

P.O. Box 553 108 Mile Ranch, B.C. V0K 2Z0

tel: 250.706.1610 fax: 250.397.2769

email: grahamleslie@shaw.ca

August 2021 Newsletter

1. Down, But Not Out

On July 28th we received the incredibly disappointing news that our application for \$5.4 million from the Canada Infrastructure Program had not been approved. That means that the Society will be unable at this time to take advantage of the \$300,000 grant from the Northern Development Initiative Trust or the incredible gesture of the Canim Lake Band and SXFN in each agreeing to contribute \$150,000 to the project.

We can only hope that further funding opportunities will present themselves in the reasonably near future so that all the preparatory work that has been done can bear fruit. In the meantime, the work of creating the stories, exhibits and programs that can eventually be shared with Band members and with the general public, is continuing. David Jensen's exhibit design team is slated to visit the Canim Lake Band in early August – the wildfire situation currently allowing that visit to take place – and, as mentioned in previous editions, the funding has already been obtained to permit similar work to be carried out with SXFN next year. In the meantime, we will pursue funding opportunities both for David Jensen to work with the Esk'etemc First Nation and – if either of them is willing to participate – for his team to work with the Soda Creek and Williams Lake Bands.

Our members will hopefully be able to meet in person in the near future in order to assess the situation and to establish a path forward from here.

In future editions, your editor plans to recognize all of the numerous groups and individuals who have enabled us to reach this stage in our long journey which is by no means over, but which of necessity must take a pause.



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.