

ICH Executive Committee Meeting  
 Tuesday, Jan. 22, 2013  
 ANLA Office, 15 Hallett Crescent

In attendance: Pat Carroll, Jerry Dick, Dale Jarvis, Jerry Pocius, Mary Ellen Wright  
 Minutes: Nicole Penney

**Belgium Report: Dale Jarvis**

- The conference talked about participatory measures in ICH. Dale presented on what is going on in our region with regard to ICH.
- Met with municipal heritage cell of the Flemish Government who deal with everything but built heritage. Part of the methodology of these groups is asking informants about transmission of tradition, which is a way of safeguarding the tradition. This information would be useful for us to collect as well. It would give a sense of vitality of the tradition and looks at how traditions are maintained.
- A lot of people at the meeting said they were familiar with ICH in Newfoundland and use us as a model.
- Most ICH jurisdictions work within UNESCO guidelines. We have jumped to safeguarding and are a few years ahead, so we are a model for many groups.

Jerry P: When it comes to ICH, listings with hierarchies of value is a flawed method for ICH as the lists have little value.

Dale: Best practices are not focused on enough but in the long run this is what will have the greater impact on traditions.

UNESCO is favouring “multi-state” nominations-things shared by several areas. But this makes the idea of ICH as community based obsolete.

Pat: UNESCO “living treasures” is ICH related and supposedly very effective.

**Action Item:** Set up a meeting with Provincial Commemorations committee to discuss safeguarding tradition.

Pat: Possible partnership with CBC’s “Land and Sea” to promote items commemorated by the province?

**HFNL/ Dept. of Folklore Field School: Jerry Pocius**

- Field school in Keels went well
- Spent three weeks in Keels (week one: training/documentation, week two: team projects with building and week three: oral histories)
- This field school raised awareness for everyday traditions that community members take for granted.

Jerry D: How can we build on the field school in regard to safeguarding tradition?

- Publish, website, floor plans and booklet-all will be presented back to community.

Where to go from here with field school?

Dale: Possibly do a one week field school for community groups?

Jerry P: Need to train groups on what to document, not only how to document.

Jerry D: Can we possibly tie the field school into a heritage district?

Jerry P: Field School this year? Jerry not sure if he will do it again and if he doesn't do it no one else in the folklore department will.

- Field school possibilities: agriculture in Bonavista, Quidi Vidi
- Have to look into funding if moved outside of St. John's
- Will get students to pay cost-may be \$1000 per student rather than \$500. If tied to a heritage district could get money from that pool??
- For a field school you need good community contacts, housing, funding
- If in St. John's not as immersed and not as connected to a community. Also promotes group work.

### **Folklife Festival**

- Always tied festival to a grad student able to do internship. This student could work on field school planning rather than Folklife Festival.
- Folklife festival in March with Christina's project?
- Have intern do field school work over the summer?

Jerry D: What is the purpose of the Folklife Festival? What should a folklife festival be? What are the priorities?

Dale: Festival around traditional games? Bring younger audience? Could have one student do research and another do the planning.

Mary Ellen: Do we need to do the festival every year?

Pat: Should be consistent and do every year-should not abandon this.

Jerry P: What does "folklife festival" mean? Can call anything a festival. We need a structural framework of what a festival is. Purpose of festival?

Dale: Do the festival every other year in order to do proper research?

### **Action Item :**

- Form festival think tank and come back to committee with recommendations.

- When Dale get a list of “eastern European” events will send to committee and decide if we will call them a festival.

#### **Training Initiatives:**

- Conducting needs assessment survey. Will use results to determine training needs.
- Offer framework training-how to make a project grow?
- Do we have a planning guide? Can we develop this? Would this be difficult to develop where ICH is so broad?

Mary Ellen: Planning has to be at community level.

Pat: Have consultations with group?

Jerry P: People that come in from outside the community prompt community members to discuss traditions.

Mary Ellen: Very hard for ICH to be efficient.

Pat: There needs to be a union of culture and economics

Mary Ellen: Why preserve ICH? For the tourists or for community members?

Jerry D: ICH needs to find a new economic basis.

#### **Action Item:**

- Revive training committee
- Have meeting about heritage conference in Burin
- Add question to survey, “why do you want to do this project”?

#### **Thematic Priorities:**

What traditions seem under threat?

- fishery
- hunting
- trapping

#### **Action Item:**

- Develop work plan and budget for 2014

#### **Other Issues:**

Pat: will be in Korea for 2014 and would like to do some ICH work while there and make some ICH connections.

#### **Action Item:**

- Dale send Pat contacts/info for Korea ICH. Send ICH Korea formal request to work with them?

Meeting Adjourned.