



Thursday June 13th, 2019

Fraser Valley Regional District

Mr. Mike Veenbass - Director of Finance

Mr. Dennis Adamson - FVRD Area B Director

Please accept this letter in consideration of releasing available funding towards the relocation and restoration of the Tashme Kindergarten schoolhouse project earlier than scheduled.

Unfortunately, due to later than expected material and labour supplier quotes, I was not able to comfortably and adequately supply my estimate budget for this project until a few days after the known deadline instructed by Mr. Adamson. I sincerely apologize for the late admittance.

I hope you can consider my request of releasing the available funding earlier due to the shedules and preparations I have secured with labourers, tradesmen and a volunteer workforce I now have in place to start the last week of June into the first week of July. I initially assumed that the funding would have been available eariler, but of course, I take full repsonsibility of the delay.

I am hoping to have the kindergarten schoolhouse moved and in location onto the current Tashme Museum property before July 8th. NHK Japan has scheduled to be onsite for a couple of days, starting on July 8th to film a mini-documentary on the history of Tashme and the Tashme Museum, and the relocation and restoration of the kindergarten schoolhouse is one of the major topics of the documentary.

The kindergarten schoolhouse was originally built in the realy 1930's as a bunkhouse during the 14 Mile Ranch - Trite's Ranch dairy farm years. The building was then converted in the Tashme kindergarten schoolhouse in 1942. The building was also used as the Anglican Church for Sunday services. The kindergarten schoolhouse is one of the eight buildings which still exists in Sunshine Valley today which was used during Tashme from 1942- 1946. The building has tremendous historical value as there are quite a few Tashme seniors who I personally know who attended kindergarten here in Tashme.

Due to the Japanese - Canadian internment history officially added to grades 5, 6 and 10 Social Studies in the BC school curriculum this past September, the Tashme Museum has receive a tremendous amount of interest from teachers throughout the Fraser Valley and the lower mainland. We have hosted over 175 field trip students since September, and are scheduled to host approximately 80 more students before school end.

The addition of the schoolhouse to the Tashme Museum is a much needed space. The schoolhouse will be the dedicated classroom area for students during field trips and much needed additional exhibit space for the museum. This addition will let us have two full disability accessible washrooms and a small food prep and museum storage area. The relocation and restoration of this building is the utmost importance due to the current location and condition of the building.

I must once again humbly thank you the FVRD's past, present and future support of the Tashme Museum. We could not have accomplished what we have without your support and trust.

Sincerely,
Ryan Ellan - Founder/Curator
Sunshine Valley Tashme Museum