

Director's Report for AGM 2020

Our Society was incorporated on 17 December, 2015 with 5 initial Board Members: Rosalie Nichiporuk, Kenneth Simon, Kathie LaForge, Jody Pedersen and Glenda Olson.

After the 2019 Annual General Meeting, we had nine Directors in place: Kenneth Simon, Kathie LaForge, Roy Spooner, Mary Burkholder, Shelley Funk, Linda Woodruff, Paul Collard, Swan Kiezebrink and Jason Alexis. After that meeting, Roy Spooner resigned on 05 March 2020, Jason Alexis resigned on 09 April 2020 and Shelley Funk resigned on 30 April 2020. On the 19 October 2020, Karen Andros joined our Board. The Directors that are in place and eligible to vote at this AGM are as follows

1. Kenneth Simon	2. Kathie LaForge
3. Mary Burkholder	4. Linda Woodruff
5. Paul Collard	6. Swan Kiezebrink
7. Karen Andros	8.
9.	10.
11.	12.

During 2020, the Board accomplished the following:

- We attempted to hold another “Friends of the Foundation Event” on 23 January, 2020 at the Integris Community Centre, however we were forced to cancel due to a low response. We will try again another year.
- Our second Grant Cycle completed with only one grant being awarded for \$3,000 to the Cluculz Lake Community Association to assist with their hall improvements. We faced challenges with the grant program as we were no longer able to have the Municipality act as a partner in distributing grant funds to organizations that were registered societies but not charities or registered donees. This resulted in only two applications and it was deemed that one organization’s activities did not fit our priorities.
- An update on our Foundation was shared with all the School District #91 staff based in Vanderhoof with the hope that they would consider donating to the Foundation through their payroll. We did receive some support through this agreement and will continue to encourage more support in the coming years.
- We have received some small donations via the Provincial Employees Community Services Fund and provided them with an update to share with local employees for the fall 2020 campaign.
- Covid 19 limited our ability to host a fundraising event this year, however, one of our Directors was thinking outside the box, and suggested a Covid 2020 Fitness Challenge that ran from 20 April to 20 May, 2020. This was very well received and the Foundation earned \$8,437.00 in donations. This was amazing as this type of fundraiser was less work intensive than past fundraisers have been. We plan to run a repeat in spring 2021.
- We received a \$750 donation from Nechako Valley Animal Health Services and another \$2500 from Rio Tinto Alcan. It is great to have support of local businesses and industry as we strive to increase our endowment fund.

- In addition, we received a # of in-memoriam donations that were much appreciated and have sparked the idea of adding a memoriam page to our website to honour those that were remembered through these donations.
- Through a partnership with the Government of Canada, Community Foundations of Canada, Prince George Community Foundation and our Foundation, we were able to donate a total of \$13,900 to the following community groups through the Covid 19 Emergency Community Support Fund:
 - Vanderhoof Community Garden in partnership with SD#91 - \$1,000 for Covid related supplies and signage
 - W.L. McLeod Elementary School in partnership with SD#91 - \$5,400 for their backpack/food program
 - Vanderhoof Air Cadets in partnership with the Village of Fraser Lake - \$2,000 for a trailer to allow for meeting space in various locations
 - Good Neighbours Committee in partnership with SD#91 - \$5,500 for costs of facilitator for Naloxone Training in Vanderhoof.
- We reviewed and adopted numerous Policies to help with the smooth operation of our Society.
- We have recruited three volunteers to help us update and manage our website and facebook page. Our first meeting is on Tuesday, 8 December 2020
- One of the goals we had set for ourselves was to have our endowment fund at \$1 Million by the end of this year. We obviously were a bit over optimistic and need to revise our goals and strategies for the coming year.

Priorities for the coming year include:

- Undertake our third Grant Intake of Grant Applications
- We continue to work on establishing some Named Funds for our community. Ongoing conversations are occurring with SD#91 regarding their interest in investing \$\$ with us for their Scholarship/Bursary Fund
- Arrange for another presentation to the District of Vanderhoof Council and Regional District Area F Director an update on our progress to date.
- Develop our own Policy Manual
- Update our website and Facebook page to ensure that we are getting good outreach as we continue to be limited in face to face meetings.
- We should plan for another strategy session when we have an opportunity to reconvene in person.

In spite of the challenges that Covid has presented, I think we have lots of accomplishments to be proud of. Thank you all for your interest and enthusiasm in finding ways to reach out to the community and build our endowment. If each of us takes on a personal goal to make contacts with friends and family, reach out to organizations that we are affiliated with and help organize and participate in fund raising activities, we can make 2021 our best year yet.

Signed: _____

President, Kathie LaForge

Dated: 14 December, 2020