

## Minutes

### Ocean Bridge Steering Committee Call

Wednesday, Nov. 20 - 9 a.m. PST

Present:

Megan Vocking, CMN

Nicole Straughan

Munju Ravindra

Kareina D'Souza

Dawn Carr

Jacob Porter

Joana Augusto

Matt Miller

James Bartram

Shelly Elverum

#### **1. Ottawa in-person meeting dates are Jan 24 to 26:**

*Nicole S.:*

- a. We will begin making arrangements for flights and accommodation for folks from out of town.
- b. If you have agenda recommendations, please send to Ben.

#### **2. Ottawa is fast approaching! Here is an update on the youth projects:**

*Nicole S.:*

- a. Schedule: see attached draft schedule
- b. Which nights are best night for celebration dinner & living library?
- c. Project update:
  - i. MPA film screening & panel
  - ii. Ocean Outreach
  - iii. Ocean Party (name TBD)

#### iv. Contamination Station

#### v. Water & Plastic

- Ottawa projects: It's exciting to see projects come together. Some more advanced than others, including movie screening....(note: plans below are part of draft schedule and subject to change)
- Day 1:
  - Flex travel time for arrivals > Welcome and orientation > Betty Carpick workshop > Diz's workshop: Building a national Ocean Literacy strategy > Project team meetings
- Day 2:
  - Contamination station: Involves ROVs and water quality sampling techniques, led by Ariel Greenblat. Have heard really great things about it.
  - Ocean Literacy Outreach Team (activating over three days). They'll be hosting a bunch of outreach booths, either at Museum of Nature and other locations around Ottawa, speaking about ocean literacy. Currently exploring what is level of ocean literacy in Ottawa and what are the gaps. Hopefully we can use the canal and do outreach there if it's frozen! If not frozen, we're looking at the market or other high-foot-traffic location.
  - Evening: "Ocean Party" (potentially looking for new name) will be an evening of culture (poetry, music, etc.) gathering youth involved in arts and culture scene, followed by social night. Also seeking proper location (in discussion with Museum of History, located just over the bridge on the Gatineau side).
- Day 3:
  - Plastics Team: Educating public about plastic concerns in oceans, but also highlighting root causes, consequences and issues around reducing plastic, focusing on access to safe drinking water for all Canadians.
  - Will also have a panel and outreach components.
  - Evening: Considering holding celebration dinner with youth - still confirming date (Sunday or Monday)
- Day 4:
  - Morning will start with Betty Carpick, finishing Threading Water tapestry (hopefully at Museum of Nature)
- Day 5:
  - Appreciative inquiry
  - Preparing/participating in CC-IUCN Forum @ Museum of Nature
  - Possible participation in Youth Climate Lab at Impact Hub

*Megan, V:*

- Note that Museum of Nature is closed on day of Living Library Day

*Nicole S:*

- Movie Screening and Oceans Party will be held at location other than Museum of Nature

*Dawn C.:*

- *Dawn:* Engaging youth during CC-IUCN meetings: Day is wide open, we haven't completed agenda yet. Would be nice to include youth and Ocean Bridge and involve them in development of agenda. Over next couple of weeks would be ideal time to convene sub-committee to develop agenda, and would like to have Ocean Bridge youth participate if possible.

*Nicole S:*

- We should be able to garner interest among current youth or alumni.
- For Monday night Living Library, we're looking at "smaller, networking" type of evening with targeted invites/tickets to local youth environmentalists, etc.

*James B:*

- Federal family is increasingly asking questions like "What does youth engagement look like?", so we could do mini-version of what we did at Nature Summit in Montreal - perhaps Lunch and Learn or discussion on what is meaningful youth engagement?
- Possibility of getting Minister Wilkinson involved, or other senior level support within the CC-IUCN. Don't think it's beyond us to have those kinds of people in for a luncheon to interact with youth.

### **3. Youth & Steering committee member 1:1's**

*Nicole S:*

- Some youth just want to chat about their projects, others seeking to converse with experts in the field/mentorship. If you get a chance to talk about their service projects, and what their next steps might be as they leave Ocean Bridge. Ben setting up those invites with requests received from youth.

### **4. Expansion & Extension update:**

- a. Hiring process is underway

*Nicole S.*

- All-staff training with new hires in December?

- Did first round of recruitment for 2020 cohorts: Great Lakes and Pacific. We had about 120 applications, we'll be narrowing that down to 80. We're still a bit lacking in the North, so we've been reaching out to Shelly and other folks (Jasveen is in Iqaluit this week), so we're hoping to make progress there.
- We anticipate a lot more applications coming through on Dec. 9

James B:

- Just as we're expanding Ocean Bridge, so are all the other Canada Service Corps partners, so there's lots of opportunities...but that means competition too!

## 5. Communications

- Our Ocean Bridge Diaries series published by Canadian Geographic has returned. Here are a few links to stories published, with more to come:

- a. <https://www.canadiangeographic.ca/article/ocean-bridge-diaries-talen-rimmer>
- b. <https://www.canadiangeographic.ca/article/ocean-bridge-diaries-kayoung-heo>

## 6. Other:

*Munju R:*

- We had our first inaugural sub-committee meeting (#NFA, Marine Conservation, Youth Engagement at Parks Canada) and we hope to continue meeting on a monthly basis about how the different branches of Parks can support Ocean Bridge.