

Draft Agenda and Meeting Notes for Municipal Forum Teleconference

Date: November 4, 2009

10:00 – 11:30 Atlantic time

Teleconference call-in information:

Toll-free: 1-877-281-6635

Conference ID: 4178881

Access Code: 300854 #

Facilitator:

Nadine Ives – Climate Change Hub

Participants:

Beate Bowron – CIP

Rachel Lanteigne – Efficiency New Brunswick

Nadine Ives – CC Hub

Eddie Oldfield – CC Hub

- 1. (10 min) Welcome and roundtable introductions**
 - Name and municipality
- 2. (5 min) Update on Hub activities that relate to municipalities in particular**
 - Mayors' EcoChallenge – Phase 2
 - NB Compendium of Public Education Programs and Resources on Climate Change
 - Connecting with other Hubs
 - Upcoming – community meetings and PCP workshops
- 3. (20 min) Go-round:** brief update from participants on activities since last teleconference / current activities
- 4. (20 min) Ms. Beate Bowron – ‘Mainstreaming Climate Change Tools For The Professional Planning’**
(refer to Powerpoint presentation sent by email)
- 5. (15 min) Q & A / Discussion**
- 6. (10 min) Suggestions for topics or presenters for future teleconferences?**
- 7. Farewells**

Meeting Notes

Rachel Lanteigne described Efficiency New Brunswick's Capital Management Tool for Municipalities. The first step to getting funding is to have an energy audit done of municipal buildings. Once this is done, municipalities face the daunting task of getting funds to implement the recommended measures. The Capital Management Tool can be used to help estimate the cost / benefit and payback times of various improvements / retrofits. The amount that will be saved by implementing various measures can then be invested in further improvements. The Tool consists of a giant spreadsheet into which all characteristics of a municipality's buildings are entered along with information from the energy audit. Rachel mentioned upcoming workshops and training sessions (including one for Francophone Associations). Contractor training consists of a 2-day workshop developed by Natural Resources Canada and delivered by EENB advisers.

[Beate Bowron then gave her Powerpoint presentation](#)

The following notes go along with her slides.

Slide 1: Mainstreaming Climate Change Tools for the Professional Planning Community, CIP/NRCAN Project 2009-2011

NRCAN is partnering with the Canadian Institute of Planners (CIP) on this project. CIP is the national organization for professional planners in Canada, with affiliates in all provinces, except for the Atlantic region, where the Atlantic Planners Institute encompasses all 4 Atlantic provinces. The CIP has about 7,000 members. Planners are don't have to belong to this professional organization, but most do. There are requirements to membership and opportunities for professional development.

Beate was the director for community planning for Toronto, but is now retired and has her own independent company, in addition to being involved in this project.

Slide 2: The NRCAN Adaptation Branch wants to get the message out to as many professions as possible.

There is a learning module on climate change and adaptation.

➔ 5 communities in Nunavut, including Iqaluit

Slide 3: Climate Change Tools - 4 components to the programme

Slides 3-6: Climate Change Tools - Planning tools – trying not to re-invent the wheel; looking at which tools can be adapted for climate change planning; want to see all aspects of planning through a climate change adaptation perspective.

- One survey has been done (in a previous NRCAN project)
- The first step is to benchmark planners' knowledge on the issues at present, so the success of the project can be evaluated.
- Members are being surveyed and a focus group is being asked where to best to put the education effort.

- 'Model' standard of practice – so far this has only been done for ethics. Now one is being developed for climate change planning
- Case studies are being done by student interns and there will be awards for innovative planning efforts – these will be posted to the website

- Report card – CIP as an organization wants to develop a report card for itself to evaluate how well it is getting the word out.

Slides 7-10: Continuing Professional Learning

4 components/module

- a 2-hr ‘Climate Change Planning 101’ module – this has been delivered to 3 provincial conferences; it will soon be delivered in Saint John’s; it is being revised and improved each time and will be presented to affiliates for their use
- a 2-day workshop – this will involve people from each provincial affiliate for ‘train the trainer’ sessions; Beate hopes this will be put on the website
- a university course module – this will not be a separate course, but would be integrated into main university courses so that ALL planning students take it
- a web-based module (converting the 2-day module to web format)

- a rural workbook – for smaller communities. Iqualuit has about 7,000 residents, the other four communities in the project have 2000 down to 400 residents

Involved will be 4 Atlantic region communities, the RAC (Regional Adaptation Collaborative) and provincial affiliates.

Slides 11-12: Rural Workbook

- 4 planning teams, each consisting of one woman, one man; a francophone team in Clair, NB
- Beate met with Sarah Herring in Sackville for training the planning teams
- there has been a good response from planners who are interested (volunteering their time) – very high calibre members are becoming involved
- at the end, a Rural Workbook will be produced (with the ‘results’ from Nunavut and Atlantic Canada)

Slides 13-17: Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP)

- work from the community level up to identify issues; results from community involvement & science
- often communities think they can’t do much, need the provincial or federal governments -> aim is to encourage them to see what they can do themselves
- feeds into municipal land use plan – e.g. transportation, garbage dump, water supply

Administration – the 2010 CIP conference (the annual meeting) will be only on climate change

Question & Answer

Q: Does the project involve mitigation measures?

A: The action plans will be both, but the NRCan administration feels that much more is known about mitigation – the knowledge gap is in adaptation

Q: Planning with ‘climate change lenses’ – is this happening?

A: No, it is not happening. CIP cannot bind their members into this, but it does say it believes that climate change is real, is happening now and adaptation is important
Comment: Hopefully, this project will help shift the culture

Other comments:

Beate has made contact with ICLEI

Health Canada's Urban Heat audits – Fredericton is an ongoing case study

Q: Are there Hubs in all Atlantic Canadian provinces?

A: Yes, in NS and NF; in PEI, the Hub has been rolled into government

Beate has contacted the provincial Climate Change Secretariats, but the Hubs weren't mentioned. She has a 2-page document describing the project that she'll send for the Hubs (the link is on the Hub website).

Q: How do planners get the political will and support [for this project/initiative?]

A: They are needed, but we don't have the 'product' yet. We hope the planners will work with Municipal Associations, etc.

Comment: At the RAC conference in Sackville last fall [2008], one of the big conclusions was that there are so many different 'plans' (municipal plans, adaptation plans, green plans, etc.) – it would be good to integrate them into municipal planning
Cape Jourimain/EOS EcoEnergy is involved

Comment: not all of the plans would fit into municipal plans ...

Comment: in Nunavut, there was a grab for the gas-tax money – not the best reason to undertake planning

Beate: NRCan has chosen to focus on smaller places because they generally have fewer resources than larger municipalities. The communities themselves were selected by the Atlantic CIP affiliates so as not to overlap with the RAC studies

WEBSITE: www.planningforclimatechange.ca - has been offline, but should be up soon [it is up now]