

Funding of Forbes Hall Expansion Project - backgrounder

To the astonishment of Thetis Islanders, in September 2016, BC Ferries donated \$100,000 to both Thetis and Penelakut communities. The monies arose from operational savings achieved on our ferry Route 20 as a result of a new, locally designed schedule. The decision to designate the funds for expansion of Forbes Hall was made by Chemainus - Thetis - Penelakut Ferry Advisory Committee (FAC). In an effort to utilize the \$100,000 to benefit all residents of Thetis Island, the FAC decided to donate the money to TICA, designated solely for the expansion of Forbes Hall.

As the Thetis Island Community Fund (TICF) already had an investment with Raymond James, it was agreed that the money received from BC Ferries would be deposited into that investment account. A Letter of Understanding dated October 3, 2016 was signed by TICA and TICF setting out the investment and administration of the \$100,000 for the expansion of Forbes Hall. A public letter of thanks to FAC and others dated October 2, 2016 was signed by Don Sinclair for TICA and Ellen Rush for TICF. An article about the BC Ferries donation was published in the Fall 2016 issue of The Quarterly.

At the same time, TICF made a \$25,000 donation to TICA to fund early stage expenses related to the expansion of Forbes Hall without drawing on the \$100,000.

To our further astonishment, in December 2016, an anonymous donation of \$105,000 was made to TICA for expansion of Forbes Hall. TICA's charitable tax status with Canada Revenue Agency was a critical factor in this donation.

Rough cost estimates are \$200 - \$250 per square foot. Maximum expansion being considered is approximately 2500 square feet.

Summary of Funds raised

September, 2016	-	\$100,000	-	BC Ferries
October, 2016	-	\$25,000	-	TICF
December, 2016	-	\$105,000	-	anonymous
Total		\$230,000.		

Fundraising and Grants

A significant fundraising campaign is required to pay for the expansion. To date, little effort has been required however once a determination is made as to size of the expansion, a focused effort is needed. Research to date suggests there are a considerable number of grants and donations available from government, foundations and corporations.

Ferry Advisory Committee

Steve Frankel, Tim French, Art Hunter, Ken Hunter, Keith Rush

Thetis Island Community Fund Fall 2016

Nicole Chiasson, Tim French, Chad Kerr, Tricia Hunter, Ken Redman, Alisha Rennie, Ellen Rush

Thetis Island Community Association Fall 2016

Ron Bannister, Michelle Black, Nicole Chiasson, Matt Hess, Nettie Hayter, Heather Hunter, Chad Kerr, Don Sinclair, Donella Smith, Donna Stadt, Celine Valestrand

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