

Niagara Coastal Community Collaborative

Nov.7th, 6:00-8:30pm

Crystal Ridge Branch of the Fort Erie Public Library

Attendees

Participants:

Rick Stockton	Mike Rose
Cherlene Vieira	Bill Fryer
Annie Michaud	Jim Merrick
Diane Stemerding	Amy Parks
Gary Stemerding	Ian Twyford
Bob Highcock	Tim Seburn
June Chipp	Nadine Litwik
Cheryl Schonewille	Don Lubberts
Amy Roebuck	

Organizing Team:

Local Champions:

Albert Garafalo
Cesar Moldonado

Environment and Climate Change Canada:

Luca Cagnelli
Janette Anderson
Jody McKenna
Julia Hatcher
Pete Zuzek (Zuzek Inc.)

Summary of Action Items:

- Further develop a demo web mapping tool before the next meeting
- Revise the TOR with existing input including adding a glossary of terms
- Set the next meeting for early December

What we heard:

Local Web Mapping Tool:

Pete Zuzek provided a demonstration of the web mapping tool that Environment and Climate Change Canada has been using to facilitate the assessment. He presented the idea of creating a local website with a web mapping tool that would allow local groups to share their spatial data through this map as well as other documentation.

- It was noted that the ability to show both current and historic data together has been missing in the past and will be important to taking action in the future
- We will need to identify a long term plan for inputting information in a consistent manner and develop some measure of quality control to ensure the data can be used with confidence
- A tool like this could support local groups' aspirations to expand crowd sourcing

- It was noted that the local groups likely do not have the GIS skills necessary to contribute to a tool like this. Pete Zuzek noted that they would hope to train members of the collaborative so that they may handle upkeep with in the collaborative. A link to the GIS program at Niagara College was identified as potential support for local groups to provide data also
- The to be established technical team was identified as a potential lead for the tool under the collaborative

Terms of Reference:

- The group noted that the term coast seemed to imply only the shoreline while the interests of the groups present are **more ecosystem focused**
- The group acknowledge that economic opportunities were important but thought it could be better framed in the vision statement by noting that **socio-economic opportunities exist only because of a healthy ecosystem** and that should be the main message
- **Include a glossary** of terms including ecosystem, healthy, zone of impact/zone of influence, etc.
- **Branding** for the coastline was identified as a way to make people feel more connected to the coast line. "Canada's South Coast" was identified as an existing branding effort in the area.
- **Set a geographic scope** for the collaborative, noting that right scale for engagement is tough to define, too large and people feel less of a connection, too small and there are too few people to tackle big issues and break down silos. Reasonable travel distance was also suggested as a scoping mechanism
- Suggested that the use of the term "Niagara Region" may confuse people to think it is a Niagara Region (the municipality) led endeavour. Alternative name for the area TBD
- Suggested that the purpose focus more on understanding the issues
- It was noted that the collaborative has a finite number of people at this time so the structure of the teams should reflect that (i.e. can't have 10 different teams with only 20 people in total)

Other Business:

- Next meeting in early December with an earlier 5:30 start time
- Potential presentation on Lake Erie nutrient issues

Supplementary Ideas:

- Potential presentation by the Lake Huron Coastal Centre for Conservation