

**Heritage Steering Committee
Meeting Notes
November 12, 2020**

Held via Teleconference

Present: John Massier, Brent Rutherford, Elizabeth Hunter, Jim Gibson, George Atamanenko
Phyllis Webstad and Graham Leslie

Regrets: Gerald Kirby and Robin Sharpe

The meeting was called to order at 9.00 a.m.

John Massier in the chair reported that Gerald Kirby was unable to attend, and Robin Sharpe was in the course of moving permanently from Wells to the Lower Mainland, and unable to attend.

1. The Agenda as previously circulated, was adopted without formal resolution.
2. (a) Approval of Meeting Notes of October 22, 2019 Moved Graham/Elizabeth. Carried
(b) Approval of Meeting Notes of November 19, 2019. Moved Graham/Phyllis. Carried
(c) Approval of Meeting Notes of February 19, 2020. Moved Elizabeth/Phyllis. Carried following amendment that in the section titled Grant Opportunity, the second sentence be replaced by the statement that the grant had been received from Heritage BC.
3. Members were asked to advise Nigel Whitehead as soon as possible regarding any changes that should be noted and recorded regarding their contact information.
4. The current terms of all Committee members expire at the end of this year, and members were asked to email Nigel Whitehead as soon as possible to indicate their willingness or not to submit their names for reappointment for a 2-year term commencing in January 2021. In this connection it was moved Graham/George that John convey to Robin our heartfelt thanks for all his past contributions to the Committee, and urge him to continue his membership on the Committee for the upcoming 2-year term. Carried unanimously
5. A draft 2021 Business Plan that had been circulated in advance of the meeting, was reviewed.
 1. The rationale will be amended to say that the grant was applied for by the City of Quesnel in partnership with the CRD, and was obtained from the Heritage BC Legacy Fund. The wording will also be amended to state that in recognition of all the planning that has been invested into it already, the event has yet to be held. Immediately following this meeting,
Elizabeth learned that the deadline for holding the event is extended to June 30, 2021. The strategy will be amended to reflect the Committee's strong preference to hold the

event in person, and only if absolutely necessary and as a last resort should it be held virtually.

2. The rationale will be amended to include a reference to the numerous properties that have already been registered, while continuing to emphasize the importance of encouraging additional listings.
3. The strategy statement to be expanded to refer back to the planned networking Meeting scheduled for early 2021.
4. Approved as drafted.
5. Nigel will check to determine the number of copies remaining from the previous printing, but the expectation is that a new printing will be needed in time for 2021's tourism period. In view of the fact that an increasing number of folks are utilizing the virtual maps, it was agreed that the strategy should include an explanation of the "virtual" digital GIS tour.
6. It was agreed that the strategy should be expanded to note (a) the role that the CRD – staff or Committee - could play in acting as clearing house for smaller heritage stakeholders in the region by communicating funding opportunities available to them; and (b) recognizing the value of the Committee maintaining a small reserve fund that would facilitate access to senior government grant money where - as is often the case – the applicant is required to contribute matching funds.

Overall Financial Impact - It was agreed that no dollar amount should be allocated to 2021 travel costs, and that the remaining amount should be designated for projects as well as to meeting expenses and reserve allocation. It was agreed that the Committee should turn its mind to specific projects that would profit from use of the reserve, one such project being an annual hosting of the strategic networking meeting if the 2021 meeting is deemed to be a success and if it seems appropriate to reconvene it on an annual basis.

Measuring Previous Year's Performance - The three goals were approved, and a Fourth was agreed to, namely a reference to the Hosting of the Strategic Networking Meeting.

7. Other Business and General Brainstorming
 - (a) Nigel will provide a financial update for the next meeting.
 - (b) A discussion took place concerning the pressing need for coordination of the Several tourism initiatives that are ongoing in connection with the Cariboo in general and the Gold Rush Trail/Corridor in particular, and it was agreed that the Committee should keep its attention on this subject.

(c) Ms. Webstad provided an overview of a few key news items related to First Nations heritage.

(i) The federal government has put residential schools on the official roster of National Historic Events. Two of the schools, one in Nova Scotia and one in Manitoba, have been named National Historic Sites -- the first in Canada to be so marked. Sep 1, 2020

St. Joseph Indian Residential School site could one day be named a National Historic Site as well. The process is outlined on this web page:

<https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/culture/clmhc-hsmbc/pensionnat-residential>

(ii) The Government of Canada announced an investment of \$33.8 million over three years, 2019-20 to 2021-22 to implement the TRC Calls to Action 72 to 76 – Missing Children and Unmarked Burials. Crown-Indigenous Relations and Northern Affairs Canada is responsible for co-ordinating the federal government's involvement in these calls.

Ms. Webstad participated in one of about 15 zooms across Canada mid-July 2020. A National Working Group has been formed; they will be responsible to develop a National Strategy. In the meeting summary a suggestion included the training of one person per community across Canada to conduct this work. Also, the importance of including culture and traditional burial practices, ceremonies and protocols in all aspects of this work.

This affects the St. Joseph, The Mission site.

(iii) Bill C-5 was tabled in the House of Commons on September 29, 2020. Bill C-5 replaces Bill C-369. Bill C-5 passed first and second reading and is now with committee. It is highly probable that September 30, 2021 will be the first year of a National Statutory Holiday called a National Day of Truth & Reconciliation. The date is chosen as September 30th, Orange Shirt Day.

(d) Member Atamanenko suggested focus, recognition, and coordination of various group efforts in the Cotton House, Stanley, Barkerville corridor.

8. Next Meeting - will be determined by Chair Gerald at a later date.

9. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 10.50 a.m.