

Board Meeting Nov 27th, 2022

Update from May

May - rodeo grossed us \$5,755 in revenue

- We purchased a riding lawnmower to have employees due the maintenance
- The liquor basket raffle raised 1065 toward the Haunting of Falkland expenses

June - Raina Waby was hired to work 4 day a week through the summer months.

- Dean Trumbley as discussed at the May meeting was hired to continue working on maintenance as well as on the 3 yr project outline from 2021
- We were able to get a wage subsidy for Dean from July to Dec 4/22 to pay him to work 25 hrs per week through Metis Nation British Columbia
- We began to clean around the buildings, sorting rotten wood from good wood and sorting out metal and putting it into areas for display. ie logging supplies in the logging/forestry building
- We purchased a small lawn mower to cut where the riding lawn mower wasn't able to reach

July - We purchased a chainsaw as the one in the shed was no longer working and couldn't be repaired

- July saw the first of our crush deliveries from LaFarge to put new gravel in front of the Garage display and between the office, covered outdoor building, beside barn and in around the willow tree beside the church
- Aim road services and a number of locals assisted in spreading the gravel, cleaning up the gardens and doing some dump runs
- We also kicked off a bottle drive to help raise funds to get a retaining wall for the Mudry cabin.
- To date (Oct 14th) we have raised \$1730.90 in our bottle drive
- I had two contractors out to look at quoting shoring up the Mudry cabin. We looked at lifting the building, pouring a cement pad with a crawl space, a concrete retaining wall among other ideas. The cheapest and most cost effective was determined to be gabion baskets at a cost of around \$2200. Rocks and the excavating services are to be donated.

Aug - was a busy month of doing clean up on the grounds. Removed dangerous limbs, continued to clean out around the Garage, workshop, barn, Hamer cabin and blacksmith shop. Ended up taking 35 loads to the dump of rotten wood and yard waste.

- We cleared out the pathways down to the railway tracks and back behind the store. Intend to leave as much brush as possible as the deer like to use it for sleeping and eating spots.
- We paid Anita Jacobsen to get our financials entered from 2019 to current into the quick books online program so that we can apply for grants.
- Applied for two grants under BC Museums. Waiting for decisions.
- Susan Archibald, who is a retired inventory analyst, started volunteering and computerizing our gift and accession agreements in a database.

Sept - started the planning for the Harvest Festival and added on a pancake breakfast. The breakfast was well received.

- Unfortunately due to an unexpected long weekend due to Queen Elizabeth's death, our attendance was the same (350 people) as last year but there was no increase.
- Even with the grant in aid refused by the CSRD to help fund the festival, we still made a profit of \$600
- After the harvest festival, Advantage Excavating and LaFarge donated their time to get the back parking lot done. We did have to pay JPW \$1313 for some 3mm crush to build up to the road. Donated costs amounted to \$14,000 between Advantage and LaFarge and we have a sign to put up in the parking lot acknowledging their donation.
- The parking lot will not be officially used until next spring to give it time to settle. However, for halloween the vendors and volunteers used it and seemed to have no issues.
- We will need to get a few solar lights to light it up when people are leaving in the dark.
- The gates over by the hotel will be moved next year to close off the access from the hwy. Currently we just have a chain.

Oct - most of the month was spent on getting ready for the Haunting of Falkland.

- This year we made the following money from the event
 - a. Concession - 847
 - b. Card Reading - 450
 - c. Ghost Hunts - 2000
 - d. Haunting of Falkland - 2500

Nov - most of the month is spent cleaning up the halloween decorations, winterizing and setting up for the Christmas Light Up.

- A snow blower was purchased for the museum for \$1850 (taxes and cover) instead of having to rely on volunteers
- We were awarded \$4000 towards our digitization project as proposed by Thunder Boyz Productions. So we have agreed to combine that with the project being done on Saturday's and having our museum open to visitors.

Financials - despite all the expenses for the year, the balance of the bank account is \$14,250

- The Bottle Drive has raised 1730 to date. Estimated cost for the Mudry retaining wall is \$2500
- Online access has been set up to our Revenue Canada Account. Unfortunately we missed out on having our employee wages subsidized for 2021 & part of 2022 with the recovery grants available by federal govt
- I am going to file gst returns back 3 yrs so we can get GST refunds for our expense we paid out GST on.

Winter Activities

- Focus will be on getting the indoor office organized, as well as work on various indoor maintenance projects.
- Upon cleaning up the grounds, a pile of cedar shakes were found behind the Garage in the trees. They are still in good condition and we will use them to fix the roof on the barn and the Mudry cabin come spring/summer.

- We will look at working with a grant writer to help secure funds for grants that are outside my abilities.
- I would like to look at a planning meeting to have at least a monthly event at the museum in order to generate revenue for the park.
- I would like to look at purchasing a cotton candy machine and a bouncy castle in the spring so we can sell cotton candy at rodeo, festivals, etc and have the bouncy castle to encourage people to rent our grounds for kids parties w/the bouncy castle.
- I would like to move forward with establishing an annual membership for the museum, a family and an individual rate and register with the owl program.
- We will be making a priority list for repairs next year. An inspection of each building will be done in the spring to determine items of concern. Ie, the roof in the train is sagging on the one end. Mudry cabin has a leaking roof and needs a retaining wall.
- I am working on getting approval for summer student positions so money saved can be used for building maintenance.
- I am also looking into wage subsidies for seniors.
- I would like to do a raffle again next year to raise funds.
- Challenges this year with getting volunteers for activities so I will be building some wages into our event budgets so that Dean, Lee and myself don't end up working 7 days a week to get things ready. Part of the plan with the two 40hr per week summer students is to get them to assist in getting things ready ahead of time for our events.