

CIRCLE FOR ABORIGINAL RELATIONS (CFAR) SOCIETY



Meeting Minutes:

April 8, 2009
10:00 am to 2:00 pm

Location:

Pembina Pipelines
Husky Tower, 2000, 700 9th Avenue SW

Attendees: Christine Schreuder, Gerry Laslo, Vivienne Beisel, Ben Brunnen (partial), Craig Barraclough, Bob Phillips, Fernande Comer, Karen McCullough, Domenyk Leach (partial), Janais Turuk, Kuni Albert, Nora Flett, Jacob Handel (by phone) and Rob Barber (by phone), David Turner (partial).

1. Welcome, introductions and opening remarks (Janais Turuk)
2. Review/approve agenda. Move to accept agenda as revised by Ben seconded by Karen – approved.
3. Approved minutes of February 11/09. Moved by Gerry seconded by Craig. Minutes approved with corrections as per Ben in Section 8 and Christine to Section 6 on membership numbers. **Action: Karen to revise minutes and resend to the board.**
4. Review action items February minutes. Conference budget has been put together, but we don't have it today. Ted is expected to call in later this morning and we will discuss then. Discussion on giving out the free spots. **Action: Events committee will look at this for the next meeting.**
5. Logo. Nora discussed the first second and third prize choices of the logo contest entries. The first choice is the bear and some questions raised on the colors used

not being traditional. Apparently the creator of the logo is willing to change the colors to traditional ones – get a Treaty 7 elder to choose the colors traditional to this area since this is where the CFAR head office is or have one color from each Treaty area. Also suggested that the CFAR name has to be on the main identity logo. The logo committee can take our feedback back to the artist and see if we can get a revised one to review by next meeting. Ben moved that the logo committees' recommended choice be accepted with changes as discussed, seconded by Kuni – approved. Individual members will send their specific suggestions for change to the logo committee to send to the artist.

6. Reports:

- a. Christine has been training Fernande. We lost \$3815.06 on the luncheon and \$2516.22 on the mixer. Some of the \$'s were due to the fact that Christine was training Fernande during those events for the invoicing and registrations. Recommend that some of the time for Fernande be allocated to training rather than luncheon costs. There are a couple of sources that will be explored for grants – Fernande to the Minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Janais to Alberta Employment and Immigration. Everyone is expected to run any major communications with outside organizations by the Board until the governance documents are completed to ensure consistency / accuracy in our messages. ARC offers to pay for some of the intern memberships – asks that those numbers be sent to Bob Phillips and he will cover the costs at least on the short term. Christine will separate the membership information up between new, renewed, corporate, etc.
- b. Website – Domenyk. If anyone wants the statistics on hits to our website, let Domenyk know and he can give them the login id and password. Updates to websites are taking longer than was agreed to in the beginning. Domenyk will send an email to board members re timing for requests for additions to the website (events, board changes be received by a certain date each month so that it is more coordinated for the company to make the changes for us. Message board possibility on our website proposed for members to use with a login name and password with a policy for what is allowed to be posted – cost is over \$2000 (about \$8/member) to allow members an opportunity to discuss on line and put job postings on there, and put on updates by committees – similar to a blog). Do we have a budget and a work plan for the various costs like these – still waiting for that to be presented by Ted. Will be able to move on these decisions better when we have a budget. **Action: Domenyk will bring the proposal to the Board to review and a decision will be made once the budget is available. Domenyk and Kuni will review the information on the website as a lot of the information is dated – they will bring some suggestions to the next meeting.**

7. Credential Recognition Committee. The team has sent out the draft survey – some feedback is received. **Action: Ben and Vivienne ask that all board members just complete the survey on line and feedback in the comments section to any suggested changes. They plan to get the survey out mid next week to initiate the survey with a close of end of April.** Mike is doing research on models for credential recognition. Proposed structure should be able to have a recommendation on it in May. Credential team will present the survey findings Mike's research on credential model at the Conference in June. Intention is to stick to the recommendations of the board and the membership so that it is successful. Will likely have to come back to the membership after the feedback from the conference in June.
8. Governance policy. Vivienne has verified that our Bylaws are the same as what was filed. Need to review the governance document to make sure that there are no discrepancies between it and the bylaws. Can do one major redrafting of the bylaws with one resolution and get it done right and don't touch it again. Has spent a couple of hours redraft, need a few more hours work and will bring back to the governance committee who will bring to the board meeting for a resolution to be passed. **Action: update at next board meeting.**
9. McMurray Mixer debrief. Really good mix of attendees including 2 chiefs. No sponsors for the mixer because companies would rather sponsor the conference and didn't want to sponsor both.
10. Family focus – Aboriginal Awareness Day and Week Article on CFAR. Recommends we advertise in the Native Journal for the conference – they allow us to put a story and picture in the newspaper on our conference. Craig moved Kuni seconded all in favour for Rob to advertise in the Native Journal.
11. Special Guest: Wayne Courchene (AFN Senior Aide) – Reconciliation Event (a memorial of the apology). AFN works with United, Presbyterian, Catholic, etc. – engaged in a church and FN leaders tour. Went to 4 major cities – promoting Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) and effort to push federal government to move a little faster on the TRC. June 11/09 will be the first anniversary of the apology – church bell ringing national event to remind everyone of the apology event. Since lots of churches no longer have bells so are looking at organizing a round dance from 11-12 in each time zone. Have buy in from churches and friendship centre, looking to spread it around to a bigger audience and asking if we can be a contact within our companies to keep in touch with David to participate. Require volunteers if we are interested. Olympic Plaza or Princes Island Park. Website: www.AFN.ca. TRC has a life cycle of 5 years, one year has passed and nothing has been done yet. Reminder of AFN annual general assembly July 21-23 2009 in Calgary at the Telus Convention Centre.

12. Conference.

- a. Behind on sponsorships this year – by this time last year we had \$30,000, would be happy to have that as a final number this year. Just a reminder for everyone to make requests from companies that they haven't approached yet. Janais will talk to Ted about the budget progress. Janais will pursue putting an article in the Alberta Chamber of Resources that goes out in May.
- b. Vivienne, Kuni and Gaelle proposing a breakout session on use and management of TLUS. This is a huge topic and an area where there is no guidance so there will not be very much covered in the one hour session. Another suggestion we set up a session to get feedback from community attendees on how TLUS information should be done. Or to get feedback on what are the hot issues for the communities of the attendees to help us plan next years conference. Nora moved Jerry seconded all in favour for this to be planned for the conference. Send any ideas to Vivienne, Kuni or Gaelle.
- c. All speakers and breakout sessions are lined up. Advertisement will be sent out soon.

13. Mission Statement Review. Action: Discussion postponed until next meeting – all Board members to review and provide feedback to Craig and be prepared to discuss at the next meeting.

14. Other Business.

- a. Rob proposes to implement a recognition committee for CFAR board members so that we can recognize board members outside of only when they leave the group. Rob is looking for someone to help from the Board. He asks that anyone interested in helping send him an email and this group will have something for the next board meeting. Karen will assist.
- b. Ben handed out the C of C Strategies to Improve Aboriginal Labour market outcomes in Calgary that was presented to and well received by the Federal Minister – Chuck Strahl.

15. Next meeting: May 13/09 at ??.

Thanks to Pembina for hosting and lunch at April 8/09 meeting.