

Minutes

Ocean Bridge Steering Committee Call

Aug 20, 2019 at 10:00am PT

Present:

Nicole Straughan

Benjamin Aubé

Matt Miller (alumnus)

David Byng

Mike Wong

Kareina D'Souza (alumnus)

Dawn Carr

Lisa Nyman

Joana Augusto

Shelly Elverum

Ailsa Barry

Munju Ravindra

Scott Bohachyk

Michael Furdyk

1. Expansion & Extension Update (Nicole S.)

- We continue to work with ESDC on the extension & expansion.
- Continue to plan to run four cohorts between January 2020 and March 2021.
 - Revising proposal so it goes to March 31, 2021. Tweaked a few things we'd put in there. Asking to run 4 cohorts between now to March 31, 2021 in "original Ocean Bridge model" – 4 cohorts: B.C., Ontario, Québec and Maritimes.
 - Have also asked to do full-time field placements for 20 youth 18-30 across the country in conservation field placements for 2.5 months. Would do pre-immersion training with funding to get certificates, etc.

- We have added a service placement at the Vancouver Aquarium with our camps and curriculum teams for up to 128 youth a year aged 15-17 years old.
 - Placements will be at Vancouver Aquarium, doing work in wet labs or camps team doing education and outreach.
 - They would be with us from October to May, along with full-time 2-week placement (7 hours a day) at March spring break camp, and will create and deliver service project in their community. In October, all youth would be invited to “summer showcase” near Vancouver where we bring them all together as a showcase of their work.
- Continue to plan for 20 full time field placements.

2. Ottawa Update (Nicole S.)

- We have approval from ESDC to hire a new program specialist – this person will be solely responsible for supporting and coaching the Ottawa service project teams and finalizing logistics of the trip.
 - Full time position for 7 months. Position is focused on supporting and coaching project teams planning Ottawa urban service projects, and coordinating Ottawa trip.
- Mike W.: Why is new program specialist only limited to 7 months?
 - Nicole S.: Funding agreement currently only goes to the end of March 31, 2020. Intention would be that as soon as we get expansion funding, that position would become one we’re filling through that, so opportunity would be there for extension of position.
- Youth will be leading 5 projects in Ottawa during urban service expedition – 1 mandatory networking event and 4 co-created and agreed upon by the cohort.
 - Mini touch-tank idea: Currently looking into how to get habitat area to Ottawa.
 - Ailsa B.: Happy to have animal care people at Canadian Museum of Nature talk to staff in Vancouver to discuss what Museum already have in stock. We may just need the habitat and can provide the species? Will look into it.
- Youth have pitched their project ideas to the group on Padlet platform and we are in the process of identifying what the final 5 projects will be – you can check them

out here: <https://education.ocean.org/oceanbridge/assignments/1116167>

- Dawn C.: Reminder of dates for Ottawa trip?
 - Nicole S.: Youth arrive January 24 (some may arrive during day/late evening on 23rd), and leave January 28. Have opening to do something during morning of January 28.
- Scott B.: If there's any way UNACanada can be of assistance – we have new space on Sparks St. downtown Ottawa that can fit 30-45 people or so.

3. Communications (Ben A.)

- Canadian Geographic series, *Ocean Bridge Diaries*, will continue with stories from Lake Superior. Once we have four stories ready to go they will start publishing them.
- Kim & Kaitlyn featured on CBC radio for their Winnipeg service project. Supporting Article here: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/manitoba/arctic-alley-ocean-tour-danielle-moore-1.5247294> and video here: <https://www.cbc.ca/player/play/1588008003819>
- Ocean Bridge “In The News” section in the Gallery section on the OB homepage: <https://education.ocean.org/oceanbridge/gallery/6623>

4. All-Atlantic Youth Ocean Ambassador Summer School in Galway, Ireland (23-27 August 2019):

- Two youth, Adrian Rogers and Leah McConney (from St. John's and Halifax, respectively), are on their way next week to the All-Atlantic Youth Ocean Ambassador Summer School in Galway, Ireland
- Over the course of the Summer School, Ambassadors will design and develop campaigns, together with communication and outreach experts to raise awareness of the issues affecting communities living by and from the Atlantic Ocean.

5. Other items:

- Ocean Bridge/Ocean Wise is confirming youth that will be sent to Parks Conference this October.
- Stephanie Foucault from 2018 cohort was selected as one of 90 youth to attend Our Oceans Summit in Oslo, Norway. Topics will include blue economy and sustainability.
- Jasveen Brar from 2018 cohort just announced as one of NAAEE's Top 30 Environmental Educators Under 30: <https://naaee.org/about-us/people/jasveen-brar>
- P-A (Pierre-Antoine) Descoteaux of 2019 cohort headed to COP25 in Chile. Will be bringing Ocean Literacy and Ocean Bridge content with him as well.