



P.O. Box 553
108 Mile Ranch, B.C. V0K 2Z0
tel: 250.791.7267
fax: 250.791.7297
email: grahamleslie@shaw.ca

June 2019 Newsletter

1. Funding the Centre's Operations

In 2014 we requested a financial commitment from each of our member Bands in order to finance the gap between our proposed Centre's estimated annual revenues and its anticipated annual operating costs. Four of our five member Bands agreed to a 5-year commitment that would apportion that deficit equally between them. In order to strengthen our position when we start our campaign to fund the cost of construction, etc., we will be seeking a renewal of those earlier commitments in the near future and our President will be writing to each of the Chiefs and Band Councils in early July in the hope that favourable decisions will be forthcoming by the end of the summer. That will pave the way for Society members to design the fundraising campaign at a meeting in October with Carlie Chase whom we introduced briefly to you in our December 2018 Newsletter. We'll have more to tell you about Carlie in due course.

2. Funding Construction of the Centre

Although we have decided to await the hoped for commitments from our member Bands to fund the anticipated annual operating deficits that are suffered by all museums and cultural centres the world over, before meeting to plan the campaign to fund the construction and exhibits, there are several existing funding programs for which we may be eligible and which we are examining in the meantime.

Amongst these is the Economic Diversification Infrastructure program of the Northern Development Initiative Trust whose staff members we have already contacted. This program offers grants of up to \$250,000, and although no amount would be forthcoming from this source until we had acquired the remainder of the funds we need, we will expect in the near future to receive a letter from the NDIT to affirm that our Society and our project are eligible for the full amount in due course. That letter will serve us well as leverage when we start out on our full campaign later in the Fall.

We have also started to reach out to various key individuals and groups who might be in a position to contribute to, or assist us with our eventual fundraising campaign. Amongst these are the B.C. Ministers of Tourism, Arts and Culture; Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation; and Forest, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development. Our President Kerry Chelsea wrote to those three B.C. ministers and their respective deputy ministers in mid-June, and we recently received a very positive response from the Hon. Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, etc. who has asked to be kept informed of our progress as we move forward. We are very grateful for his interest in our project.

3. Our Promotional Brochure

In last month's edition we told you that our members had approved a final draft version of a brochure that explains who we are and what our vision is for our Centre, and describes in some detail what we have accomplished to reach the current stage of our project and what our architects and exhibit design consultants have helped us to produce. We had originally intended to wait for our member Band Councils' funding decisions before going to print the final version, but we are now assessing the



cost of printing a small quantity that we can use in the interim period as we start to put out feelers to various possible funding agencies. We also plan to make a copy accessible on our website – nsculturalsociety.ca – during the month of July, and invite our readers to take a look at it there.

4. Our Beautiful Bridge

Our bridge that was erected in June 2015, still looks as good as new, but from the start, and acting on the advice of Brad Johnson of Sitka Log Homes Ltd. which supplied most of the timber and the stain for the bridge, we have planned to maintain it in good condition with regular repainting, and the time has come to carry through with that plan.

At the time of this writing, we are awaiting a quote from the work crew at the Canim Lake Band, and fully expect to have this task completed before the end of this summer.

In our May 2019 edition, we undertook to commemorate the many generous local firms and individuals who contributed financially to the cost of constructing the bridge, and it is with great pleasure that we do so on this the fourth anniversary of its completion. With our heartfelt thanks for their past and continuing support, they are listed below as their names appear on the plaque that we have erected at the site of the bridge itself.

THIS BRIDGE WAS COMPLETED IN JUNE 2015 FOR THE

NORTHERN SECWEPENC CULTURAL SOCIETY

ARCHITECTS: ***McFARLAND MARCEAU ARCHITECTS LTD.***

STRUCTURAL ENGINEER: ***FAST & EPP***

DESIGNED AND BUILT BY ***CELTIC ENGINEERING LTD.***

AND MADE POSSIBLE BY THE GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE

NEW PATHWAYS TO GOLD SOCIETY

AND THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES AND ORGANIZATIONS

ARCADA RENTALS
BMO BANK OF MONTREAL
CANADA SAFEWAY
CALIJA LOG HOMES
CELTIC ENGINEERING
CENTURY HARDWARE LTD.

MOUNT POLLEY MINING
PHARMASAVE, 100 MILE HOUSE
RBC ROYAL BANK
REGENCY CHRYSLER
SANDMAN INN
SAVE-ON-FOODS

cont. next page...



...cont. from previous page

HEARTLAND TOYOTA
HOME HARDWARE, WILLIAMS LAKE
HUB INTN'L. BARTON INSURANCE
McDONALDS
NIGEL HEMINGWAY LAND SURVEYING
OK TIRE, WILLIAMS LAKE
100 MILE FREE PRESS
111 MILE SAND & GRAVEL
THE NEW 108 RESORT

SITKA LOG HOMES
SUNRISE FORD
THE COAST FRASER INN
TIM HORTONS, 100 MILE HOUSE
UNITED CONCRETE, 100 MILE HOUSE
UNITED STEELWORKERS OF AMERICA
WEST FRASER MILLS
WILLIAMS LAKE & DIST CREDIT UNION
WILLIAMS LAKE TRIBUNE

MANY OF WHOSE CONTRIBUTIONS WERE MATCHED BY **ARTSVEST BC**

AND THE FOLLOWING GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS

100 MILE SNOWMOBILE CLUB
JOHN AND BARBARA HOOPER
DOLORES HUSTWAIT
GRAHAM AND LISA LESLIE
BRENT RUTHERFORD



Notes to the Reader

1. If you would prefer not to receive future monthly Newsletters, please notify us by email addressed to grahamleslie@shaw.ca.
2. If you are not on our direct emailing list, but would like to be added to it, please notify us by email addressed to grahamleslie@shaw.ca.