



Topic: Communications Working Group Meeting

Date / Time: May 14, 2025, 2:30-4:00pm EST

Location: Online Zoom Meeting
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82018094015>
Meeting ID: 820 1809 4015

Chair: Kaitlin Breton-Honeyman Polynya Consulting

Attendees:	Isaac Masty	Eeyou Marine Region Impact Review Board
	Joel Heath	Arctic Eider Society
	Jennifer Simard	Moose Cree First Nation
	Melody Lynch	ArcticNet
	Lucassie Arragutainaq	Steering Committee Chair
	Ryan Barry	Secretariat Chair
	Billy Nicoll	Consortium secretariat
	Serena Panaktalok	Consortium Secretariat

Notes on Agenda Items:

1. Review of agenda and meeting minutes

- Introduction to Billy Nicoll as the new Director of Operations for the Consortium
- No comments on the minutes or additions to the agenda

2. Secretariat updates

a. Report on the 2025 Roundtable

- WG Members appreciated:
 - Recognition between Inuit and Cree in terms of challenges they're facing
 - Many shared priorities, ex: effects of changing climate
 - Strong and engaged youth delegation
 - Research and Monitoring: the script is changing to community-led research as a priority, to community-led projects being the main research approach presented
 - That projects were presented and led by community experts, with researchers taking a supportive role

- That enough time was allotted for people to share. That adjustments were made to the schedule when needed to provide this time.
- The graphic summaries that were created
- The record number of female representatives
- That data sovereignty was brought up. There is a desire for this conversation to move forward
- Isaac Masty's knowledge about the strength of circular systems vs. hierarchy
- WG Members offered the following constructive feedback:
 - Leadership of Whapmagoostui wasn't well informed about the Consortium. Recommended that the Secretariat visits communities in person to help prepare communities. Suggested that it makes a difference when it's someone from outside of the community who makes the presentation. Suggested that it's presented as - why we're here and here's what we're doing - in a simple way.
 - Better prep is needed for the youth reps as well, as they are not all aware of the purpose of the meeting. Secretariat is working on info materials to address this.
 - Worth considering ways that community reps can bring information back to the community as well
 - Consider ways to ensure regional organizations are engaged - potentially through time in meetings or opportunities for presentations
 - Consider broadcasting on the radio or Uvagut (need to consider cost and whether it would hinder people's willingness to share). Wawatay Radio was brought up as an option.
 - Consider creating highlight reels
 - Increase media engagement, and consider an interview with Ryan and Lucassie

b. Planning the 2026 Summit

- Ryan - Current plans for the Summit
 - Well placed to build on the momentum of last roundtables
 - Currently exploring venues
 - A save the date email will be shared soon - likely for the last week of Feb, 2026
 - Need WGs to start considering what they want to accomplish at the Summit
- Kaitlin Breton-Honeyman - is there a theme?
 - Ryan - this is open for discussion
- Joel Heath - At the last Summit, we discussed possibilities for a Voices from the Bay 2 and ongoing restoration of the data behind Voices from the Bay. We could discuss next steps and approach at the upcoming Summit
 - Suggested video format to help it be accessible for people and create an archive
 - Could film people working around the table, and get a mandate from the communities if they're interested

- Lucassie - Many Inuit might say - it's already there, what else can we tell them? How can we communicate more?
 - Joel - audience could be more focused on knowledge transfer from elders to youth. VFTB was largely aimed at responding to southerners and development.
 - Serena Panaktalok - Youth Keynote Speaker at the Summit?
 - Jennifer Simard - We have success having youth share their ideas through videos in our programs. We provide cameras, and have media students edit them into webisodes. Many don't like writing or speaking to the audience, but video is fine. Example: <https://www.youtube.com/@KeiferHester>.
 - Jennifer Simard - Could VFTB 2 include researchers now that we're collaborating better? We're trying to bridge more.
 - Joel Heath - Showing how we work together is good. Suggest a theme of knowledge transfer from elders, to help share how we are working together to prepare the next generation taking care of the region
- Lucassie Arragutainaq - Suggest providing brief info about why we're here. What is environmental assessment and wildlife management? Start with a small umbrella and expand to what the person wants to learn about. Wildlife management is big, but inside it's bigger. Up to us what we want to hear and find out. How do we want youth doing research if they're interested? For ex. Food security is a strange concept to understand at first. But the idea is there in Inuktitut too if we take the time to explain it. We want the knowledge to be transferable.
 - Kaitlin Breton-Honeyman - We could ask the youth what they want to know to help shape the questions that are asked
 - Isaac Masty - People are sometimes confused about the roles of different institutions in the Bays. Many new authorities being created, such as those protecting research. It can be confusing with so many protectors now.
 - Ryan Barry - Early on there was a desire to create an organization directory on the Consortium website. A list of all orgs that participate.
 - Lucassie Arragutainaq: In the south many orgs are created. From the Inuit perspective everything is one.
 - Billy Nicoll - The Secretariat would like to track what youth groups exist in the region. If WG members know of any, please share with the Secretariat.
 - Jennifer Simard - will invite Billy to youth committee on Slack
 - Isaac Masty - In Whapmagoostui the contact person is Josua Kawapit. Communications officer with WFN. Very good at informing the community

c. Renaming, branding and website updates

- Ryan Barry - The new name was shared and was well received. It is challenging to say, but people appreciated why it was changed. Website relaunch received supportively

- Billy Nicoll - Have received feedback about the spelling of Tasiujaqiuqmiut not aligning with local dialects (spelling is from east side of the bay). Important to communicate naming selection carefully.
- Suggestion: create a space on the website acknowledging the different spellings and describing how the naming decision was made

3. Next conference call and agenda topics

- Kaitlin Breton-Honeyman will share a doodle poll to schedule the next meeting in the fall.
- Secretariat will put together a document outlining ideas for materials that can help prepare participants. This will be shared with the WG for feedback before the next meeting.
- Secretariat will consider action items to address feedback received about in-person outreach, radio comms, Summit topics, and organization lists.
- Working group members to share youth group contacts with the Secretariat.



Tasiujaqiuqmiut Sheewetaganapoi blends Inuktitut and Cree; *those living in the big bay and saltwater*, or more inclusively *the inland sea*, and reflects the interconnected ecosystem of flora, fauna, and people that call this marine region home.