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## OCTOBER 2016 NEWSLETTER

As forecast in our July 2016 Newsletter, the summer months were very quiet for our Society, and nothing remarkable occurred to prompt an August or September issue.

However the month of October was a very different matter as the BC Rural Dividend Program had set October 31<sup>st</sup> as the deadline for its second intake of applications.

We had submitted what we felt was a very strong application ahead of the May 31<sup>st</sup> deadline, only to be rejected – as so many other small non profit societies were – for lack of a fully audited financial statement. During the summer, the Ministry relaxed this requirement and substituted a requirement for what the accounting profession calls a Review Engagement Report. This still calls for a fairly exhaustive review of our financial position, and although expensive, is very much less so. During October we engaged the services of PMT Chartered Professional Accountants LLP of 100 Mile House who gave us a real break on their fees and delivered a first class product to us on October 28<sup>th</sup> in ample time to be attached to our application which was filed electronically later that same day after having been approved by our members in an email vote.

The application is for \$99,550 which if approved, would be joined with the \$25,000 contributions of our member Bands, and would finance the preparation of both the construction documentation needed for going out to tender for the construction phase of our project and also the budget figure needed to start the search for funding of that construction.

We don't anticipate knowing the Ministry's decision until March 2017, but if we are successful, McFarland Marceau Architects who prepared our original conceptual design and the subsequent design development report, expect to complete this next phase of construction documentation by the end of next year.

Although we anticipate being relatively inactive during the coming winter, we will be holding our annual general meeting on November 18<sup>th</sup> at which we will in the normal course of events be carrying out our election of officers and directors. In our November edition we will introduce you to the new directors and any new members who may by that date have been appointed by their respective Band Councils.