



Joint Meeting LGMGIS & GCC
Brambles Bakery and Café
February 4th 2020
2-5pm

In attendance: Dennis Lloyd, Gerry Sanford, Jill Sanford, Judy Guichon, Bruno Mallieux, Lou Cooke, Agnes Jackson, Mike Dedels, Reid McTaggish, Patrick Farmer, Brad Arner, Mandy Russ, Kate Anderson, John Anderson

Meeting opened at approx. 2pm with the question of what folks would like to see at the site in the next 10-20 years.....

- Education, research, curriculum development, trail development, stewardship
- The desire for a long term plan was discussed with a desire to create a “friends of the grasslands” and some way to build on younger stewardship and interest.

1. Stewardship

a) improvements and infrastructure needs

- Kiosk needs some attention to the main beams to protect it for another 20 years. We have an estimate from Nicola Log works from last year of \$2,700 to do the work.
- Platform is shifting with a post that rises and falls with ice. This work needs to be addressed when the ice present. **Who is going to take this on and does it need to happen this winter?**
- Decking boards some may need replacing.
- Parking Lot, some work was done thanks to FLNRO, using their contractors. More maybe needed, wait and see.... Gravel or crush would improve the surface from the cattle guard.

b) Maintenance

- Gerry continues to be the main keeper of the site. He weed wacks all the paths 2 to 3 times a year.
- Ask Dave Ralph for his team to come and take this on.
- Spot spraying – may be some ability for Dave Ralphs team to also spot spray.

Out Houses:

- Volunteers took this on again last season, with FLNRO taking over for September and October. This coming season there is no plan in place.
- Gerry, Jill, & Judy will discuss summer maintenance & outhouse cleaning with Greg and report at the next NWCRT meeting.

c) Weed management strategy and plan

Copies of a weed management initiative created by Dr. Catherine Tarasoff of Agrowest Consulting and were circulated prior to the meeting.

A need for a subcommittee to review and work on this specific plan is necessary asap.

Subcommittee to include: Brad, Dennis, Judy, Kate and Liis if she will agree

Crested wheat advocates, it has worked in the past, creates forage and may hold some of the cheat grass off in the transition from knapweed to more diverse species. It should not be ruled out and considered when looking at reseeding options.

The use of Goats and Plugs as suggested in the report were not accepted by the group. These options are expensive, have questionable results and presently goats are not available in BC.

The use of mob grazing needs to be seriously discussed with Dave Chutter and the subcommittee. Kate and Judy agree to meet with Dave.

Five points for the subcommittee were identified

1. Create a plan, reconfirm with FLNRO the desire to have noxious weed control done on the site this year.
2. Identify areas to spray and seed *find out what seed is currently being used in the upcoming plan with FLNRO on the Lundbom
3. Meet with FLNRO for spray areas and seed discussion
4. Meet and prioritize steps and frame work on plan
5. Seed recommendations

Funding – we need to find a way to fund the plan. GCC has applied for funds through HCTF Look up and write out in full Agnes has offered to help with fund raising and suggests private funders as well (Purity Feed etc)

2. Research and Demonstration

Monitoring of treated sites is needed, either by contractors or volunteers.
Refer back to the subcommittee.

Community engagement necessary with projects and involvement.
Suggestion for community outreach/ work bee/ field day/ new signage up at Kiosk etc for May 3

3. Education and Outreach

Subcommittee: Kate, Erica Martindale, Dennis.... Coleen Hougen (TNRD) and anyone else that would like to participate.

Kate Suggestion: We could switch out next joint LGMGIS/GCC meeting to Monday April 6 (the day that works for our local educators, as opposed to April 8th, cognisant of Kamloops travellers and trying to cut down on travel and number of meetings) The education portion could be part of our next scheduled joint meeting, on April 6th starting at 3:30-4:30, those with opinions please forward to kate at kanelakeranch@gmail.com or text/call me at 250 378 9674 asap

ALSO: Mike Dedels made the note that to include more people and a younger demographic, we should have meetings after “work hours” so more people can attend.

Contact Coleen at TNRD, she may have some resources to help us.

- a) Field Days: 2 half days are still what we feel we can manage this spring with volunteers. This will include 2 school classes each day (Grades 4-6)

- b) Measuring learning outcomes – we will continue to build on what we learned from the last 2 years of field trips.

Curriculum development

- curriculums and existing learning tools to support teachers before and after the field trips with their students may already be in existence. "A Day in the Grasslands" and adaptations for our region may be in the GCC archives. Agnes and Brad will look into this.

- c) New trail development – Dennis will report back on a Grant application to support a new trail development. GCC will find out the end of March if they are successful in this application. Final discussion on this proposal will be required at this point.

4. Planning: Brain Storm

What do we want to see if on this site in the short term & long term. Do we have the human capacity to commit to this Grasslands Interpretive site?

What do you want to see?

- An Interpretive site we are proud of
 - Better than when we started, continuous improvement
 - Climate change and adaptation with regards to grasslands
 - A younger Demographic participating
 - A place where the information is current / new research development/ information/
 - People / Friends of the Grasslands
 - Knowledge and understanding
 - Succession plan
 - Community collaboration with other local groups (Nicola Naturalists ect)
 - Climate adaptation, grazing, capturing sunshine
 - Grass roots connections
5. Next meeting **April 8th or 6th Jill, I reached out to Erica for Education meeting and she said Wednesdays are bad for her, so proposing to switch the LGMGIS/GCC meeting to the 6th** DO YOU THINK this is resonable?.... 1pm NVIT *Please Note: "Community" clean up and outreach May 3*
6. Closing Circle