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## October 2020 Newsletter

### 1. Possible Construction of our Centre

Contrary to the prediction offered in the most recent Newsletter, that “we don’t anticipate having much to report on this matter for several months”, there is indeed some encouraging news to report.

In support of our application to the Canada-British Columbia Community Culture and Recreation Program, we had already submitted an application to the Northern Trust’s Cultural Infrastructure Fund in early October, and remain hopeful that it will be accepted into the February 2021 intake for decision by the Trust’s Board no later than April 2021. Our application is for \$300,000.

Thanks to Lesia Davis whom all our readers who attended community meetings late last year and early this year with David Jensen will remember, our attention was drawn to funding that may be available to us from the First Peoples’ Cultural Council, and on October 30th we filed an application for the additional almost \$300,000 that we will need to contribute to the overall construction budget of \$5.9 million. We anticipate receiving a decision from the Council by no later than March 2021. Thank you so much, Lesia.

### 2. The Exhibit Design Development Process

As forecast in our last Newsletter, we did file an application to the Museum Assistance Program for an amount sufficient to fund David Jensen’s team for its next phase of exhibit design development work at Canim Lake and at Stswecem’c Xgat’tem. It was a requirement that the Society contribute a minimum of 15% of the total budget, and we were able to commit that amount by a combination of the in-kind work of the Society’s Secretary and the financial contributions of the two Band Councils which were requested with very short notice, and which the Society greatly appreciates.

As previously reported, we already have an application filed with the Investment Readiness Program for an amount to fund David Jensen’s work, and if we were to be successful with both applications, David Jensen would be able to include the Esk’etemc First Nation in his development work without the need for the Society to contribute any more financially.

### 3. The Society’s Annual General Meeting

Although the Registrar of Societies on one previous occasion was generous in granting an extension to the requirement for us to hold our AGM before the



end of the calendar year, we do plan to hold the meeting remotely in good time. Amongst other business to be conducted at this meeting will be the election of officers for the next year. We look forward to announcing the new Board in due course.

#### **4. The History of Our Project**

Although your editor remains holed up in a hotel room and expects to be there for at least a few more months, his excuse for deferring the writing of the last chapter in our brief history is that he has been preoccupied for the past several weeks with the preparing of the several funding applications that have been recorded in these Newsletters. There may be some respite from those tasks in the coming weeks in which case our readers may be treated to the final chapter in time for Christmas.

#### **5. COVID-19**

It should come as no surprise that the coronavirus has never gone away, and has just been waiting for us humans to let our guards down which unfortunately too many of us have done. The danger appears to be increasing, and this edition of the Newsletter brings with it the hope that all our readers will take sensible precautions and stay safe in the weeks and months ahead. We all wish you well.



#### **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](mailto:grahamleslie@shaw.ca).
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