

*Meeting of the Science Committee, Laurier-GNWT Partnership Thursday July 3, 2014,  
9:00 AM MDT / 11:00 AM EDT*

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Science Committee members present: M. English, J. Baltzer, D. Livingstone, B. Sieben  
B. Quinton, P. Cott, B. Hanna

Regrets: K. Stevens, M. Wilkie, S. Kokelj, E. Kelly, S. Carrière, J. Kanigan, A. Applejohn  
P. Marsh, R. Jenkins

### **SUMMARY**

- CFI application submitted.
- July 24-25 helicopter tour of potential Sahtu research sites.
- Partnership Annual Report to be submitted to Minister August 8.

### **ACTIONS**

- Project summaries for Annual Report to Minister due August 1.
- Look for opportunities to involve Graham Strickert, CCRN in NWT.
- Anyone interested in Sahtu site visit contact Andrew Applejohn.

### **MINUTES**

1. Welcome and review of agenda.
2. Review of minutes from last meeting. Minutes accepted.
3. Review of action items from June Science Committee meeting.
  - Charity will replace Sally Gray until such time that Sally's replacement is in place.
  - Meeting on Master's program has taken place, awaiting DM approval to move forward.
  - Potential initial meeting re Partnership Strategic Plan when A Applejohn is in Waterloo.
4. NWT employees pursuing gradates studies (standing agenda item, if updates)
  - June 27 meeting to discuss path forward with L. Dyer, R. Jenkins, S. Cummings, E. Kelly, D. Livingstone, A. Applejohn, and B. Hanna. Summary document prepared to be walked into DM for approval to move to next phase - discussion on expectations with potential students.
5. Partnership budget, spending, purchasing
  - New partnership truck and lab trailer now in Yellowknife.
6. Committee member project updates

## **Phil Marsh**

- Inuvik field work from July 13 to 22.
  - Transport CFI funded Laurier truck from Whitehorse to Inuvik.
  - Truck will be available for use in Inuvik, and plan to set up a similar charge back as is used for the Laurier truck in YK.
  - Hoping to be able to store the truck at ENR Shell Lake.
  - Main purpose of this field trip is to install a 50' tower at the Havikpak Creek site.
- Public Lecture in Inuvik (sometime between July 16 and 22)
  - I have contacted ARI in Inuvik, and plan to give a public lecture, along with Oliver Sonnentag, at the Western Arctic Research Centre in Inuvik.
  - ARI thinks we might get a good turn out as the Inuit Circumpolar Conference is on while we are in Inuvik.
  - We will highlight the GNWT-Laurier Partnership, and future plans for research in the Inuvik area.
- Sahtu flights July 24-25
  - I will travel to Norman Wells on July 23 and take part in the two days of flying being arranged by Andrew and Bruce.

## **Bill Quinton**

- CFI application submitted.
- CRD grant application submitted – consortium approach including industry, provincial government, GNWT.
- Interest in trying to coordinate FN input into study.
- Discovery Grant application being prepared looking at ecosystem changes on a NE BC-Scotty Creek-Wrigley transect.
- Brian Sieben taking modeler position – looking at small basins in Yellowknife area to run model on.
- Susan Tighe – DoT linkage on infrastructure research (DoT will revisit during planning later in the summer once construction activity slows down).
- Looking at potential burn study at Scotty Creek, ecosystem response to recent fire.
- CHARS meeting in advance of Cold Regions Network meeting at WLU.
- Looking for opportunities to link Graham Strickert, CRRN Outreach Coordinator to NWT projects – possibly SRRB cross cultural research camp.
- Journal special issue on changes in circumpolar boreal environment.

## **Mike English**

- Software-database system up and running that enables us to pull in snowpack water equivalent data from more or less anywhere in the northern hemisphere going back to 1979.
- In Yellowknife, July 14-20. Meeting with David Wells, Diavik Diamond Mine. Also meeting with Jan Adamczewski, GNWT wildlife biologist.
- Hopefully meeting with CIMP to determine if any funding exists to continue Wekweeti project – community meeting, potential ENR involvement.
- DoC speciation, flow pathways work in Taiga Shield, expand work to Daring

- Lake. Carbon/ Nitrogen historical patterns.
- Sediment cores from Baker Creek, Daring Lake sent for dating analysis.

### **Pete Cott**

- Helped Andrea L with fish component of CFI application.
- Picking up new truck and lab trailer.
- Helped Elyn Humphreys, Carleton University add equipment at YK airport site.
- Assisting U of Montreal crew with Scotty and Trail Valley logistics.
- Co-supervised grad student down in Nahanni – focus on Arctic grayling.

### **Jenn Baltzer**

- Was in Washington DC on a review panel for the Smithsonian. Scientist charged with the boreal/temperature plots in the Smithsonian's ForestGEO network is very keen on the idea of establishing a long-term forest dynamics plot in Nahanni. Scotty Creek is already part of network, and is to be emphasized in Smithsonian review paper.
- Plot crew now trained and down at Scotty Creek.
- Met with Fort Simpson chief regarding Scotty Creek research.
- Jason Paul – student co-supervised with Steve Kokelj looking at ground ice/ veg interactions. Now working out of Geoscience office.
- Family now moved for the summer to near Prelude Lake.
- CFI/ CRD applications.

### **Brian Sieben**

- Climate change part of job is being backfilled while in ½ time modeler position with WLU.

### **David Livingstone**

- Extreme fire season so in-kind logistical support (helicopter and crew time) not likely to happen.

### 7. Science Committee travel updates

- A.A. Through Toronto July 14-15. Possible to go to WLU as well.
- P.C. July 15-22 – bull trout study. Away first 3 weeks of August. Conference and holiday.
- P.M. Late July to Trail Valley to install Eddie Covariance
- P.M. Lake August/Early September installing new equipment with students
- B.Q. Scotty End of August, maybe July
- M.E. July 14-20 Yellowknife

### 8. Important Dates:

- Flight for selecting GNWT sites for CFI grant July 24-25 **contact Andrew Applejohn for more information and seat availability.**

- August 1 – due date for Annual Report project summaries.

9. Additional business

None

10. Next meeting date

August 7, 2014 - 9:00 AM in Yellowknife, 11:00 AM in Ontario.