



## YISC Meeting Minutes October 26, 2009

Environment Yukon Main Boardroom # 10 Burns Road

Attendees: Bruce Bennett ENV, Andrea Altherr coordinator, Toos Omtzigt EDI, Matt Ball EMR, Kirstie Simpson CanNor, Randy Lamb ENV, Chris Toleman HPW, Rob Walker HWP, Jim Boyde EDU, Pam Makarewich, Jim Dillabough, Agriculture Association, Lloyd Freese PC

Regrets: Jennifer Staniforth ENV, Debbie Van de Wetering, EC , Nathan Millar ENV , Laurie Thorpe (BLM, Anchorage Alaska), Bob Drinkwater, Gov BC., Sonja Leverkus (Fort Nelson), Shirley Hill, EMR , Wendy Nixon, ENV, Clara Sharp.

Chair: Matt Ball

Minutes: Andrea Altherr

### Agenda:

#### 1. Round of introductions

Everybody introduced themselves.

#### 2. Review of minutes September meeting

Everybody agreed with the minutes

#### 3. Update and discussion on YISC becoming a Society

Toos prepared a Yukon Invasive Species Committee Constitution draft document.

##### a) What a society entails

We all agreed to move ahead with becoming a society

With becoming incorporated we will have to have meetings, officers, directors, and we will have to keep books.

But we will have access to funding for non-profit organizations.

##### b) Rules around the name of the society

Council would be possible

Everybody is in favor of council

Our new name will be **Yukon Invasive Species Council** YISC – Toos will check with YG Corporate Services if this name will be acceptable.

##### c) Charitable society or not

A charitable society in Yukon has to be strictly charitable (the main purpose would have to be education). As a charitable society you could issue tax receipts.

Everybody feels YISC does not fit in the category charitable society. If we want to, this can be changed at a later date with an amendment to the constitution.

The bylaws will be discussed at the November meeting.

## d) Draft constitution

Toos looked at 4 different constitutions (Yukon Agriculture Association, Yukon Science Institute, Invasive Plant Council of BC, Northwest Invasive Plant Council) and created the presented document

We worked through the wording and everybody agreed to what is listed below.

**1 Name:** The name of the society is the Yukon Invasive Species Council

**2 Purposes:**

- a. To coordinate invasive species management in Yukon
- b To prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species.
- c To educate and advise the public and professionals about invasive species and their risk to ecosystems and economies through activities such as workshops, seminars, and newsletters.
- d To collaborate with other jurisdictions on invasive species issues.
- e To encourage, promote and support research on invasive species that will contribute to the achievement of the social and economical goals of the people of the Yukon Territory.

3 The Society shall function without purposes of gain for its members or directors and any profits or other accretion to the Society shall be used for promoting its purposes. No director of the Society shall be paid any remuneration for services rendered to the Society but may be paid reasonable expenses in acting as a director and an honorarium for serving as an officer of the Society. This clause is unalterable.

We like to keep the constitution simple and details can be put in the bylaws. Changes to the constitution or the bylaws can be done at an AGM, if necessary.

Discussions about the wording managing arose. Yukon has hardly any legislation concerning invasive species at the moment. In YISC we give advice; we do not manage the natural resources (i.e. invasive species) at this time.

**Banking:**

A Society mailbox and a banking account will be set up (Action item Toos)

**4. Short Update on**

• **Reclamation and Revegetation Guidelines**

Randy Lamb gave us an update: No electronic copy of the original two documents was found. Initial scanning attempt failed. The guidelines are being retyped now to establish a .doc file. A working group to review, update and consolidate the documents will be established. The document should be done by spring. ENV is partnering with EMR Kirstie suggested looking into MPERG funding to assist with the project.

**Action item:** Randy will follow-up. If no funding through MPERG or similar source of funding can be found, a contract could be advertised to provide an opportunity for local Environmental Companies or contractors to bid to do the needed revision. Bruce pointed out that actually only a few key changes have to be done. E.g.: To establish a clear decision tree and to update the seed list.

- **Best Management Practices for Invasive Plants/Species**  
Andrea met with Kirstie. Andrea drafted an unsolicited proposal that will go to EMR.
- **Why should I care brochure**  
Andrea incorporated all the suggested changes, inserted pictures and is finishing the draft of the brochure. Jennifer Staniforth offered to help. When completed, it will go out to the committee/council members for review.  
**Action item:** Bruce and Matt will look into printing it with Queen's printers.  
**Action item:** Andrea to finish the draft.  
We will have to put the logo of the supporting department and funding sources on the brochure.
- **Subcommittee changes**  
Jen Line requested to be deleted from the distribution list.  
Shirley Hill has at the moment no time to contribute, but would like to stay on the list.  
**Action item:** Andrea is looking for a new representative from forestry.

#### **5. Round table**

Andrea will look into a first funding project which will be a homepage.

**Action item:** Andrea will come up with a concept to review.

Andrea wrote a letter to Larry Bagnell on behalf of YISC to raise awareness of the IASPP funding.

Bruce informed about work that has been done by the National Invasive Species Working Group. There will be a conference in Vancouver (January 19-21, 2010) put on by the Invasive Plant Council of BC with the title "Unique Habitats, Unique Challenges". They are looking for presenters from the north.

Next meeting

Monday November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2009, 1:30-3:00 Environment Yukon Main Boardroom # 10  
Burns Road

On the agenda of the November meeting will be the bylaws for our council.

End of meeting 15:20