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MARCH 2018 NEWSLETTER

1. THE NORTHERN SHUSWAP TRIBAL COUNCIL (NStQ) LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

As planned and previously noted, our President Kerry Chelsea, our Vice President Irene Gilbert and our Secretary Graham Leslie along with our architect Marie Marceau spent an hour with the NStQ Leadership Council on March 8th, providing the meeting with a brief summary of the history of our project to date and a presentation of the architectural and landscaping designs that have been approved by the Society and have brought the overall project to a shovel-ready state. The question and answer session that followed the presentations, featured several excellent questions and some thoughtful suggestions, and have hopefully paved the way for subsequent dialogue with our individual member Band Councils.

The four NStQ Chiefs had very kindly invited the Esk'etemc Chief and Council to attend the session, but unfortunately only our own President — Esk'etemc Band Councillor Kerry Chelsea — was able to attend. In this respect it is noteworthy that Esk'etemc had held its elections for Chief and three of its Band Councillors the day immediately prior to our meeting. Those elections resulted in Charlene Belleau being replaced as Chief by former Chief Fred Robbins, and our Kerry Chelsea being re-elected to Council as the leading vote recipient for Band Councillor.

2. FUNDING APPLICATIONS

Shortly after we published the last edition of our Newsletter, we were informed that our application to the BC Rural Dividend Fund for a \$100,000 grant had been approved, subject to our ability to match that amount with a minimum of \$25,000 of our own funds. We continue to await decisions by the Board of the Cariboo Regional District and by Aboriginal Tourism BC — very recently re-named as Indigenous Tourism BC — regarding the criteria they will respectively apply to funds for which we might qualify. In the meantime, however, we have approached our five-member Bands with a request that they collectively underwrite the \$30,000 we need in order to carry out the work for which this funding is required, and which we summarize in the following section.

3. THE NORTHERN SECWPEMC EXHIBIT ROADMAP PROJECT

The purpose of this project as described in the Agreement between the Society and the Minister of Forests, etc. is as follows:

With this application we are requesting funding for the preparation of a Roadmap to be devised by our exhibit design consultant in close consultation with our Society and other representatives of our five-member Bands that will enable us to lay the groundwork for identifying the artifacts, photographs, documents and stories that our five First Nations Bands and their communities wish to have displayed in our Centre when it eventually opens.



The expected results of the project are identified in the Agreement as follows:

1. The appointment of a group of Band members in each of our five Bands, including one of them who will be the exhibit design consultant's main point of contact with that Band;
2. The successful training of those individuals so as to enable them to work within their respective communities to locate, identify and catalogue those artifacts, photographs, other documents, stories and art work that the Bands themselves and their Band members will be willing for us to display in our proposed Centre;
3. The initial preparation of those items for their eventual conversion into actual exhibits; and
4. The retention of the five groups of Band members so that they will continue their work beyond the end of this project and beyond the opening of the Centre.

In anticipation of being able to start the project before the end of April, we are currently seeking to appoint the five key individuals who will represent their respective Bands in collaboration with the exhibit design team.

We look forward to introducing the exhibit design team and the five Band representatives in a subsequent edition of our Newsletter.

NOTES TO THE READER

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