

REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
TUESDAY, MARCH 10, 2015
7:10 PM**

(RDN Board Chambers)

A D D E N D U M

PAGES

COMMUNICATIONS/CORRESPONDENCE

- 2 **John Hofman, Friends of the Morden Mine Society,** re Emergency Work for Morden Mine.

- 3 **Eric Ricker, Friends of the Morden Mine Society,** re Application for Funding for Morden Mine.

From: John Hofman
Sent: Thursday, March 05, 2015 3:53 PM
To: Osborne, Tom
Subject: emergency work for Morden

Hi Tom,

Thank you for attending last night's board meeting to clarify a number of the details related to the Gas Tax Fund Program and to seek clarification on the board's position related to the emergency funding question.

While the main objective of the Friends of the Morden Mine Society (FOMM) is to acquire funding to realize the overall restoration of the Morden Mine Tipple and Head Frame structures as outlined in the Read Jones Christoffersen Ltd. (RJC) Report, dated December 22, 2014 we would welcome funding for the emergency work as outlined in section 6.2 of the same RJC report, for the amount of \$45,000. This work would somewhat reduce the risk of imminent collapse of major sections of the structure. However it should not be viewed as a temporary remedy to eliminate the collapse of the structure, as many deficiencies in the structure that could trigger a collapse still remain a threat until the overall restoration outlined in the report is completed.

If granted financial assistance by the RDN for this emergency work, FOMM would endeavor to solicit support from the community and local businesses to assist with the emergency repairs, such as reduced costs for renting cranes, man-lifts and other equipment or manpower required to perform this work.

As noted at the meeting, FOMM is not in a position to manage or direct this type of work; this would require coordination by the RDN or BC Parks.

We would like to thank the RDN Board of Directors and RDN Staff for their commitment and dedication to the preservation of the Morden Mine Structures. This support is very much appreciated.

Regards

John Hofman

Co-president

Friends of the Morden Mine Society.

From: Eric Ricker
Sent: Monday, March 09, 2015 10:30 PM
To: Mayor&Council; corpsrv
Cc: Eric Ricker; John and Gerda Hofman; Chris Sholberg
Subject: Emailing: Copy of FOMM -- News Bulletin letter March 8, 2015
Importance: High

Dear Council Members and Area Directors:

The attached letter has been submitted to the *Nanaimo News Bulletin* in response to an article that appeared late last week in which both CAO Paul Thorkelson and I were quoted. The letter reviews the situation that now exists for Morden Mine and re-states the bare essence of what we expressed in background documents submitted to councilors and area directors in February and again at the most recent committee-of-the-whole meeting.

I bring this letter to your attention because I wish to emphasize that we are dealing with what is almost certainly the last opportunity to save the Morden tipple. There is no source of funding of the magnitude required other than the gas tax fund -- we made that clear in our recent presentation.. There is no fixed date for submitting applications to this fund other than April 15th of this year -- other possible dates are just that, mere possibilities. And there is no certainty that the recently completed engineering study can serve as a valid basis for proceeding if a year or more now passes without action: conditions at the mine and construction costs are always changing.

Furthermore, the likelihood of convincing the provincial government to change its stance on Morden in the time remaining for effective action is, in my judgment, almost non-existent.

I realize of course that the RDN is not responsible for the situation that exists -- nevertheless it is only the RDN that can now make a difference, just as only the CVRD could make a difference for the Kinsol Trestle once the government declared its intention only to offer financial support for the trestle's demolition.

The cost of saving Morden to the RDN, it seems to me, is quite reasonable: it's that of filing an application for funding without committing any financial resources. And it is to make Morden a priority for funding -- if indeed that is to be considered a cost. The latter may mean putting something else on the backburner for a year or so -- but that something else is almost certainly not facing the same do-or-die situation as Morden.

I therefore request that you pass an appropriate motion at the next committee-of-the-whole meeting to insure that an application for funding is submitted in time for the April 15th deadline.

Yours sincerely,

Eric Ricker
Co-president
Friends of the Morden Mine society