



Steering Committee

July 3rd, 2025

Present:

Brian Arseneault	Nancy Savoie	Pauline Diotte	Jean-Marc Beaulieu	Karen Narvie
Carlos Doucet	Tom Mann			

Regrets:

Terry Landry	Jason Flight	Jesus Entrialgo	Gabrielle Arbour-Fillion
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Minutes of the meeting

18h10 Opening of the meeting.

Introduction of Karen Narvie to the Committee as this is her first meeting

18h15 Francis announces that Terry Landry resigned today as he is going through health issues.

18h17 Tom Mann explains that the candidates for the open seats to represent the citizens of Heron Bay have until July 4, 5pm to write 200 words on why they want to join the committee. He has received 3 names so far. Pauline says she will reach out to her contacts as she knows some of them would like to join.

It was decided that a selection committee would be chosen to discuss the applications; Pauline, Brian, Jean-Marc and Carlos volunteered. Tom to send the applications to the selection committee on July 5th.

Tom reviewed the last 4 months of work of the committee through the Forming, Storming, Norming and Performing model emphasising that we are in the Storming phase at present, which he added is common in most committee structures where there are diverse opinions.

Tom discussed the meeting with the First Nations that happened just prior to this one where the last 4 months of work were also presented. That committee is also in the Storming phase; they (the FN) have drawn a fine line for the go- no- go in supporting the project. The line drawn relates to dredging. The First Nation made it very clear that they were not happy about Bill C-5 passed by Mark Carney to accelerate major projects as they feel they could get bulldozed over as Stuart of the Land.

Tom also mentioned that EcoRock should look to do another public meeting some time in late September or early October.

Brian is 100% opposed that someone outside Heron Bay should get to vote for a candidate to represent the citizens of Heron Bay. Jean-Marc says it should be done like it was the first time around (early rule); people self designated. Francis mentioned that the Mandate and Operation document states that once the committee is formed, a selection committee of a minimum of 3 must appoint the person to replace the open seat. Tom is ok with the selection committee as selected, and all agree. The final motus operandi will be defined by the selection committee.

- 18h40 Francis shows the bathymetric map around Heron Island and explains that the professionals consulted have no issues with the depths for a Panamax size vessel. Jean-Marc raised questions related to the accuracy of the map versus anecdotal experience.
- 18h45 Pauline asks if EcoRock has an alternative plan. Elections in Heron Bay are coming in May 2026, and she wonders if EcoRock has a plan in place in case the new Mayor is not in favor of the project. She will be running for counsellor. Francis said they had no plan as the company is working through the pre-feasibility phase based on science and conditions that exist in 2025.
- 18h55 Tom explains that at a certain point, there will be a decision to be made as to go or no go with the project. More results and data are needed at this time, and we need to wait for the science.
- 19h00 Francis acknowledged receiving the GINU report on cumulative effects and a letter from the Restigouche Naturalists Club. He also explained that EcoRock has started a document to list all concerned voiced to make sure they were addressed. The Ginu report and the letter from the Restigouche Naturalist Club will be put on the EcoRock website.
- 19h05 Francis showed the Interactive Visual Platform for the conveyor; Hatch is presently working on formatting the platform to fit on the EcoRock website. The pictures and the rendering are available in the attached presentation.
- 19h10 Francis showed the mining schedule for the first 15 years of operations. It shows the quarry starting operations at the far West side and staying 500m from the school. The exploitation would go roughly from elevation 120m to 60m which is the elevation of the crushing equipment. After 15 years, the operations would move East and stop 200m from the school at the same elevation as previously. After 30 years, it would move from elevation 60m to sea level on the total surface.
- 19h15 Francis showed the latest preliminary schedule which now states start of operations for winter 2028. The schedule has delayed to 2028 since EcoRock found out some of the equipment needed would take 1 year to arrive after purchase.

19h20 Francis talked about the testing orientation; the thermal and chemical option have been dropped and EcoRock is now looking for a mechanical solution to enhance the reactivity of the pozzolan. An industrial trial is scheduled in July. Jean-Marc asked if that changes the storage strategy. Francis to specify that it does not; a major part of the storage will be done at the mine, but some storage will be needed at the wharf. There should be a 30kt silo at the mine but there will be a need for a 12kt silo at the port. A trucking discussion followed as you can now find self driving trucks with no driver. This could be possible for the mine, but the conveyor is the transport method chosen to reach the port.

19h25 Karen asked questions about the dredging. Francis mentioned that EcoRock is working on a solution where no or very little dredging would be required. No more can be mentioned as there are a few pieces of the puzzle that are confidential. Also, phase 1 might be skipped altogether and EcoRock would go to phase 2 directly; this is to be confirmed at a later date. Karen asked if an NDA should be signed by the Committee. Francis said no because the role of the members is to inform the population about what is being said at the Committee.

Francis also indicated that the Phase 1, aggregate production for the US East coast, was no longer a part of the vision for the project because of the economic changes since the election of President Trump; only Pozzolan production, phase 2, is now being considered. Following that, Jean-Marc reminded Francis that this will need to change the type of ship that will be used to transport the Pozzolan from the port. This would be a ship specifically designed to carry fly ash and cement with much lower tonnage, which would mean eventually more ships and more operations in the estuary.

19h30 Jean-Marc pointed out that there is currently a study being done on the schools of Northern New Brunswick since the student body is decreasing yearly. He advised that the coverage in L'Acadie Nouvelle stated that the study is focused on the Bathurst district now and should be in Dalhousie within the next 3 years.

19h35 Meeting concluded.