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November 2019 Newsletter

1. Funding the Centre's Operations

As previously reported, the request to our member Bands for the funding of the operations of our proposed Centre, has been approved by the Band Councils of Canim Lake and Canoe Creek. The request is on the agenda for consideration by the Esk'etemc Band Council on December 10th.

2. In the Meantime

We reported in last month's edition of our Newsletter that we had been in contact with *Indigenous Services Canada* - in part the successor to *INAC*. With the assistance of staff in its regional office, we have now made an informal submission to the *Department of Canadian Heritage* in the hope that it may have a funding program for which we might be eligible.

David Jensen & Associates has submitted a proposal to carry out the next phase of development of the exhibits and programs that will be featured in our Centre. The best way to explain this new project is to duplicate part of the explanation we recently provided to *Canadian Heritage*, based on our consultants' April 2019 Road Map report:

The Road Map reported on what amount to the preliminary themes that were identified by our five member Bands during a series of consultations during late 2018 and early 2019 with their community members. Our consultants are now ready to move to the next phase of their work, namely the development of the storylines for the inaugural exhibition, based on those preliminary themes. In working with the consultants, we have determined that the most effective way of carrying out this next phase, will be for them to work with one of our Bands initially, and we have selected the Canim Lake Band to be the first of the five. The thought behind our decision is that based on the anticipated success of that project, the consultants will thereafter be able to work with two more of the Bands at one time, and ultimately with the last two simultaneously.

It is doubtful that any unallocated funds remain in this year's Departmental budget, but our hope is that there will be one of the Department's many programs that will have funding available in the upcoming 2020/2021 Federal budget year. We look forward to reporting a favourable outcome to this initiative in the not too distant future.



3. Our Best Wishes for the Holiday Season

As this is the last edition of our Newsletter prior to the start of the New Year, it provides us with the opportunity to express our thanks to all those who have so patiently and loyally supported our project in so many ways and over such a long time. And to all our readers we wish you and your loved ones a joyful Christmas holiday and a New Year full of good health, happiness and success in all your ventures. In extending those wishes, we are fully conscious of those who are facing challenges, and we wish them to know that they are constantly in the prayers of our members.



Notes to the Reader

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