will identify who the contact person will be for each researcher.

PUBLIC MEETING IN CHISASIBI, JUNE 12, 2017

Mr. Tapiatic said that Chief Davey Bobbish had requested this meeting.

Mr. Tapiatic said that eight trappers attended the meeting, as they knew the SC was moving forward with this request, which had been pending for so many years. He added that the trappers seemed happy with the SC's work. Mr. Tapiatic said that he told the trappers they would be involved in the field surveys. He added that they seemed enthusiastic.

Mr. Tapiatic said he explained the oceanography and freshwater studies to the trappers and told them there would be some social interviews in the future. He added that he also explained why these researchers were selected and not others.

Mr. Tapiatic shared the trappers' request that more meetings be held to keep the land users updated. He added that Chief Bobbish had mentioned that they might invite Mr. Dunn and Mr. Tapiatic to a presentation at the local general assembly.

Mr. Dunn said that Shirley Chiskamish will send Ms. Rousseau the notes from the Chisasibi meeting.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING – Researcher for Cree Knowledge and Land-use Research

Mr. Dunn said that the few meetings held with Colin Scott didn't go too well. He added that the Cree representatives are up to speed on this research and that the entire research process will be postponed for a year to allow the dust to settle. He also stated that the Cree leadership had said that any future social studies will be vetted through the SC.

He added that the Cree leadership has asked Brigitte Leblond from the NSERC to withdraw her application for funding. He said that in this context, it would not be appropriate to bring in a new researcher.

Mr. Pachano shared this concern, considering that the research is being delayed for a year. He said that if the people who possess this knowledge were to pass away in the next year, their knowledge would be lost.

Mr. Pachano stated that the people from Chisasibi do not want to work with Colin Scott.

Mr. Dunn said he will pass this comment on to Mr. Murdoch and Chief Bobbish.

Ms. Durocher said that her understanding of the way anthropologists work is that they prefer to refrain from conducting studies in a given community out of respect for the ongoing studies already being carried out there by a professional researcher.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING – Oceanography (coastal and river) Researchers' needs and logistics – Preliminary visit in summer 2017

Mr. Tremblay suggested that the reconnaissance visit be combined with the logistics meeting with the researchers to determine their needs.

Mr. Dunn suggested that the meeting be combined with an SC meeting and held in Chisasibi. He added that it is unrealistic to think that everybody will be ready at the same time. He also suggested using this opportunity to meet with the Sealhunter family.

Mr. Pachano expressed his concern over safety; he said the issue is that the researchers should always listen when they are told not to go or land somewhere. He stated that the land users should always have the last word and that their decisions should be respected.

Mr. Dunn suggested that something concerning this issue be included in the terms of reference.

A discussion followed concerning potential dates for the reconnaissance visit with the researchers and the next SC meeting in Chisasibi. The following dates were set:

- Plan A: August 28–30
- Plan B: July 26–28
- Plan C: September 5–7

Mr. Dunn said that he will contact the researchers to confirm their availability.

The meeting paused for lunch and resumed at 1:00 p.m.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING – James Bay Advisory Committee on the Environment – Meeting on April 26, 2017 – Update

Mr. Dunn said that only one recommendation was made at this meeting. The JBACE recommended that the SC approach the Canadian Geological Survey (CGS) concerning isostatic rebound, as they might have useful information. He added that the SC could write a letter to the CGS. Mr. Gilbert said that he will provide Mr. Dunn with the name of a contact person.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING – Meeting with the researchers – April 18, 2017, Montréal – Update

Mr. Dunn said that he had attended this meeting with Mr. Tapiatic and Ms. Durocher.

Mr. Dunn said that the researchers had identified the Baie of Many Islands as an area where sampling should take place.

Mr. Dunn said that Michel Gosselin had spoken at length about core sampling. Mr. Dunn said that, although Mr. Short thought it wouldn't work, ISMER decided to take core samples.

Ms. Durocher said that they had discussed sharing the measured parameters for water quality.

Ms. Durocher said that she believes that the researchers may be waiting for someone to get things rolling. She suggested that Mr. Tremblay send them a list of parameters to be measured.

Mr. Dunn stated that the researchers had said that it would be hard to accomplish everything they have to do in three years. He added that one of them said that they should be given three full years just for the fieldwork, plus an additional year for the analysis.

Mr. Dunn said that the SC should be responsible for informing the Niskamoon Board that more time will be required to complete the research program.

Mr. Dunn suggested that during the reconnaissance visit, and given the results obtained during the first year of research, the SC inform the researchers that the active involvement of land users could allow the SC to make a better decision in regard to extending the research period for up to three full years.

Mr. Courcelles said that if we use the cisco survey as an example, which took five consecutive years to complete, he believes that it would be possible to extend the program beyond three years.

Mr. Dunn reiterated that the ultimate goal is to bring back the eelgrass and identify enhancement measures that could help it recover. He added that if the researchers figure out how we can do this, they should share that information with us.

Mr. Dunn said that Fisheries and Oceans just came out with a habitat recovery program that could also apply to research focused on potential eelgrass recovery. He added that the SC should apply for funding.

Mr. Dunn suggested that the SC obtain letters of support from the community with a view to applying for funding.

Mr. Dunn said that he will send Ms. Rousseau a copy of the application letter so that she can forward it to all the SC members.

TO DO LIST

Mr. Marcotte reviewed the "To do" list, and all participants provided input.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held in Chisasibi. The meeting date will be set based on the date of the reconnaissance visit to be agreed upon between Mr. Dunn and the researchers.

The meeting adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Dunn', is located in the bottom right corner of the page.

Rousseau, Josée

De: Rousseau, Josée
Envoyé: 25 janvier 2018 11:39
À: 'Norman Cheezo'
Objet: Minutes for signature
Pièces jointes: SC_ Minutes of the 7th meeting MTL for signature.pdf

Hello Norman,

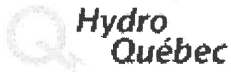
Hope you had a good SC meeting yesterday.

I am sending you the minutes of the 7th meeting for your signature.

Would it be possible for you to print the document single sided, sign the first or last page and initial each other page, then scan the whole document and send it back to me by email?

Please do not hesitate to call me if there's anything.

Thanks,



Josée Rousseau

Conseillère - Affaires Autochtones
Direction Ressources Humaines et Affaires Autochtones
Hydro-Québec Production
1095, rue Saguenay
Rouyn-Noranda (Québec) J9X 7B7
Tél. : 1-800-679-9919, option 8, poste 4116
Tél. interne 300-4116
rousseau.jossee@hydro.qc.ca