

ALASKA HIGHWAY SYMPOSIUM

Northern Lights College

June 19,20 1982

Conference Objective: To celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the most significant economic development in Northeastern British Columbia and the Yukon in this century. The conference will bring together experts and scholars from across North America and will attempt a comprehensive assessment of the development and impact of the Alaska Highway.

Timing: The two day event held the third weekend in June will facilitate attendance by local pioneers associated with the construction of the Highway, students and community residents, speakers and delegates from long distances and summer tourists on their way North on the Highway.

Location: The conference center is a central hotel located in Fort St. John. Historically, the Alaska Highway began with the Mile 0 located five miles north of Fort St. John. Northern Lights College in Fort St. John is the coordination center for the conference.

Attendance: The conference is designed to accommodate 200 delegates. Special effort will be made to ensure that delegates include pioneers and native people who were associated with the construction of the Alaska Highway.

Programme: Prepared papers will be presented by 20 guest speakers with expertise on the planning, construction, impact, and the future of the Alaska Highway. A panel of guests with social interest in the area and the Highway at the time of construction will discuss the social impact. Official sound-colour films of the Highway filmed during construction and an original play about the Alaska Highway are part of the conference. A banquet will be held to honour local residents who were instrumental in construction of the Highway. A 400 page publication of the history of the Alaska Highway and the conference proceedings is planned.

Sponsorship: community college, government, business and industry will be asked to share the expenses of the conference. Northern Lights College is organizing the conference and sponsors may contribute from \$500 to \$3,500.

Budget: Approximately \$30,500 will be required. (see attached projected revenue and expenses)

ALASKA HIGHWAY SYMPOSIUM

Northern Lights College

June 19,20 1982

Projected Revenue

Registration fees	\$6,000
Northern Lights College	2,100
Sponsor Contributions	22,345
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	\$30,445

Projected Expenses

Guests fees	\$15,645
Honorary Banquet	5,000
Luncheon	700
Advertising/Publicity	1,500
Promoter	1,500
Printing	1,500
Office supplies	500
Office rental	2,100
Coordinator	2,000
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	\$30,445

ALASKA HIGHWAY SYMPOSIUM

Northern Lights College

June 19, 20, 1982

Conference Objective: To celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the most significant economic development in Northwestern British Columbia and the Yukon in this century. The conference will bring together experts and scholars from across North America and will attempt a comprehensive assessment of the development and impact of the Alaska Highway.

Timing: The two day event held the third weekend in June will facilitate attendance by local pioneers associated with the construction of the Highway, students and community residents, speakers and delegates from long distances and summer tourists on their way North on the Highway.

Location: The conference center is a central hotel located in Fort St. John. Historically, the Alaska Highway began with the Mile 0 located five miles north of Fort St. John. Northern Lights College in Fort St. John is the coordination center for the conference.

Attendance: The conference is designed to accommodate 400 delegates. Special effort will be made to ensure that delegates include pioneers and native people who were associated with the construction of the Alaska Highway.

Programme: Prepared papers will be presented by 18 guest speakers with expertise on the planning, construction, and impact and the future of the Alaska Highway. A panel of guests with social interest in the area and the Highway at the time of construction will discuss the social impact. Official sound-colour films of the Highway filmed during construction and original play about the Alaska Highway are part of the conference. A banquet will be held to honour local residents who were instrumental in construction of the Highway. A 400 page publication of the history of the Alaska Highway and the conference proceedings is planned.

His Excellency: The Right Honourable Edward Schreyer will be the Keynote Speaker.

Sponsorship: college, government, business and industry will be asked to share the expenses of the conference and sponsors may contribute from \$500 to \$5,000. Northern Lights College is organizing the conference.

Budget: Approximately \$45,000 will be required. (see attached projected revenue and expenses)

ALASKA HIGHWAY SYMPOSIUM

Northern Lights College
June 19, 20, 1982

Projected Revenue

Registration fees	\$ 6,000
Speakers own institutions	4,000
Northern Lights College	2,700
Sponsors contributions	32,345

\$45,045

Projected Expenses

Guests' fees (speakers and panelists)	\$15,645
Honorary Banquet	5,000
Luncheon	700
Advertising/Publicity	3,000
Printing	1,500
Office Supplies/Telephone/Postage	1,200
Office Rental	2,100
Equipment Rental	900
Coordinator	6,000
Clerk	4,500
Researcher	4,500

\$45,045

Contributions to January 1982

Northern Lights College	\$ 2,700	office and equipment
Canada Employment Development Project	17,000	coordinator/clerk/researcher
City of Fort St. John	1,500	honorary banquet
Peace River Liard Regional District	1,500	honorary banquet

\$22,700

Sponsorship: college, government, business and industry will be asked to share the expenses of the conference and sponsors may contribute from \$500 to \$2,000. Northern Lights College is organizing the conference.

Budget: Approximately \$45,000 will be required. (see attached projected revenue and expenses)

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LOOKING BACK ON AN ERA

THE ALASKA HIGHWAY MUSEUM

Objective: To provide an educational summer activity for the community of Fort St. John and tourists travelling the Alaska Highway while celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the construction of the Alaska Highway. The museum will be the first of its kind devoted to Alaska Highway memorabilia.

Timing: The five month period between May and September 1982 is during the prime tourist season for the North. Preparation time will be in May and the opening will be in June prior to the Alaska Highway Symposium. Due to the financial set-back in obtaining a permanent Pioneer and Oil Museum for Fort St. John, this temporary project dedicated to the Alaska Highway will serve as a community activity and show the benefits of a museum in the city of Fort St. John.

Location: A central location in the heart of Fort St. John will allow maximum exposure to residents and tourists. Parking is readily available and tourists will be drawn to the downtown core.

Activities: Exhibits: special collection of Alaska Highway memorabilia
extensive study display on transportation and communication systems during the era of construction
photography exhibit of pioneer days in the North Peace
local paintings and pottery for display and sale
Communications: serve as a source of information for questions concerning the history of the Alaska Highway
serve as the contact and interviewing centre for the pioneer oral history project "Before It's Too Late" for those returning pioneers of the Alaska Highway Era
distribute 40th Anniversary Celebration schedule of events and additional information
offer space for coordination of special events in the community
Educational: prepare school kits for September school visits
show film and slide shows on historical sites, recreation sites, history, anthropology, geography, geology

Sponsorship: Student Employment Project Employment and Immigration Canada, Historical Society, Museum Board Committee, Peace Island Park Museum, Northern Lights College, Stage North Theatre Society, Trail of '42 Committee of the Alaska Highway Adventure, Alaska Highway Symposium Project, Peace River Alaska Highway Tourist Association, Arts Council, School District#60, Other contributors will be named as they accept involvement.

Budget: The approximately 29,000 projected budget will include operation and coordination.

Looking Back on an Era

The Alaska Highway Museum

Expenses

Rent	\$10000
Student Employment Salaries	5139
Coordinator's Salary	5000
Hardware and signs	4000
Equipment Rental	600
Telephone and Office Supplies	300
Transportation of Displays	100
Labour Assembling	1800
School Kits	2000

 \$28939
Revenue

Commission on Art Sales	300
Souvenirs Revenue	300
Historical Society	1800
Northern Lights College	600
In-kind contributions	1800
Donations and contributions	24139

 \$28939

Applied for:

Employment and Immigration Canada	\$ 5139
L.A. Heath Management (Rent)	10000
Cultural Services Branch (School Kits)	2000
The Leon and Thea Koerner Foundation	2500
Local Businesses	4500

 \$21139

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April 30, 1982

Jim James
9904 121 Avenue
Grande Prairie, Alberta

Dear Mr. James,

The North Peace Historical Society has coordinated a five month project for downtown Fort St. John to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Construction of the Alaska Highway. A temporary Alaska Highway Museum displaying memorabilia of the Alaska Highway construction era will operate from May to September 30, 1982. The museum will receive maximum exposure on the regional level and, through tourist involvement, the museum success may filter continent wide.

The temporary museum will use displays presently housed in the Peace Island Park Museum in Taylor, 12 miles away, and share student employees with that museum. Transportation of displays and students offers a unique and highly visible form of promotion for a rental agency.

For the project, the Historical Society needs a pick-up truck in working condition, the only requirement. The truck would have a large sign on both sides: The Alaska Highway Museum - Transportation courtesy of (rental agency). The truck would be in use daily along the Alaska Highway, in Taylor, and in Fort St. John constantly advertising the good will of the rental agency.

The Historical Society can offer a tax-deductible receipt for the five months rental and maximum promotion through radio, newspaper, poster and brochure credits along with the truck signs.

The project is a community effort to provide an educational activity for residents and retain tourists in the community for a short time. The space rental has been donated by Highfield Development; Employment and Immigration Canada has provided student employment; Northern Lights College will supply desks, chairs, and audio visual equipment; Canada Council has granted the cost of a transportation exhibit; the Cultural Services Branch of the Provincial Secretary, the Leon and Thea Koerner Foundation, and New Horizons are reviewing our grant applications at the present; and the Downtown Businessmen's Association will donate supplies and materials.

We would like to include Tilden as one of the participants that made this project possible. We have begun assembling the display area and find transportation as one of our biggest problems. Please phone me during the day or in the evening: 785-6214. Thank you for your interest in the project.

Sincerely,

Susan E Popesku

Susan E. Popesku
Resource Development Officer
Northern Lights College

c.c. Mr. Bob McDermitt

THE ALASKA HIGHWAY MUSEUM

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Sponsorship: Student Employment Project Employment and Immigration Canada, Historical Society, Museum Board Committee, Peace Island Park Museum, Northern Lights College, Stage North Theatre Society, Trail of '42 Committee of the Alaska Highway Adventure, Alaska Highway Symposium Project, Peace River Alaska Highway Tourist Association, Arts Council, School District #60, Other contributors will be named as they accept involvement.

Budget: The approximately 39,000 projected budget will include operation and coordination.

Sincerely,
Susan E. Popescu
Susan E. Popescu
Resource Development Officer
Northern Lights College

2E LOOKING BACK ON AN ERA

The Alaska Highway Museum

May-September 1982

Expenses

Rent	\$17,500
Utilities	2,035
Student Employment Salaries	5,139
Coordinator's Salary	5,000
Materials and Supplies	6,000
Equipment Rental	600
Telephone and Office Supplies	300
Transportation of Displays	100
Publicity and Brochures	1,000
Labour Assembling	1,800

\$39,474

Revenue

Commission on Art Sales	\$300
Souvenirs Revenue	300
In-Kind Contribution	1,800
Donations and Contributions	37,074

\$39,474

Applied for and received

Rent (Highfield Development)	\$17,500
Utilities (Historical Society)	2,035
Equipment Rental (Northern Lights College)	600
Part materials and supplies (Rainbow Sign Company)	1,000

\$21,135

Applied for

Student Salaries (Employment and Immigration Canada)	\$5139
Coordinator's Salary and part Publicity (Local Businesses)	5800
Materials and Supplies (Cultural Services Branch)	5000

\$15,939

Received April 21, 1982

May 6, 1982

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

The Alaska Highway Museum

The Alaska Highway Museum, the first of its kind, will be housed in the Pioneer Mall in the center of Fort St. John from June through September this year. The North Peace Historical Society and Northern Lights College have cooperated in creating the temporary project which will provide a summer activity for the residents and retain tourists in the city for a short time.

In Thursday's announcement about the museum at the Downtown Businessman's Association meeting, Sue Birley, museum curator, credited Highfield Development with donating the space in the Pioneer Mall and Employment and Immigration Canada Student Program with providing the employees. She stated, "We are very pleased with the wide enthusiasm for the project and will announce additional assistance when it is approved."

The Alaska Highway Museum theme is "Where Were You in '42"/^{represented in the} continuing and changing exhibits of Alaska Highway memorabilia and photos and artifacts from 1940's. The museum offers exhibit space to special interest groups and office space for coordination of special events.

Local art works sold on 15% commission and films, slides, and demonstrations of pioneer activities will make the museum interesting to residents again and again throughout the summer. The minimal admission of 50c Adults and 25c Children and Senior Citizens is designed to encourage frequent visits for people to see the changing exhibits.

The museum will display 1940's souvenirs of the Alaska Highway, photographs of the construction and clothing, household equipment, furniture, tools, and technological inventions of 1940's. People willing to loan their interesting memorabilia to the museum for the summer are asked to contact Sue Birley. "We are asking those who worked on the highway and others who have spent most of their lives in Fort St. John to assist the student employees in greeting tourists by acting as hosts one morning or afternoon during the summer," Sue added when speaking of the hospitality aspect of the museum.

The project is a community effort to add a unique attraction for downtown Fort St. John and show the various benefits of a museum for the city as well as celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the Alaska Highway. For additional information about the museum, contact 789-3507 or 785-6214.

For Immediate Release:

Re: Alaska Highway Museum

Rummage through the attic for Alaska Highway Museum

The Alaska Highway Museum is collecting clothing, tools, and household items of the 1940's and souvenirs of the construction of the Alaska Highway era. Loans to the museum located in the center of Fort St. John will be insured and labelled with the name of the lender.

Between June 1 and June 10, memorabilia will be accepted at the Alaska Highway Museum in the Pioneer Mall on 100 Avenue and 100 Street. Loans will be labelled, photographed and insured in preparation for the June 15 opening. For further information about the loan procedure, please phone the Alaska Highway Museum at 787-0430 or the museum curator at 789-3507.

The temporary Alaska Highway Museum is a community effort to create a summer activity for residents and attract tourists to the center of Fort St. John. The museum is a celebration of the construction of the Alaska Highway and the Alaska Highway Adventure. The Historical Society and Northern Lights College have coordinated the four month project. Highfield Development has donated the space and the Employment Development Branch has provided student employment.

Three additional patrons have joined in making the project a success. Tilden Rent-a-Car has provided a truck for transportation of displays and students between Peace Island Park Museum and the Alaska Highway Museum. The Leon and Thea Koerner Foundation granted the value of two display cases. The B.C. Cultural Services Museums and Galleries division has granted a substantial amount for equipment, supplies, and signs.

Local support from Sterling Kerr and School District #60 assisted in furnishing the museum space. Desks, long tables, and large plants are still needed. Kelly's Stereo is providing a sound system for announcements and music background.

The Alaska Highway Museum will be open in June, July and August until 8 P.M. and have changing displays as well as a permanent exhibit. The project is designed to encourage people to return often throughout the summer.

For Immediate Release:

The first museum devoted to exhibiting memorabilia of the construction of the Alaska Highway in the 1940's will be opening June 15 in downtown Fort St. John, British Columbia. The Alaska Highway Museum is a four month project coordinated by the North Peace Historical Society and Northern Lights College. The community and the province have supported the project to provide tourists and residents with a summer activity.

The communities along the Alaska Highway are celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Construction of the famous highway which was built in 20 months by United States forces. A sixteen foot mural depicting the construction of the Alaska Highway is a special feature of the museum. The mural was commissioned by the Alaska Highway Symposium to be held June 18, 19, 20. The symposium has attracted scholars continent-wide to present their expertise on the planning, construction, and impact of the Alaska Highway.

An exhibit of transportation evolution in the North was specifically designed for the Alaska Highway Museum and will later tour British Columbia. Pioneers of the region who worked on the highway have loaned souvenirs, tools and photographs of the highway construction to make the Alaska Highway Museum a unique collection for the nostalgia oriented or the knowledge seekers.

Thousands of tourists are expected to travel the Alaska Highway this summer; some returning to experience the impact of the 40-year change in the North and others to enjoy the rugged beauty of British Columbia.

More information may be obtained by contacting the Alaska Highway Museum at 787-0430 or Northern Lights College Resource Development 785-6214.

April 12, 1984

Fort St. John City Council
Fort St. John, B.C.

Dear Mayor Palmer and Council Members,

The Fort St. John Community Arts Council has established and developed the Artspace as the "first home for the Arts" in Fort St. John and a Ticket and Information Centre for all non-profit groups in the area. The Artspace has become a vital concern in the city and has served both the residents and the newcomers in the past two years.

The total budget of \$25,000 per year can not be supported entirely by the Arts Council since the grants for employee wages have been depleted. The Arts Council is prepared to fundraise for 60% of the annual budget if the City of Fort St. John can assist with part of the other 30%.

The Fort St. John Community Arts Council would like to ask for \$8,000 in a grant to assist with the Artspace budget.

The Arts Council would like to continue to serve the community, coordinate major events, provide space for groups with no facility of their own, and provide communication of community meetings and activities, as well as, continue to develop the Arts in the north.

We look forward to discussing this project with the council.

Sincerely,

Susan E Popesku

Susan Popesku
Arts Administrator
Artspace

Box 6474
Fort St. John, B.C.

The Artspace: an overview

Objective:

To provide a communication centre for residents and newcomers of Fort St. John and area by conducting an Information Centre for all non-profit organizations and community events.

To serve as a ticket outlet for all special events in Fort St. John.

To communicate community activities to the general public by coordinating the weekly "What's Going On" calendar in the Alaska Highway News.

To offer assistance and office access to major community festivals and celebrations.

To provide a place for arts organizations to meet, carry on their activities and conduct special events.

Location:

The corner of 100 Street and 100 Avenue in the Pioneer Plaza is approximately 5,500 square feet on one floor with a mezzanine. The building is currently in receivership and managed by Northwest Property Management. The prime location in the centre of town has been a prominent factor in the success of the Artspace development.

Sponsorship:

The Fort St. John Community Arts Council is responsible for the Artspace. The Mukluk Rendezvous Society and the Downtown Association assisted in establishing the centre in September 1982.

History of Funding:

The Artspace was established in September 1982 with a Community Recovery Grant from the provincial and federal governments. The program supplied 3 employees: one Mukluk Coordinator, one Downtown Association researcher, and one arts manager. The grant provided wages and supplies. No formal rent was required by G. Tucker, owner of the building; however, \$3,000 was raised within the next year through fundraising events and given to G. Tucker to pay the light and heat bills.

Formal rent of \$500 which barely covers light and heat bills has been required since September 1983.

A three month lapse between grants was funded by the Fort St. John Community Arts Council after which the Canada Works Grant then provided wages only, for three employees in October of 1983. One arts manager, one Artspace for Children assistant, and one carpenter helped to establish the Artspace for Children program and carry on the Ticket and Information Centre.

Fort St. John Artspace
Proposed Annual Budget (at current rates)

Expenses:

B.C. Telephone	\$110/month	\$1320
Rent and Utilities	500/month	6000
Wages and Benefits	850/month plus 10%	11500
Office Supplies	150/month	1800
Maintenance	200/month	2400
Promotion	100/month	1200
		<hr/>
		\$24,220

Revenue:

Fort St. John Community Arts Council	1000
B.C. Cultural Services	1500
Fundraising Events	2000
Artspace for Children	\$150/month
	1800
Ticket Selling 5%	300
User fees	\$10/meeting
	500
Memberships	\$50 group members
	750
	\$25 individuals
	3750

Requested Fort St. John City Council 8000

Grants- Local and Outside FSJ 4620

\$24,220

Prepared by Sue Popasku
April 9, 1984

Mukluk Society provided wages for a Mukluk Coordinator from November 1983 to February 1984.

On March 2, 1984, all grants had been depleted and the Arts Council once again funded the Artspace for March and April, 1984.

Requirements:

Due to the volume of information, number of requests and extensive services provided by the Ticket and Information Centre, at least one full-time employee is required to service the Artspace. The necessary rent, minimum office supplies and maintenance costs are additional monthly requirements. See attached budget.

Users:

Full time occupant is Artspace for Children Program currently registering 280 children in classes each week. This program is self-sufficient and assists with rent of the Artspace.

Weekly users of the Artspace over the past years have included the Fencing Club, NLC Modelling Classes, Scottish Country Dancers, Needlecraft Guild, Craftsman's Association, Historical Society and more.

Monthly users have included the Mukluk Association, Ride for the Disabled, Light Horse Association, Stamp Club, Arts Council, Community Listening Centre and numerous special events among other one time occasions. See attached list of activities.

Impact:

The Artspace has provided a focus for information on all community activities available to everyone during office hours. It has served community groups who have no facility of their own. The Artspace staff have re-directed requests to the appropriate source in Fort St. John answering an average of 10 requests per day.

The facility has housed local and traveling art shows, conducted volunteer and recreational exhibits, assisted special events and welcomed newcomers to the area.

The Artspace has provided the "first home for the Arts" in Fort St. John and helped to further arts groups in establishing strong active organizations involved in the entire community. The Artspace has fulfilled the mandate of leisure-time, non-sporting activities necessary for any community offering a wide variety of opportunities and a healthy atmosphere.

Current Situation:

The funding from all current source will be depleted at the end of April. The doors of the Artspace will be closed to the public if additional funding is not forthcoming. The Artspace for Children Program will continue since it is self-sufficient.