



The Barents Regional Youth council

BRYC

Report 2007



The Barents Regional Youth Council

Our mission

We will strengthen the youth
cooperation in the Barents region
and empower young
people to actively participate
in the shaping of the
Barents region

Introduction

At its meeting on 5 September 2001, the Barents Regional Council decided to draw up a youth programme for the Barents Region. This was done at the direct request of the Barents Regional Youth Forum, BRYF, which was represented at the meeting and called for concrete action. The present programme is based on the conclusions from the Conference "Face the Future", which was held on 12-16 May 2001 in Tromsø, Norway. BRYF ended its work in 2003.

In 2003 The Norwegian ministry for children and family affairs allocated 1 mill NOK per year for two years to support multilateral youth projects in the region. The Norwegian Barents secretariat got the responsibility of managing the fund. A youth coordinator was employed and the extra resources made a broader implementation of the program possible. The funding has continued until today and a new programme is developed.

Background

The countries in the Barents region have many common challenges when it comes to youth issues and this invites to increased cooperation about these matters.

During an international youth seminar in Murmansk October 2003, the participants strongly signalled that young people want to participate more actively in the Barents cooperation. They concluded that the best way to ensure this would be to establish a new youth structure in the Barents cooperation, a council consisting of young people from the whole region.

Establishment

The establishment meeting for the Barents regional Youth Council (BRYC) was held in Kirkenes during the festival Barents Spektakel 2004.

The council consists of one youth representative from each county, oblast, republic and okrug in the region and one representative for indigenous youths. The 14 members of the council will work towards a strengthening of the youth cooperation in the Barents region.

The members are chosen by their county administration based on the following criteria: - He or she must have an age fitting the category "Youth" (over 18 and under 30 years) and speak English, have knowledge about youth issues in their region and be interested in international cooperation

Organisation

BRYCs secretariat is in the hands of the person responsible for the youth program at the Barents secretariat in Kirkenes. The Secretariat invites the members to the meetings, find suitable meeting dates and arrange travel and accommodation for the participants. The Barents Youth Cooperation Office (BYCO) in Murmansk have the responsibility to

coordinate the participation of the representatives on the Russian side and make plans for travels, arrange visas and spread information BRYCs closest collaborator in the Barents cooperation is the Regional Working group on Youth Issues.

ACTIVITIES

Council meetings

The Barents Regional Youth Council with all representatives meets normally twice a year. In 2007 the meetings were held in Russia, Murmansk and Finland, Rovaniemi. The last meeting in the Barents Regional youth Council was held jointly with the Barents regional working group on Youth issues.

Meetings in the council in 2007:

Murmansk 22nd to 25th of March 2007 (enclosure 1) Annual meeting
Rovaniemi 14th of October 2007 (enclosure 2)

Training courses

In connection with the annual meeting in Murmansk in March there were arranged special training courses for the members of BRYC.

TRAINING COURSE FOR BRYCers IN MURMANSK

At the end of March 2007 the members of The Barents Regional Youth Council participated in a training course on how to write articles and press releases, presentation techniques and interview techniques.

The main focus for this course was information. The importance of professionally present projects, youth initiatives and ideas for others is crucial to get the necessary support from authorities and grant givers.

Today the importance of informing in a good way to reach the target group is important and the challenge is huge when the target group is young people. During the training seminar the BRYCers got an introduction in writing news articles for newspapers and websites and even published on www.barentsyouth.org. They all got a chance to do an interview in front of the camera and they all got a chance to see the interview on TV and got a feedback from the others.

The last day of the seminar the participants got a chance to visit a radio station and had interviews there. This was good exercises and very valuable. The radio reporter explained the nature behind interviews and important tricks to sound serious and avoid mistakes and traps.

The Council also arranged their annual meeting and carried out their first ordinary BRYC meeting for 2007. During the annual meeting they adopted a new action plan for 2006.

OSCE YOUTH FORUM 2007

On Monday the 5th of november 2007 it was time for the OSCE Youth Forum in Madrid, Spain. The Barents Regional Youth Council applied and was represented there. Sindre Wolf the former leader of BRYC took part in a group discussing: "Youth Role in Conflict prevention". This a copy of Sindre Wolfs Blog after the event:

A unified group of civil society

I have just come back from the OSCE Youth Forum in Madrid, and what a time I've had. This is not a travel blog, so all I'm saying about Madrid is:"beautiful".

Now, back to what I really want to write about, the forum. This was a gathering of 70-80 youth from ALL over europe, and some not from europe. We were divided into 6 different working-groups where I was in one discussing "Youth role in conflict-prevention". The results of the conference was "The Madrid Youth Declaration" which you can find in a link below.

Now, I've been to a couple of conferences before and chose my workinggroup on the basis of these conferences always discussing the same thing over and over. This, I thought, could atleast be a learning-experience as well.., I was right there.

This whole thing about always discussing the same thing has been my reason to sometimes say no to conferences, and I've always found it annoying that I couldn't use my time on something new. The conference in Madrid seemed good because: 1. Obviously, it was in Madrid. 2. People from nations I have never met were going. I thought I would experience something new. Alas, same dicussions even in my group with people from Georgia, Poland and Luxemburg. But I was still learning.

So, why are the same things taken up everywhere I go? I think the reason is that youth is one of the few really unified groups of civil society. There is a common understanding of what is important. Youth is often defined as a radical group wanting hugh changes, a group with total lack of perspective and in need of guidance to produce anything that is even close to being realistic. Some of these points might be true, but the fact is that youth tend to agree quite easily. The same things are often the most important. If you're from Norway, Moldova, Spain or Russia you still think that mobility is an important factor to to solve many of the challenges that are facing society...I have seen this becoming a main topic at youth forums since 2003.

So, youth from 18-30 years old (around 20% of the worlds populations) have agreed on this for 4-5 years, but why is it still a discussion? Why is it that a fifth of the worlds population needs to discuss visa-problems year after year? We produce paragraphs, statements, declarations etc at every conference, but who is reading them? Who uses these documents? I feel no one uses them, and that is why we end up adressing these things again and again.

Is a product from a youth forum something that will give actual political pull in decisionmaking processes? Doesn't seem so, because our documents end up nowhere.

I totally lost where I was going with this, but I feel I've gotten things off my chest. All in all I think the importance and results of these forums need to be communicated.
OSCE:<http://www.osce.org>

Board for BRYC

One contact person from each country, plus the indigenous representative are represented in a board for BRYC. The personal compositions board have differed in terms of the tasks, to ensure that the team always had interest in the particular task they are working on at the time. The board is elected every year during the annual meeting.

Meetings in the Board for BRYC 2007:

16. - 19. Juni 2007 Board meeting in Luleå, Sweden (enclosure 3)

Youth Initiatives 2007

BRYC is once a year responsible for one large youth arrangement. In 2007 the Youth Council focused on youth participation and took part in the preparatory work and the implementation of The Barents youth Seminar in Rovaniemi

BARENTS YOUTH SEMINAR IN ROVANIEMI WITH GREAT RESULTS

The 12th -15th of October 70 people from all parts of the Barents region gathered to discuss active young citizenships and diversity and examine the situation of young people in the Barents Region from different perspectives.

The participants were a mix of youth representing NGOs and adults from national, regional and local authorities responsible for youth issues. Youth researchers were also invited to take part.

The keynote speaker Mr Fredrik Beckman from Urkraft/OCN in Skellefteå gave the participants inspiration and motivation and made all believe that everything is possible. The participants also got a presentation about the Barents cooperation seen from a youth perspective by Petter Mahrs from OM Communications. The chaos pilot Thorsten Gejl from Proventor in Denmark was responsible for the process during the seminar and made everybody contribute in the idea development of different projects. All project ideas were presented during the final session and the organizers were very pleased with the results.

In addition to the development of projects like Barents extreme games, Cultural exchange, Barents TV, Tourism Destination Barents and Barents Builders the participants made some political statements. The political statements made during the seminar were summarised by a group consisting of one youth representative from each country and one for indigenous people. They will present the statements for the foreign

ministers that will gather for the Barents Euro Arctic Council meeting in Rovaniemi the 14th of November.

The seminar had the under title "Youth in the Barents Region - a lottery win or bad luck?" and was organised within the framework of the Finnish Chairmanship of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council and in close cooperation with the Barents Regional Working Group on Youth Issues (RWGYI), the Barents Regional Youth Council (BRYC) and the Norwegian Barents Secretariat in Kirkenes.

BARENTS YOUTHS SPOKE TO THE MINISTERS

The Foreign ministers of the member countries in the Barents cooperation met for the 11th BEAC session in Rovaniemi the 15th of November. A delegation of 5 youths got the chance to speak directly to them on behalf of the youths in the region.

During the Barents Youth Seminar arranged in Rovaniemi in October, all participants contributed in making a message with some political statements to the Barents Council. Marit Puranen- Marjavaara from Sweden, Tumoas Aslak Juuso representing indigenous peoples, Olga Pokrovskaya from Russia, Stian Johansen from Norway and Iiris Jakola from Finland were elected to meet the ministers and pass forward the words from the youths.

The speech was applauded by the ministers and the foreign ministers underlined the importance of taking the youths opinion into account and facilitate youth cooperation in the region.

The speech as a whole:
"Dear foreign ministers,

We have an important message for you. Please ask yourselves this question: How do you want the Barents region to be in 20 years? An industrial desert where experts fly in and fly out or a prosperous region full of possibilities and active youth with different ethnic and national backgrounds. We want the people and especially the youth living in the Barents region to be regarded as the main assets for the development within the region. We are here representing many young people who are engaged and interested in the future of this region. But we are not only the future, we are the present.

We want to co-operate across the borders on projects and issues that will make our region grow: culture, entrepreneurship, education etc. You can ensure youth participation, youth initiative and development by providing non-bureaucratic funding-possibilities for multilateral youth projects – and this should be in the mandate for the International Barents Secretariat.

There are a lot of opportunities throughout the world. But we want to stay here. To make that happen:

Youth policy should be a part of the mandate for the International Barents Secretariat in the same way as for example culture, health and education.

We are talking about Barents co-operation in a global context. Communication is obviously an important part of co-operation. In order to communicate, we need the opportunity to learn each others languages. It is a severe challenge: for example in Murmansk there is no possibility to learn Barents languages in a good level. Another issue is transportation and logistic. Almost all our connections are going from North to South, more East-West-connections are necessary.

There is one matter that has been stressed many times but we choose to raise it again – it's visa regulations. Barents youth dream of getting easy and cheap visas for co-operation in the region.

Indigenous peoples still have rich and living cultures and ways of life. But their rights are not fully supported. Every state must secure the rights of indigenous peoples by ratifying the ILO-convention number 169 and by following the new UN-declaration of indigenous peoples.

We and our region have a huge potential. The Barents region need our competence and our knowledge. You have the power to improve young people's living conditions and working possibilities in the region. But we are the main resource of the Barents region. And we are not here today as a three minute youth alibi. We recognize the time we've been given but we want more: to take part in the decision making processes from a local level to your level.

Our answer to the question is clear. We choose a prosperous region. "

Information and other activities

The representatives of BRYC have informed local and regional NGOs in their Counties about larger Barents Youth events. The information flow has a great potential for improvement and all members are now building up their own list of addresses in their mailbox to be able to forward messages and links.

OTHER REPRESENTATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Sindre Wolf took part in the Barents Regional Committee meeting in Tromsø in September to inform about BRYC and the importance to support their work.

Halvard Rundberg, Sindre Wolf and Anne Silja Turi have taken part in 3 meetings for the preparatory group of Barents Youth Seminar that took place in Rovaniemi in October 2007. The meetings were held in Helsinki and the group consisted of representatives from the regional Working Group on Youth Issues

Olga Shaporeva and Iris Jakola took part in the Youth statement presentation for the Barents council in Rovaniemi in November 2007

Sindre Wolf took part in the OSCE Youth Forum in Madrid, Spain 5th of November 2007.

MAJOR CHALLENGES AND FUTURE PLANS

Turnover

The turnover among the members in BRYC is high due to the migration of youths out of the region. This creates a situation that makes it necessary for the counties to look for potential future members constantly. The different youth structures in the counties also make difficulties for recruitment of members. Some members are appointed while others are elected.

Information

More effort must be done to ensure the information flow to regional NGOs, politicians and media to show the activities within the youths sphere in Barents. The website www.barentsyouth.org has been developed in 2006 and was translated into Russian language during 2007.

Training

To increase the member's skills for international cooperation and coordination of activities, BRYC is arranging project management and leader training seminars. They also take part in courses arranged by others.

Special focus in 2008

BRYC will in 2008 focus on active citizenship and human rights continue to concentrate on getting closer cooperation with the other youth structures in the Barents region. BRYC will cooperate with the MR-dagera (Human right days) in Luleå in November and will be responsible for a workshop focusing on human rights in the Barents Region seen from a youth perspective.

Youth participation

The UNs Convention on the Rights of the Child states that children and youths have the right to be heard in all matters that concerns them. This demands that the adults take the responsibility to create the structures and arenas where this takes place.

The Convention acknowledges that children and youth have the right to express their opinions and to have those opinions heard and acted upon and that they have the right to take part in decisions. It is of major importance that we show that we take this seriously and that we show and act according to our attitudes whether it comes to rights of the child, human rights or equality of genders in the Barents cooperation.

Youth are a priority group in the Barents cooperation and it is about time that BRYC is invited to all the arenas where decisions are made- The Regional committee and the

Barents regional council. Furthermore it is important that the youths have a vote there to make sure they have real influence and don't participate only as observers.

Enclosures:

1. Protocol BRYC meeting Murmansk, March 2007
2. Protocol Annual meeting Murmansk, March 2007
3. Protocol Board meeting Luleå, Juni 2007
4. Protocol BRYC meeting Rovaniemi, October 2007
5. Plan of action 2007
- 6.Regulations for BRYC

BRYC Members in 2007

Name	County	e-mail
Tommy Berg	Finnmark	svtommy@online.no
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Erik Tonstad	Troms	Et-ton@online.no
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Halvard Rundberg	Indigenous repr.	ha-rund@online.no
Anne Silja Turi	Indigenous repr.	annesilja.turi@gmail.com



Protocol

For the Barents Regional Youth Council's
Council Meeting 2007

23rd of March 2007
1000-1300
Hotel Polarnie Zory
Murmansk, Russia

Participants

Barents Regional Youth Council:

Sindre Wolf	Troms County	Norway
Tommy Berg	Finnmark County	Norway
Tuija Valtanen	Region of Kainuu	Finland
Ylva Pavval	Norrbotten County	Sweden
Olga Nikonyk	Komi Republic	Russia
Olga Shaporeva	Murmansk County	Russia
Glafira Shikova	Archangelsk County	Russia
Ludmila Isaeva	Karelia Republic	Russia
Andrey Vokuev	Nenets Autonomus Area	Russia

Others:

Laila Dalhaug	The Norwegian Barents Secretariat	Norway
Maria Petrova	Barents Youth Cooperation Office	Russia



- 01/2007 Opening
 Chairman Sindre Wolf
- 02/2007 Agenda
 Adopted
- 03/2007 Protocol
 Ylva was not attending the meeting in Tromsø
- 04/2007 Information from the regions

Andrey, Nenets

The youth parliament was established. The board consists of active youth and members of NGOs. End of 2006 we had youth expo, with 20 organisations. Andrey have translated the Barentsyouth.org website.

Tuija, Kainuu

Youth forum was arranged In Kainuu. There are forums that spreads information about what is going on

Ylva Pavval

in Saaminorra organisation will have two seats in the youth council. Nordic saami championship. Saaminorra will have their annual meeting in May. Its been a challenging winter for reindeerherderes. Huge gathering in Finnish Karesuando with 60 Saami youth from the 4 countries. Red cross in Sweden invites to a arrangement in Luleå in November 2008. BRYC is invited to take part and arrange a seminar, theme is globalization

Olga, Komi

Youth expo for youth projects in Syktyvkar, Maria petova made a presentation of the Barents cooperation at one of the seminar. Semiar to help NGOs to get grants and support for their projects. Youth parliamentarism competition they have three youth parliaments in Komi. Support and education for young leaders is important. Housing for young families is an important issue. Participants in Tromsø conference are working with their projects.

Glafira, Arkhangelsk

In March the regional youth committee opened a site for youth with official information. Week of free job positions was arranged and youth get the opportunity to practice. Festival of talented students and folkloric culture and modern culture. Development of club dancing. The 21st of march it will be a contest for models.

Olga, Murmansk

Scientists contest. A anti drug campaign the government in cooperation with AIDS centre and NGOs. Yearly event in Ice palace the governeurs ball for students. Students

day in January with old traditions. Patriotic upbringing. Belly dancing festival. Festival of young families competition in who are the best family. Traditional annual theatre festival. Website for youth with social profile. Youth in Murmansk not so eager to take part in political life. Telephone movie festival will be arranged next week. Designers and models festival. One day in another place will be arranged. A new programme for youth will be developed before the summer.

Tommy, Finnmark

Election in Finnmark this autumn. The youth parliament is now a youth council. We had festival in Alta called little stars. 40 youngsters took part in it. UKM was arranged in February. The Barents spectacle in Kirkenes.

Maria Petrova

Yukigassen was arranged in Murmansk and the winner is taking part in the championship in Vardø. The Barents tattoo fest are looking for partners. Maria also informed about the possibility to cooperate with the Baltic youth forum.

Ludmila, Karelia

Campaign on HIV, create info centre for youngsters. Contest of projects and programmes, 40 project suggestions.

All different- all equal campaign. Ends in October with huge event. The campaign focus on human rights, diversity and participation. Four actions. Action A – Graffiti Festival “United colors of Europe”. Aim – to find some space (a wall, a bus, a car) and draw a logo of the campaign or any other drawing connected with the slogan of campaign: diversity, human rights and active participation. Action B – “ All colors of the world”- a drawing contest for children. The winner has a chance to go to Malmo (Sweden) this summer for the final.

Action C – Stop fashism Aim- To clean the walls from swastika and other nationalistic signs.

Action D – A traveling book.

Youth parliamentarism, club of young parliamentarists. Invites young politicians and members of students to join and there will be training. 15.-18th of May foreigners are invited to take part, they must be 18-30 years, good in English and represent an organization. Other events; Russian- Finnish art caravan to promote healthy lifestyle and International scouting camp 300 participants

Sindre, Troms

Annual youth conference in Tromsø was arranged in February. There are plans to have different events like “Ta sjansen”, “student week”. Seminars, concerts, courses in dancing.

05/2007

Ludmila informed about the campaign under last item

- 06/2007 Results from the board meeting in Helsinki in December
Sindre informed about the result from the meeting
- 07/2007 Results from the meeting with the arrangement committee in Helsinki
Sindre informed about the meeting and the conclusions.
In order to promote the objectives of the Tromsø Plan of Action, adopted in 2001, the Barents Euro-Arctic Working Group on Youth Policy (WGYA), together with the Finnish Ministry of Education, organises two youth policy seminars during the Finnish chairmanship. The first seminar was organised in Rovaniemi 27-29 August 2006, and its outcome will provide a set of ideas for the preparation of the 2007 seminar, where young people will play the leading role. The 2007 seminar will be organised in close cooperation with the Barents Regional Working Group on Youth Issues (RWGYI), the Barents Regional Youth Council (BRYC) and the Barents Secretariat in Kirkenes.
- Themes: Active young citizenships and diversity
- 08/2007 The Barents Regional Youth programme
Laila informed about the results from the Barents regional committee meeting where the programme was adopted, except the financial part of it.
- 09/2007 Website www.barentsyouth.org
The site is to be used by the BRYC members and they will all make a weblog once a month.
- 10/2007 Other issues
BRYC will have their own event in 2008.
Suggestions
Hiking in Reisadalen
MR forum in Luleå
Trans Siberian railway
- 11/2007 Meeting plan for 2007
See the plan in the work programme for 2007
Meeting for the board will be held in Petrozavodsk 13h of June
- 12/2007 Closing of the meeting

Protocol

For the Barents Regional Youth Council's
Annual Meeting 2007



23rd of March 2007
1000-1300
Hotel Polarnie Zory
Murmansk, Russia

Participants

Barents Regional Youth Council:

Sindre Wolf	Troms County	Norway
Tommy Berg	Finnmark County	Norway
Tuija Valtanen	Region of Kainuu	Finland
Ylva Pavval	Norrbotten County	Sweden
Olga Nikonyk	Komi Republic	Russia
Olga Shaporeva	Murmansk County	Russia
Glafira Shikova	Archangelsk County	Russia
Ludmila Isaeva	Karelia Republic	Russia
Andrey Vokuev	Nenets Autonomus Area	Russia

Others:

Laila Dalhaug	The Norwegian Barents Secretariat	Norway
Maria Petrova	Barents Youth Cooperation Office	Russia



- AM 01/2007 Opening of the Meeting
- Chairman Sindre Wolf welcomed to the 2nd annual meeting
- AM 02/2007 Adoption of Agenda
Adopted
- AM 03/2007 Adoption of the Annual Report for 2006
Adopted with Changes:
Major challenges- change crate to create
The Barents youth conference 2006
Include information about the Indigenous representatives
- AM 04/2007 Financial Report for 2006
Adopted
- AM 05/2007 Budgets for 2007-2008
Adopted
- AM 06/2007 Action plan 2007-2008
Elaborated and Adopted
- AM 07/2007 Election
Members of the board
Tuija Valtanen, Finland
Olga Shaporeva, Russia
Halvard Rundberg, Indigenous people
Sindre Wolf, Norway
Ylva Pavval, Sweden
- Sindre Wolf elected as chairman
Olga Shaporeva

AM 07/2007

Meeting plan for 2007

June, Board meeting Finland/Russia

August, BRYC meeting in Norway

October, BRYC meeting in Rovaniemi

December, Board meeting in Jokkmokk, Sweden

AM 08/2007

Closing of the Meeting

The chairman closed the meeting



PROTOCOL

The Barents Regional Youth Council's Board Meeting

14th-15th of September 2007
Luleå, Sweden
Quality Hotell

Participants

Barents Regional Youth Councils board:

Sindre Wolf	<i>chair</i>	Troms County	Norway
Olga Pokrovskaya	<i>deputy chair</i>	Murmansk Oblast	Russia
Tuija Kallio		Region of Kainuu	Finland
Ylva Pavval		Norrbottn County	Sweden

Others:

Laila Dalhaug	The Norwegian Barents Secretariat	Norway
Maria Petrova	Barents Youth Cooperation Office	Russia
Petter Mahrs	Consulting	Sweden
Lauri Nyman	Ex kainuu representative	Finland

Agenda



01/07 Adoption of the agenda
Adopted

02/07 Adoption of protocol from the last meeting
Adopted

03/07 General information

Upcoming events

Laila informed about different upcoming events and projects;

Innovation Barents

During the Barents Days in Bodø 18th-21st of October

International workshop for young Sami entrepreneurs in The Barents Region

The workshop will gather 40 young entrepreneurs from Norway, Sweden, Finland and Russia. At this arrangement the attention will be drawn to Sámi entrepreneurship, challenges, possibilities and key factors for a strategy plan aiming at developing and promoting Sámi innovation in the Barents Region.

Would you like to take part in this exciting, international and unique workshop? If you live in the Barents region, are between 20-35 years old and interested in Sámi entrepreneurship, we can offer you:

- A great chance to expand your network of young business people in the Barents region
- Inspiring lectures and group discussions
- An opportunity to develop a common marketing strategy for Sami entrepreneurs in the Barents region
- Free admission to Adjagas concert Friday night
- All travel and accommodation costs covered

For participation and info contact Laila (laila@barents.no) Phone: +47 915 753 89

Environmental conference

During the Barents Days in Bodø 18th-21st of October

In Bodø, 80 youth from the different countries will meet to discuss what they want the politicians to do to protect the environment in order to make a good future for the young generation of the north.

The environmental problems in the Barents region are extensive. The fragile nature of the north is especially vulnerable to human activity and industrial interference, and it is important to provide the right steps to assure safe exploitations of our natural resources.

Oil and gas activity, nuclear waste, loss of the biodiversity, pirate fishing and the effects of the changing climate are all challenges which are to be taken seriously. The future of the north depends on how we protect and maintain the rich nature, and that's why environmental issues are of great concern to the youth in the Barents region.

In Bodø, 80 youth from the different countries will meet to discuss what they want the politicians to do to protect the environment in order to make a good future for the young generation of the north.

Nature and Youth will mainly invite members of the different environmental and political youth organizations in the region, but we are of course also interested in "independent" voices.

For participation and info contact Laila (laila@barents.no) Phone: +47 915 753 89

GÁVNNADEAPMI- Sámi Youth Gathering in Karesuando

Gávnnadeapmi is in the Finnish side of Karesuando 18th to 21st October 2007. During the gathering, Sámi youth from all parts of Sápmi get the opportunity to meet and discuss topics that are important to the Saami community.

The goal of this project is to gather youth that are over 18 years of age because they are in the phase of life where they choose what they are going to work with.

This kind of gathering gives the youth a chance to reach out and front their opinions in topics like culture, politics and the future in the Saami community.

The Saami youth organizations need youth that are idealistic and committed to work with topics concerning youth. The average age in Saami youth organizations is low. We hope that this project will engage older youth to participate in working for youth and to join the Saami youth organizations.

“Ragátáigi”. The mating –season is a reindeer-saami word for the time of the year that the gathering occurs. There are no happenings in the time of the year. We attend to fill this “gap” with a gathering that is ment only for youth.

Getting to the conference will not be a problem. There will be four busses going to Karesuando picking up people on the way.

They go from Östersund, Kirkenäs, Tromsö through Kiruna and from Oulu straight to Karesuando.

For more information visit the site GÁVNNADEAPMI or contact:

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Barents Youth Seminar Rovaniemi 12.-14.october

See next item

Rovaniemi 14th- 15th of November;

Meeting for the Barents Regional Council

11th Barents Euro-Arctic Council ministerial session

04/07

Barents Youth Seminar Rovaniemi 12.-14.October

The first seminar was organised in Rovaniemi 27-29 August 2006, and its outcome will provide a set of ideas for the preparation of the 2007 seminar, where young people will play the leading role. The 2007 seminar will be organised in close cooperation with the Barents Regional Working Group on Youth Issues (RWGYI), the Barents Regional Youth Council (BRYC) and the Barents Secretariat in Kirkenes.

The aim of these seminars is to examine the situation of young people in the Barents Region from different perspectives, such as active citizenship, social empowerment, living conditions, mobility, and diversity. The topics of the two seminars will be further discussed and elaborated by the WGYP and messages from the seminars will be forwarded to the Committee of

Senior Officials and to the Barents Euro-Arctic Council Ministers for Foreign Affairs. The topics of the seminars are also highlighted in the Barents Regional Youth Programme 2007-2010.

Sindre informed about the work that have been done by the preparatory group where he and Halvard have been participating for BRYC. So far BRYCs role during the event will be to support Torstein Gejl and contribute with practical matters. In addition BRYC will publish articles from the event during those days at www.barentsyouth.org and write articles and take photos and send it to local newspapers in their own region.

05/07 Economy for BRYC

BRYC will get support to meet from the regions (at least in the Nordic countries) In addition its possible to apply from Nordic Youth committee for organization support.

If this is not sufficient it may be possible to suggest to the regional working group on youth issues to split the pot of 50 000 NOK (provided by the Barents secretariat) or transfer it to BRYC that needs this more.

06/07 The action plan 2007

Important events and preparation

The different projects have been discussed under the other topics. The most important reminder is to send info to be publish at barentsyouth.org and use the blog at the site. The BRYC event for 2008 is discussed under item 8

07/07 Barents Regional youth program

Sindre informed about the meeting in the Barents Regional Committee in Tromsø 5th of September. Laila informed about the Barents Regional council meeting.

The Youth program was adopted by the regional council, but the financial part is yet to be further investigated. The regional Council is positive to support BRYCs work and the Nordic regions committed themselves to support BRYCs meetings and initiatives.

08/07 BRYC event 2008

Human rights in the Barents region.

BRYC wants to focus on youth and human rights in the Barents region next year and arranges a Barents youth event during "MR-dagerne" in Luleå 13.-16. November 2008. "MR-dagerne" or "The Human Rights days" is the Swedish NGOs forum for Human rights arranged yearly. The arrangement

responsibility rotates between the organizations and in 2008 Red Cross Sweden has the main responsibility. BRYC wants to make the forum more international and use the opportunity when its arranged in Luleå to give it a Barents dimension.

The gathering in Luleå have the title "Human rights in a globalized world". BRYC want to arrange a workshop and stand within the following frames:

- Make a stand during the HR-Days Thursday and Friday at Kulturhuset to inform about the Barents region and the Barents cooperation.
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The workshop will

- Gather 20 youth from each countries aged 18-30 years and members of NGO working with HR
- Be held with English language
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- Concentrate on 3-4 subjects that are important for youth when it comes to human rights. (For example Freedom to speak and right to be heard)
- Gather organization that are involved in work with human rights in the region to build network
- End in concrete project and cooperation projects

Laila will contact Red Cross and ask about the language and possibilities for interpretation.

09/07 Other issues

Sindre has left BRYC and Olga is now taking over as The Chairperson until the annual meeting 2008

Meeting plan for BRYC 2007-2008

When	Where	BRYC/Board
January	Kajaani	The Board
Medio Mars	Arkhangelsk	BRYC
June	Bodø	The Board
October	Luleå	BRYC
December	Oulu	The Board

Protocol Joint meeting



Barents Regional Youth Council
The Regional Working Group on Youth Issues

Rovaniemi Sunday 14th of October 2007



Barents Regional Youth Council BRYC

Petter Mahrs	Norrbotten	Sweden
Andrey Vokuev	Nenets	Russia
Ludmila Isaeva	Karelia	Russia
Iris Jakola	Lapland	Finland
Anne Silja Turi	Indigenous repr	Norway
Stig Arne Somby	Finnmark	Norway
Helene Kroken Slettbakk	Nordland	Norway
Milja Seppala	Oulo	Finland
Tuija Kallio	Kainuu	Finland
Stian Johansen	Troms	Norway
Olga Nikonyuk	Komi	Norway
Xenia Kipurova	Arkhangelsk	Russia
Olga Pokrovskaya	Murmansk	Russia

The Regional Working Group on Youth Issues (RWGYI)

Helga Bones	Troms	Norway
Lauri Nyman	Kainuu	Finland
Thorstein Einarsson	Troms	Norway
Maria Östensson	Västerbotten	Sweden
Vivian Aira	Indigenous rep	Norway
Laila Dalhaug	The Barents secretariat	Norway
Olov Oscarsson	Observer	

New agenda Joint meeting for the Barents Regional youth council and the Regional Working Group on Youth Issues

Opening of the meeting by Laila Dalhaug

Presentation of the participants

Agenda was joint based on the two separate agendas

Meeting chaired by Olga Pokrovsjkaya

01/07 Approval of the agenda

Approved

02/07 Approval of protocols from last meeting

BRYC protocol approved

RWGYI Approved

03/07 Information about activities and projects

Laila Informed about upcoming multilateral youth events

Innovation Barents

During the Barents Days in Bodø 18th-21st of October

International workshop for young Sami entrepreneurs in The Barents Region

The workshop will gather 40 young entrepreneurs from Norway, Sweden, Finland and Russia. At this arrangement the attention will be drawn to Sámi entrepreneurship, challenges, possibilities and key factors for a strategy plan aiming at developing and promoting Sámi innovation in the Barents Region.

Environmental conference

During the Barents Days in Bodø 18th-21st of October

80 youth from the different countries will meet to discuss what they want the politicians to do to protect the environment in order to make a good future for the young generation of the north.

GÁVNNADEAPMI- Sámi Youth Gathering in Karesuando

Gávnnadeapmi is in the Finnish side of Karesuando 18th to 21st October 2007. During the gathering, Sámi youth from all parts of Sápmi get the opportunity to meet and discuss topics that are important to the Saami community.

04/2007 Information from the Regions

Helga Bones, Troms

Youth conference in Troms in February with different workshops also on "How to work on Barents youth issues in the Barents region". Troms county

will make a fund of 200 000NOK to spend on the projects that the young people are selecting as the best project.

Thorstein Einarsson, Troms

Develop network for youthwork in Tromsø. The youth conference is a good way to work with youth, but we need to make structures to follow up the ideas and projects from the conference.

Andrey Vokuev, Nenets

Got positive signals from the regional government that they will cover BRYC representatives costs. Regional grant contests 1 million rubles. Scouts, sportboxing club will organize training for young boxers. 10 projects will be financed by polar light companies (oil companies), they supports organisation working with youth questions.

Ludmila Isaeva, Karelia

The law of youth issues will soon be adopted. There is now a committee for youth issues in the federal structure, a own ministry for youth issues. There will be a new committee for youth issues in Karelia. Scouts event was arranged with 3000 participants from 32 regions. Well organized, granted by TACIS. Will have 2nd meeting in the youth parliament with participants from Finland.

Project on fighting intolerance have been implemented. What can be done by youth for youth to make people live peacefully together.

Joined a new international project "Dance for life" that is a campaign against HIV. Next year people all around the world will dance the same dance at the same time. www.dance4life.com

Iris Jakola, Lapland

In Lapland: Youth coordinator is in each capital in each municipality. Youth act programme was adopted 1st of March. Youth information website www.Launti.fi

Lapland is taking part in the Youth Initiative Channel. You sign in on the website and register initiatives and then its voting. Those projects that get most positive votes will get help to be implemented

Stig Arne Somby, Finnmark

The county Council is looking into the youth work in the region and will have that on the agenda quite soon. Hopefully there will be established a youth council in addition to a yearly youth conference event.

Anne Silja Turi, indigenous people

The Saami parliament in Sweden have just established a youth council. The Norwegian Saami parliament arranges a yearly youth conference, butt his was not done his year. The Ministry of Labour and Social Inclusion (in Norway) are in charge

of the Saami Pathfinder project, where three Saami youth are informing about Saami issues in schools. These three work for a year, and new ones chosen each year. They are looking into the possibility to make it Nordic."

Helene Kroken Slettbakk, Nordland

The youth parliament have been working on a culture card for youth that are valid 300-400 NOK to be used for different culture event. The money is given from the government. Generation conference in Bodø with old and young gathered to discuss common challenges. This was a youth initiative.

Milja Seppala, Oulo

The youth council took part in a regional seminar with stand to be visible. They invited a lot of youth from different NGOs.

Vivian Aira, indigenous repr

New leadership in the Norwegian saami parliament now. They have youth as an important issue. The parliament will use the agreements that also involve youth as important tools for the future.

Stian Johnsen, Troms

He is working with the yearly youth conference in Tromsø and is in charge of the content. Will focus on Barents as well at the next conference.

Olga Nikonyk, Komi

"Time of youth" was a big event with participants from each region in Komi. Demonstrations of youth organisations. Expo and camp for youth with representatives from government. Football competition. A wall of projects and some were supported by the head of the republic. One was about Civil life. The youth parliament was working under the idea that youngsters should take part in politics from 18 years. There were also suggestions to implement project to inform the youth about their rights and what to do about it, tourist projects and PC project.

Maria Östensson, Västerbotten

Norrbotten and Västerbotten have organisational challenges and they need to inform about the Barents cooperation and will arrange a joint Barents Youth conference for Norrbotten and Västerbotten.

Young writers project for youth, theatre festivals with participants from Petrozavodsk. In November it will be a theatre festival normal theatre and puppet theatre. The rainbow strings was arranged in Lyxle. Health and social conference focusing on HIV and drug abuse, exchange of competence on how to inform youth about sexual transmitted disease. Umeå is a candidate for the cultural capital of Europe.

Scholarship for Barents youth is established by the Governor Laurens Anderson that are now retired.

Olga Pokrovskaya, Murmansk

Contest for young scientists 30 000 Rubels was the price for the winners. Murmansk Oblast is cooperation with the Norwegian side about safety on the road; Speed limit problem and safety belt. 3 big campaigns are going to be organized. There will be a movie festival about safety on the roads where all movies are made by youth and a International day of all victims of the road. They will have a marriage festival to show how nice it is to be married. Alone mothers have more rights for monthly allowance from father if they were married.

Grants are given to families that have a 2nd child in the family.

Election campaign have started on federal level. They are working on make youth active during the election. Anti drug campaigns starts 1st of December.

The board for youth affairs are interested in finding partner to exchange programme. Huge culture festival which will take 4-5 months that consist of theatre, drama, dancers, singers, literature etc. They will cover accommodation and food.

Xenia Kipurova, Arkhangelsk

Had a presentation about the youth work in Arkhangelsk (own attachment). They are arranging a youth seminar, the leader of the 21st century.

Lauri Nyman, Kainuu

They have implemented two international project financed by the EU. They arrange Regional election next year and plan to lower the age limit to 16 years on regional elections. In November it's the youth day. In December the 3rd youthforum of Kainuu will be arranged. Youth work in Kainuu must be stronger.

05/07

Barents regional youth program 2007-2010

Barents regional committee and council meeting was arranged in Tromsø in October. Sindre Wolf was there presenting the youth. Conclusion was that Each Nordic country will contribute with 3000 euro for their BRYC representative. The Russian regions will look into it but needs a budget. BRYC will present a budget and project description at the meeting in Rovaniemi. Laila will send out the protocol from the regional committee and regional council meeting.

06/07

Human right days in Luleå 2008

Olga informed about the conclusions from Luleå, the MR-days BRYC have agreed to work on HR days as their main event for 2007.

BRYC wants to focus on youth and human rights in the Barents region next year and arranges a Barents youth event during "MR-dagerna" in Luleå 13.-16. November 2008. "MR-dagerna" or "The Human Rights days" is the Swedish NGOs forum for Human rights arranged yearly. The arrangement responsibility rotates between the organizations and in 2008 Red Cross Sweden has the main responsibility. BRYC wants to make the forum more international and use the opportunity when its arranged in Luleå to give it a Barents dimension.

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07/07

www.barentsyouth.org

The BRYCers must start using the BLOG and send more info to Laila about events

08/07

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The working group will meet in Kirkenes in the period 30.January-3rd of February during Barents Spectacle

09/07

Other Issues

Follow up of the project ideas from the Rovaniemi seminar?
BRYC can work on one of the projects in 2009.

10/2007

Closing of the Meeting

Meeting closed at 1700