



Community Report

Building a robust fishery for all, forever.

June 12, 2018

GREETINGS FROM THE FSMC!!

A big thank you to all of you who were able to attend our May 3 Annual General Assembly! We had a successful and productive meeting; see highlights below.

ASSEMBLY OVERVIEW

Our Annual General Assembly for 2018/2019 was held in Richmond on May 3, 2018. Turnout was good (we had quorum) and the participation of our attendees was very much appreciated by all. I encourage all of our Member Delegates to try their best to attend our Assemblies – it is your opportunity to be the decision-makers in order to provide direction to your Main Table.



ASSEMBLY HIGHLIGHTS

1. Brenda Gaertner, FSMC's Lead Negotiator, provided an update on the status of the negotiation process. She noted that DFO is resisting collaborative management and is challenged by the important initiatives in our proposed Management Agreement.
2. Presentation/discussion on the proposed 2018/19 strategic work plan, led by Neil. He noted that our funding allocation is, for the second year, only large enough to carry us

until December 2018. We will be working with DFO to add more funds, just as they did in the fiscal year just ended.

3. Three resolutions were presented and discussed. One ordinary resolution – approval of the Annual Strategic Workplan – passed by consensus. Two extraordinary resolutions also passed by consensus: one of them to amend wording in our Bylaws (Part 6.2); and the other to authorize the Main Table to undertake an incorporation process (not for profit Society) in the event that a Management Agreement is reached with DFO.
4. Reports from the President (Darren) and the Community Engagement Lead (Pat).
5. A very short financial report for the fiscal year just ended: FSMC had a total funding allocation of \$354,235 and was able to spend all but \$4,558 of it.
6. Communications: a productive general discussion, led by Allison (Communications Coordinator), on general and specific communications approaches and procedures.

The Assembly closed at 3PM, on schedule.

NEGOTIATIONS UPDATE

At our Special Assembly in January 2018, our attending Member Delegates provided very strong support to the Main Table and its negotiation team to continue to pursue the draft Fraser Salmon Management Agreement that the FSMC team had prepared and tabled with DFO.

Since January, DFO agreed to only one bi-lateral negotiation session (February 22). The session was disappointing, frustrating, and not productive. There have been no bi-lateral meetings since. However, communications



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between the Lead Negotiators have occurred and information has been forthcoming over the period from DFO. Two very important (to FSMC members) pieces of the Draft Agreement – operationalizing the Priority Right and populating the Pacific Salmon Treaty panels with mandated First Nation members – have brought negotiations to a standstill because DFO’s negotiation team does not have a mandate to work on these with the FSMC.

This situation was clarified in a recent telephone conversation between Darren and Rebecca Reid, Regional Director-General. It was a frank and open discussion, and it resulted in a suggestion from the RDG – that the two negotiation teams meet, identify all parts of the Draft Agreement that can be agreed to in Region, and identify those issues that will have to have Ottawa involvement in order to resolve them.

This situation was discussed by the Main Table and our negotiators on a conference call on May 24. We decided to pursue the RDG’s suggestion, but to do so with a meeting structure and agenda that will meet our needs.

WHAT’S NEXT??

The four year-term of our current Main Table members will expire December 14, 2018, so a Special Assembly just prior to then will be necessary to ensure a Main Table remains in place to carry on the functions of the FSMC. Stay tuned for our next update on the negotiation process, which we anticipate will resume this month. If you have not seen our Facebook page be sure to like it. We are also on Twitter.



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Map of the 73FSMC Member Nations





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