

RAVEN team meeting

Rural Action and Voices for the Environment

September 25, 2018, 14:30-16:00

Tilley 8 (across from Sociology office)

University of New Brunswick, Fredericton

Invited:

- Casey Burkholder, UNB Education, co-investigator
- Daniel Tubb, UNB Anthropology, co-investigator
- David Perley, UNB Mi'kmaq-Wolastoqey Centre, collaborator
- David Hofmann, UNB Sociology, collaborator (regrets)
- Janice Harvey, STU Environment & Society, potential RAVEN post-doc (regrets)
- Matt Rogers, UNB Education, co-investigator
- Mary Aspinall, UNB Sociology, PhD research assistant (regrets)
- Rick Wightman, UNB Computer Science, collaborator
- Rodrigo Gutiérrez Hermelo, UNB CETL Media Lab, collaborator
- Shanthi Bell, UNB Psychology & Media Arts and Cultures, research assistant
- Sophie Lavoie, NB Media Co-op, partner
- Susan O'Donnell, UNB Sociology, primary investigator
- Tracy Glynn, UNB Interdisciplinary Studies, PhD research assistant and future post-doc
- Tyler Foley, JEDI, partner

Agenda:

1. Territorial acknowledgement

2. Introductions

3. RAVEN work underway now

- *engaging rural champions
- *videos / stories with rural champions (NBMC)
- *RAVEN website and logo development / social media
- *follow-up from launch and RIW event
- *study/paper with Mary Aspinall and Susan - analysis of Brunswick News
- *developing the research hub - meeting with potential new team members
- *Janice's SSHRC post-doc application
- *finding a RAVEN space on campus
- *upcoming meeting with U de Moncton
- *revision of paper for Rural Issues workshop (?)
- *other work ongoing?

4. Invitation to new RAVEN team members

- *Sabine Lebel - assistant prof in Media and Cultural Studies
- *Neha Gupta - post-doc in Anthropology
- *other(s)? what are the limits on our team?
- *review of un-allocated tasks on workplan

5. Developing the initial study sites / champions

- *working with JEDI - moving forward with plans for training / mentoring film-makers
- *Rick's work in Charlotte county
- *Potential sites for Matt, Casey, Tracy/Daniel, others:
 - **Wolastoq grandmothers - Sisson Mine
 - **woodlot owners
 - **mine development - Restigouche - Murray Brook Mine
 - **others?
- *next steps

6. Feedback from RAVEN launch / Rural Issues workshop (document)

- *discussion and next steps

7. RAVEN research ethics

- *potential modifications:
 - **requested change to research participant honorarium from \$100 per year to \$25 per year (implications for more revenues)
 - **NBIF award requires application for REB modification
- *new activities: Rick's project, digital infrastructure study
- *Ricardo as collaborator, new researchers

8. Budget

- *implications on budget with new team members
- *potential for future funding - SSHRC, Mitacs, other

9. Upcoming events

- *SEA - NBEN conference October 24
- **Matt will be speaker
- **others attending?

10. Next meeting dates, all Tuesday 2:30pm

October 30

November 27

(no meeting in December)

11. Adjournment

RAVEN Team Meeting Minutes

Sept. 25, 2018

Tilley Hall, Room 8, UNB

Attendance: Rodrigo Gutierrez-Hermelo, Rick Wightman, Daniel Tubb, Sophie Lavoie, Shanthi Bell, Tracy Glynn, Matt Rogers, Casey Burkholder, Susan O'Donnell, Tyler Foley, David Perley. Apologies: Janice Harvey, David Hofmann, Mary Aspinall.

1. Territorial acknowledgement

Susan offered a territorial acknowledgment.

2. Introductions

3. RAVEN ongoing work

Video interviews – Tracy explained that Rodrigo, Shanti and she have interviewed a number of people the week before/of the RAVEN launch. They will work on a summary video as well as video profiles for stories.

Shanthi talked about her work on the RAVEN website. We are looking at different layout that is more attractive and highlights more of the issues. Shanthi is also workin on our social media. If anyone has anything to post, please let us know.

Susan: collecting comments from the RAVEN launch and will think about how to best use them.

Susan and Mary, a PhD student hired from Susan's previous project, are working on an analysis of the rural coverage of Brunswick News stories. Susan hopes that Mary can present a paper at Congress.

Tracy is updating the RAVEN contact list in the shared folder.

Janice has submitted her application for a post-doc to SSHRC. Susan would be her supervisor. If funded, the post-doc would start in September.

Finding space on campus. Susan met with David MaGee, VP Research. He was supportive. Susan wants UNB to guarantee in writing that they will provide a space before submitting a SSHRC Partnership Development application. Letter still hasn't been sent. Still looking for space. Likely will not be in Tilley. Looking at D'Avary Hall. MaGee will suggest to the Dean that they give us space for 3 years. Casey already met with the new Dean and she suggested that there would be space for 1 year.

Paper presented at the Rural Issues Workshop on RAVEN. Susan is not sure about whether the paper should be published. Still considering what to do with the feedback and the paper.

Matt – domino effect participatory video project. Approached Rebecca Chasse with the Dept. of Heritage and Culture for development and project funding to support the research, getting filmmakers involved, hiring a production assistant, etc. Frictive Pictures could apply as an incorporated entity. Dept. is especially interested in projects for broadcast (e.g. CBC).

4. Inviting new RAVEN team members

If the team gets too big, it may be difficult to work as a team. Adding people to the team requires an amendment to our ethics application, which is a lot of work. We already have to make one amendment and Susan would prefer to make all amendments at once.

There are some gaps on the team. In addition to David Perley, we need someone to bring Indigenous perspectives and methodologies. Someone to do media production capacity. Sabine LeBel could potentially fill this gap. Neha Gupta is a post-doc at UNB. She does decolonial archeology. May need someone to supervise students at the Mi'kmaq-Wolastoqey Centre.

Need to do ethics amendment application soon. Must develop a work plan with anyone who comes on board.

Susan asked if there were any suggestions for team additions. Sophie suggested Lisa Joidon but wasn't sure if she should be a team member or another kind of participant. Lisa is a PhD student, filmmaker, trained workshop facilitator. The project can hire PhD students. Tracy suggested Raluca Bejan, new STU Social Work hire, who does migrant justice work and filmmaking. David Perley suggested Ramona Nicholas, a new PhD student and sundancer. Susan would like to add a surveillance component – how stories are shared on social media for activist purposes. Tia Dafnos, UNB Soc., does research on the surveillance of Indigenous communities.

Difference between team members and hub members. Team is the core group. Hub members do similar work as us, could come to meetings, not part of the core group.

Rick suggested inviting people who are interested in being part of the hub in stages. For example, once a year, we could approach some of them who could be team members. That would then require an ethics amendment.

Some unallocated tasks – working with JED filmmakers and entrepreneurs. Need students and someone to supervise students with David Perley to ensure that the appropriate Indigenous methodologies were being used. Neha could be their supervisor?

Tyler/JEDI thinks that recruitment would best occur in the winter.

Individuals in First Nation communities may have access to training dollars. PETL may support individuals for certain trainings. PETL may be more inclined to support this project since it is funded in some ways. There's no guarantee employment position so that may rule out some funding.

SSHRC funding is meant to train graduate students. Could be an Indigenous graduate student at UNB to get the opportunity to learn filmmaking skills and could also be part of the issues that they are working on in the ground.

Susan will talk to Tyler and David Perley more about how the project will proceed.

Matt's project could potentially hire students too.

Should we add Sabine and Neha to the core team? Susan will ask Sabine about joining the team. Sabine would have opportunity to be part of SSHRC and potential for publishing papers that way but she may need to focus on her own research. Sophie cautioned that she may be busy with her own research, which is important for her tenure application. Susan will talk to Neha about the team and JEDI project.

4. Case studies

Rick is interested in working in Charlotte County to find out what IT could do to support the economic and social fabric of that area. Worked with many middle school students in tech, building webpages, raspberry pies, audio recording. Have students write and other students do audio recording so that other students can listen on raspberry pie. A literacy project with a subversive component. Wants to work with students to coordinate content systems, distribution systems, document systems and an audience. Interest from Language Arts, Social Studies (local events, local history) in the schools.

Susan – working with children will involve a special research ethics application. Matt has lots of experience with research with children.

Rick is also working on the broadband project in Charlotte County.

David Perley is interested in working with the Wolastoq grandmothers. Daniel is also working with the grandmothers as part of his SSHRC project.

We should find out from the grandmothers what kind of media they would like to produce. Matt, Casey and Tracy are all interested in working with them. Susan wants to know if others are doing research with the community.

Tracy is interested in migrant workers (fish plant workers in Cap Pele, Deer Island), Wolastoqiyik grandmothers and woodlot owners. She noted that other groups identified in her meetings with potential collaborators included: farmers (women farmers, newcomer farmers), women woodlot owners.

The callout includes all 3 media formats (photovoice, participatory video and cellphilmimg). Could adapt it to be more targeted or issues-based.

Rick suggested work with remote workers/IT workers in rural areas. They work in isolation. They often don't know each other. How do they affect the communities they live in? Difficult to map them since their work is complicated.

Casey suggested that we could approach the communities with all 3 media forms at the same time – in a workshop format. Some may be interested in one kind of media.

Rodrigo talked about the RAVEN videos done so far. How different people could take on different parts of the project.

Tyler: the communities will also have different views.

We will aim to send a call out for research participants in October.

Susan clarified that “rural advocates” doesn't mean any rural advocate. RAVEN is interested in advocates for land and water protection, regenerative farming, sustainable forestry, etc.

Casey, Matt, Tracy, Daniel will meet to talk about the call out. Tracy will organize a meeting time.

Rodrigo cautioned that media production is easy but media distribution is difficult. Oftentimes there is no strategy to distribute it. Susan: the NB Media Co-op will distribute some of the content. A rural tag on the NB Media Co-op site has been created. Will also disseminate media on RAVEN's website. Media produced through JEDI could be shown via the band council offices. Part of the project is to study how the media is being disseminated. Film festivals, photovoice exhibitions, etc. are important physical spaces too for dissemination. Casey is keen on travelling exhibitions with the folks who generated it.

Susan is meeting with Celine Surette at the Université de Moncton next Wednesday. We got some criticism about how we don't have a plan for engaging with Francophone communities. Université de Moncton and the NB Environmental Network (NBEN) is part of the ECHO research hub funded by CIHR. ECHO is concerned with the health impacts of resource extraction and also doing arts-based research such as photovoice. They are generating content in French. Celine, NBEN and Tracy are part of the planning of the Sustainability Education Alliance Conference in Moncton on Oct. 24. Sabine and Matt are speaking at the conference.

5. Next meeting date: Oct. 30 at 2:30pm.