

# **EUROPARC Federation**



## **Report to Council May 28th 2010**

### **Title:**

Report from Dan Bloomfield on HPHP conference in Australia

### **Summary :**

Some points to consider in relation to the MoU follow work with Parks Forum and endorsement of the HPHP communique

### **Recommendations :**

For discussion and endorsement

Report from Dan Bloomfield following his attendance and representation of EUROPARC at the HPHP conference and meeting with Park Forum.

See separate Melbourne Communique pdf

I met up with various Parks Forum people whilst in Melbourne:

Staff: David Clarke, Margaret Jones and Sarah Major, all based in Melbourne. Andy Thompson, based in Christchurch.

Board: Neil McCarthy from Parks Victoria and Digby Whyte in Northern Territory.

We discussed:

How EUROPARC Federation could use the Healthy Parks, Healthy Forum brand. I think PF have licensed EUROPARC and Green Space to be able to use this. It's a topic for discussion by the Health WG at Siggen, but the signal from PF was please, take it, use it, it's available.

How PF could learn from the Junior Ranger scheme. They have a 'Young Leaders Forum', which meets to coincide at the Biennial Parks Leadership Conference. Not really the same thing at all as Junior Rangers. It's all there in the MoU, so I think it's just a question of finding out the simplest, most cost-effective way of handing over to PF the key findings of the initiative so far, what works and what doesn't, what you need to make it go well, pitfalls etc, and anything else they need to license their use of the JR brand in Australia and New Zealand.

Staff exchanges. We were all very keen to get on with this because it's relatively simple. PF already have quite advanced staff exchange system set up internally, and in partnership with parks in the US and Canada. This is all on their website at <http://www.parksforum.org/cms/pages/Staff-Exchanges.html> (I think we are looking at the 'Management Exchange' type). They want to go ahead with a pilot between DOC in New Zealand and EAI. If this works (and I don't see why it should not, other than for budgetary reasons), then they want to roll it out wider. The main contact here is to be Andy Thompson. We have emailed each other with our first ideas already. The main things I felt was that it should be reciprocal, that it should aim to partner up people with similar areas of expertise, and that it should aim to involve people from different levels of the management structure, not just the people at the very top. But if PF have very different ideas, that shouldn't stop us from moving ahead. I'm waiting to hear back from Andy at the moment.

Your contribution to the August conference. You'll have about 20 minutes. They want to hear about partnerships, basically. They want to hear examples where EUROPARC has had success here and there, both amongst members and with other sectors. They want to hear about ongoing partnerships between them and us, how and where we could do more on this, and also perhaps it would be worth talking about the broader scale, with other parks associations around the world. I got the impression that demands for partnerships with other public and private sectors - health, education, industry, financial services - based on an ecosystem services rhetoric, would go down very well.

Best wishes,  
Dan