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January 2020 Newsletter

1. Our Fundraising Project

As of the date of this Newsletter, the Esk'etemc First Nation had not established a date for a February community meeting, but we understand that one will be established in the near future. Any approach to the Williams Lake Band Council would be deferred until following Esk'etemc approval of our request for funding.

2. Further Exhibit Design Development

During the summer of 2019, we reached out to three B.C. Ministers and their Deputy Ministers, the Ministers being the Hon. Lisa Beare, Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture; the Hon. Scott Fraser, Minister of Indigenous Relations and Reconciliation; and the Hon. Doug Donaldson, Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development. Our purpose was to make them aware of our project and to seek their support as we move forward. We are most gratified to have received extremely warm and encouraging responses from all three Ministers, and after Chief Helen Henderson and a group of her Canim Lake Band Councillors met with Minister Lisa Beare in late September, and were given confirmation of the Minister's support, we wrote again to Minister Beare in the hope that she and her Ministry may be able to identify some funding sources within the Provincial Government that would enable us to proceed with the next phase of David Jensen's exhibit design development work. We have not yet heard back from the Minister, but expect to do so soon.

In the meantime, we have learned of another potential source of funding: the Investment Readiness Program, administered by several organizations that include Community Foundations Canada. We will be submitting a proposal to that body within the next 10 days in the hope of acquiring the amount of funding that would enable David Jensen's team to start the next phase of its work at Canim Lake.

Our hope remains that the anticipated success of that project will lead to obtaining additional outside funding that will allow the David Jensen team to continue its exhibit design development work with our other member Bands. We won't expect to learn the result of our Community Foundations Canada application until early Spring, but will be keeping our fingers crossed in the meantime.



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3. Cariboo Regional District Board Presentation

The Society has been invited to make a 30-minute presentation to an upcoming CRD Board meeting, with several dates being offered in February, March and May. At this time of writing, Society members are engaged in determining which of the five suggested dates would be most suitable. The CRD has been a strong supporter of our project since its inception, and we will be very pleased to provide Board members and staff attendees with an update regarding its status.



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.