**Comarca Research Alliance Meeting**

**San Félix, June 8-11th, 2019**

Here we are proposing a meeting to gather interested parties who are working or have an interest in working collaboratively with colleagues in the Ngäbe Bugle comarca. There are growing number of groups and projects, but often without coordination or even knowledge of prior or ongoing work. Here we hope to facilitate a meeting for all to learn about each other and consider future directions together.

**THEMES**

1. Sustainable Agriculture
2. Community-Based Environmental Monitoring & Stewardship
3. Ordenamiento Territorial

**PARTICIPANTS**

**International Academic Institutions**

* McGill University (Daviken Studnicki-Gizbert)\* **Meeting Organizer/Sponsor**
* Heritage University (Jessica L. Black)\* **Meeting** **Organizer/Sponsor**
* Washington State University, Engineers Without Borders (Karl Olsen)
* Salish Kootenai College (Steve Dupuis)
* University of Oregon (Torsten Kjellstrand, Mark Blaine invited)

**Panama Academic Institutions**

* Universidad de Panamá (Evidelio Adames)**\* Meeting Organizer**
* Universidad Autónoma de Chiriquí (UNACHI) (2 participants)
* Universidad Tecnológica de Panamá (UTP) (1 participant)

**Panama Governmental, NGO and Local Organizations**

* Secretaría Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología (SENACYT)
* La Oferta Pública de Acciones (OPA)
* Audobon (William Adsett invited)
* Congreso General authorities from 3 three regions in Ngäbe Bugle Comarca (Nidrini, No Kribo, Codri) (~5 participants)
* Fundación Héctor Gallego (1 participant)
* Peace Corps (we hope represented)
* Asociación Ambiental de Chiriquí (1)
* Centro de Estudios y Acción Social Panameño (CEASPA) (Alicia Ibañez)
* Coalición Panameña anti Tabaco (COPACET)(1 participant)
* Local organization: Asociación de Ambientalista Mironomo Cronomo (A.A.MI-CRO); Organización de Productores Agrícolas con Métodos Orgánicos (OPAMO); Cerro Flores group (3 participants)

**PRELIMINARY AGENDA**

**June 2019**

Friday June 7 Evening Participants arrive in San Felix in preparation of beginning of meeting next morning

Saturday June 8 Morning Introduction and Welcome by President Pedro Nola Flores, Congreso General

 Group Introductions Facilitated by JLB and DSG

 Short Group Presentations (Organizational Missions/Scope of Work/Projects/Interest in Ngäbe Bugle Comarca)

 Noon Lunch

 Afternoon Group Presentations Continue

 Introduction of 3 Conference Themes – Preliminary Roundtable Discussions

Sunday June 9 Morning Participants depart for tour of Nidrini region, bring packed lunch

 Participants who prefer to not participate on a Sunday can meet with group in the afternoon

 Afternoon Tour continues: Cerro Colorado, Cerro Dios, Cafetals, coordinate with local groups and Panamanian Universities that have done work. Tour WSU Engineers Without Borders site.

Monday June 10 Morning Theme 1 and Theme 2 Discussions

 Noon Lunch

 Afternoon Theme 3 Discussion, Group Discussion on Future Directions and Potential Partnerships and Collaborations

Tuesday June 11 Morning Depart for UNACHI in David, Panama.

 Interested Partners Discuss Funding Opportunities and Partnerships, Proposal discussion begun.

 Noon Lunch

 Afternoon Proposal workshop continued – End Goal 1st rough draft of proposal.

**Contact:**

**Jessica L. Black**, Director, Center for Indigenous Health, Culture & the Environment, Heritage University

**E-mail:** Black\_J@heritage.edu **cell/whatsapp**: +1 509 840 3847 **Skype:** Jessica.L.Black@gmail.com

****

****