

Meeting Agenda

RIA Partnership- FERC

Nov 4, 2017 @ 1030-3:00

Location: Seminar Room, NRI building University of Manitoba Fort Gary Campus 70
Dysart Road, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB, Canada R3T 2M6

Teleconference line: 204-474-8698

Call meeting to order (5 minutes)

Attendance: Wilder, Serena, Patricia (through skype), Shirley, Barney, Byron, Pepper, Shailesh, and Keshab

Regrets: Kaylee

Approve previous minutes: N/A

Agenda Items

- 1) 10:30-10:45 Introductions 15 minutes
 - Pepper provided an overview of the meeting agendas. Then, the meeting proceeded with introduction of the meeting's participant.
 - Wilder said that he is working with a team to prepare for a special edition of a journal related to food insecurity and Indigenous people. He highlighted that this involvement will provide an opportunity of sharing the project's experiences.
 - Shailesh said that this project will help a lot in facilitating Indigenous students to familiarize with the university education system.
 - Patricia has information related to fur trade in the old post, which she is happy to share with the team if it is of interest to us.
- 2) 1045- 12:00 Review the Grant Proposal and pull out food related deliverables

Wilder: Project based learning: Community mobilization and capacity building go together with the project-based learning.

Byron: What is Traditional Knowledge (TK) in the context of Wasagamack and Garden Hill? It includes Indigenous practices and Indigenous beliefs. Thus we need to discuss and agree on what we will focus when we talk about incorporating Traditional Indigenous Knowledge in the project. We have to define in our project. The belief system is very challenging as it is influenced to some degree from Christianity that may result in the different degree of

openness to the community. For example, Wasagamack may allow or agree with one activity due to their open belief system whereas Garden Hill may not. An important part of discussion can be the role of missionaries in Island Lake given the context of colonization and decolonization, and Patricia was more interested to contribute to this discussion.

When we talk Indigenous belief system, it is important that we aware of the belief system of each community such as Wasagamack and Garden Hill. Language plays a key role in communicating with the people in Wasagamack and Garden Hill. With local language, community members see the value and relevance of the activities or interventions we talk compared to Broken-English and English.

An important activity will be 'What is TK in the context of our project?', and 'What is the status of TK in Wasagamack and Garden Hill?' We can focus on studying what is in there in terms of Indigenous knowledge and practice in Wasagamack and Garden Hill. The best way is to have an understanding of how communities say or describe it.

Community leadership also play an important role in executing community-level programs/activities. Because leadership changes with time, project team need to have constant dialogue with communities. We also need to know the expectations of community leaders so that we can implement the project. The best way is that we sit with community leaders/representatives and share our plans.

A key limitation of the project is that there is no funding for this committee members travel frequently and interact with the community. In this context, Barney has been identified to establish a linkage between the committee and community.

Serena: We may also need to do a reconnaissance study of Indigenous food systems. In terms of ethics, we may need to think of two stages i.e. working with communities for first six months to do reconnaissance study, and then doing specific research in the community.

In the proposal we are also including 'Island Lake', but we are implementing on Wasagamack and Garden Hill; thus for clarity, let's change Island Lake and put Wasagamack and Garden Hill.

Garden Hill has done housing and employment survey.

How do we identify master and PhD students for the project? Through supervisor advertising for their research focus under partnership.

We can co-supervise doctoral students. For example, in the case of no PhD program in Brandon University.

Unless we know the students and their projects, we cannot actually prepare ethics protocol and get approval. Community Food Security assessment should be our priority. If we have budget, we can have some kind of consultation with elders.

Indigenous food system: How many instructors we will need, who would be the good candidate to take adult education certificate and teach the course at the community level.

Shailesh is happy to share the course materials as he has been involved in running a course on Indigenous food system field course, 2000 level, undergraduate course. This course can be an important resource for us to learn and apply. Shailesh is happy to run the course in one of the communities in Wasagamack and Garden Hill.

Meechim Farm is going to organize food security training. So, there is an opportunity of collaboration with Meechim Farm.

UofW has PACE (Professional Adult Certificate Education) program, and this is also an opportunity to develop a specific certificate program for Wasagamack and Garden Hill. MITT and Red River College (RRC) are also important to design certificate-level courses. RRC has a culinary program.

Policy lead to make connection with organizations like MKO through Barney and Byron.

Until the travel policy (of the project) is finalized and approved, case by case decision will be done to allow travel that is justified and necessary.

Sagatay College: It has partnership with the Employment and Training. It also provides adult certificate courses.

Identifying the research priorities of FERC:

Working with community through Byron Beardy for designing of Indigenous Food System course curriculum would provide an opportunity of understanding the research needs in Wasagamack and Garden Hill.

1/2-page student funding application process would also provide an overview of research.

Let's include co-applicants in our team as they were interested in FERC deliverables.

3) 12:15-1:15 Working Lunch - Review DRAFT Terms of Reference, Roles and Responsibilities & committee structure – make changes and approve

- The first deliverable needs to be reflected in the description section of the ToR.
- Let's have a bi-monthly meeting of the committee.
- Curriculum lead – Shailesh, and Policy Lead: Pepper until other arrangements made.
- Let's explore with Priscilla Settee if she is interested for Curriculum Lead.
- Let's reach out to co-applicants if they are interested to lead our themes such as policy, curriculum, etc.
- Let's remove reporting and evaluation lead.
- Added Barney as community liaison.

4) Adjourn

Action Items:

- Get the Ethics protocols approved on time. In case of Brandon University, it may take little longer than expected.
- Discuss What is Traditional Indigenous Knowledge in the context of the project.
- Discuss what is the status of Traditional Indigenous Knowledge in Wasagamack and Garden Hill.
- Write a policy brief about Traditional Indigenous Knowledge and its relevance in the context of Wasagamack and Garden Hill or Island Lake and submit to project advisory committee. We need to have a working definition that is comfortable with the community and the FERC committee.
- Write 'Wasagamack and Garden Hill' in place of 'Island Lake'.
- Food security household survey, prevalence counts of homelessness or housing insecurity, photo-voice and film
- Pepper will follow up with Byron to explore opportunity of organizing educational program in Garden Hill with Meechim Farm.
- Shailesh is happy to share the Indigenous Food System Undergraduate Course, which he has already developed and offered.
- Shirley to explore if undergraduate students are eligible for Northern Scientific Training (NST) program.
- In the universities, look at the policies around monthly payment around tuition fee payment.
- Explore locally controlled education and how that applies in the context of post-secondary education.

- Send out entire membership to explore their interest in FERC. We need to have a meeting with co-applicants and partners to harness their expertise in FERC.
- Shailesh to share the contact info of Andy Sharma with Pepper.
- Pepper and Barney to work together to identify a community lead in the FERC composition.
- All members are asked to provide feedback to the FERC terms of reference by 19th Nov 2017 (preferable within two weeks)

Carry forwards