

Alaska Highway News: March 17, Wednesday

RURAL LAND EXEMPT UNDER LIBRARY-THEATRE REFERENDUM

The size of a farm will not affect the estimated mill rate increase for the proposed regional library-theatre which will go to referendum on April 26. Rural taxation will be based on improvements only as assessed for school-hospital purposes.

In preparation for a tax referendum on April 26 for the regional library-theatre, the Community Centre Committee would like to clarify the method of taxation since it is not explained in the question on the ballot. The first year of taxation for the facility would be 1981. The results of the formulas that follow represent the maximum estimated tax increase for 1981. Allowing time for construction in 1981, the full operating budget would not be required in that year. Therefore, the actual mill rate set at that time may be less.

The operation of the facility under the Regional District is included in the question. The mill rate to be levied every year will include an amount for the retirement of the debt and for the operation of the facility. The formulas given below include both of these rates.

The benefitting area, which has been approved by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs, indicates a zone of 100% taxation including Fort St. John, Taylor, and a designated area of Electoral area C immediately surrounding Fort St. John and Taylor. In order to be fair to the people living at a greater distance from the facility, the Electoral area B and the remainder of C will be taxed at 50%.

Graph I illustrates the rate at which the assessment in the benefitting area has increased (solid line), and the estimated increase in 1980 (dotted line). Graph II shows the decrease in the mill rate required to build and operate this facility (solid line) and the estimated decrease by the start of taxation in 1981 (dotted line), and includes the projected fund raising of \$500,000. The Community Centre Committee will begin fund raising directly after the passage of the referendum. They are planning a very comprehensive program to approach large corporations and foundations as well as an exciting local fund raising drive.

The joint facility is eligible for two Provincial Recreational Facilities Grants totalling \$800,000 and the Minister of Municipal Affairs has stipulated that this application must be successful in order for the library-theatre to be constructed.

The Peace River-Liard Regional District and Community Centre Committee members will be in attendance at Regional District meetings throughout the benefitting area to explain the taxation for the project.

THE TIME IS RIGHT!

The North Peace Region can have a bigger and better library plus a new theatre with your help.....

Regional Library-Theatre

summary by the Community Centre Committee  
February 28, 1980

WHAT CAN YOU DO TO SUPPORT THE LIBRARY-THEATRE PROPOSAL????????

1. Find 5 people to assist in a door-to-door campaign for April to be conducted throughout the entire benefitting area. Phone 785-4653 to give names and phone numbers.
2. Discuss ideas your community groups could do to promote the passage of the referendum and contribute to the fund raising. Phone 785-6214 to relate your ideas to avoid repetition of projects.

The Facts

Referendum: April 26. The referendum must pass by the majority of the voters on that day in all 3 areas: 1. Fort St. John 2. Taylor and 3. all other benefitting areas. Everyone with voting privileges may vote in the referendum.

Construction: To begin in the fall of 1980 if the referendum is successful.

Description: see attached floor plan  
10,500 square foot library (7 times larger than existing library)  
featuring atrium and south windows  
420 seat theatre with easy access for handicapped

<u>Uses:</u>	<u>THEATRE-</u>	<u>LIBRARY-</u>
	Top name performers	comfortable reading areas
	Talent Shows	research and reference material
	Festival Association	more audio-visual equipment
	conventions/political rallies	out-reach program (book bus)
	lectures/seminars	telephone directory (major centers)
	school and church programs	children's programs
	dance and music recitals	
	Concert Society	
	Workshop Players	
	Stage North	
	Chinook Touring Theatre	

Site: 4.2 acres at 96 Street and 93 Avenue (across from Totem Mall Safeway) purchased for \$1.00 by the Regional District from the city of FSJ lighted and paved parking/ attractive landscaping

Ownership: Regional District

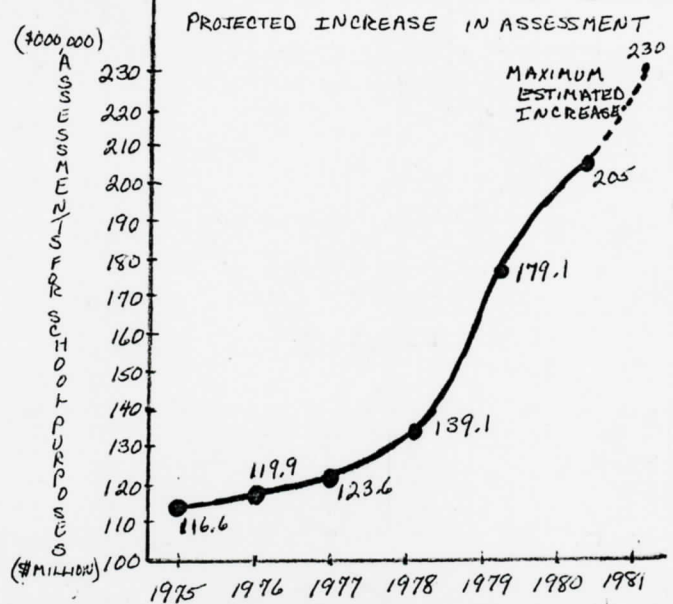
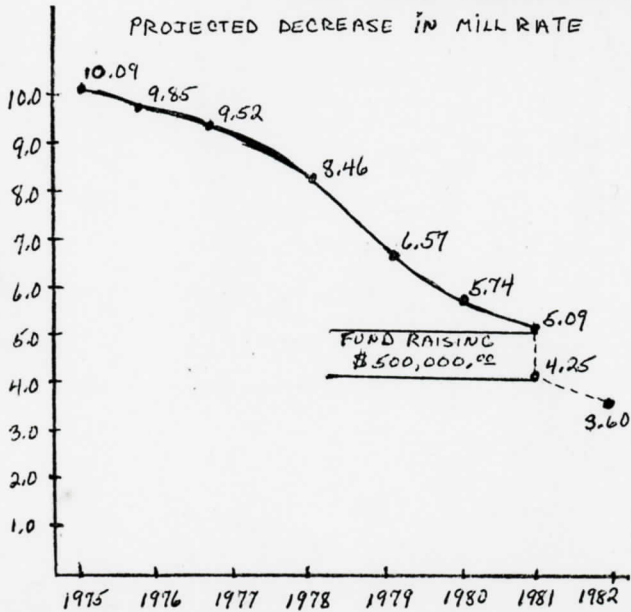
Management: managed by the Regional District with an elected and appointed management commission representative of the region. operated by a full time manager, full time janitor and half-time secretary

Costs: Total capital cost \$3.1 million  
 Operating cost (first year) \$224,300.00

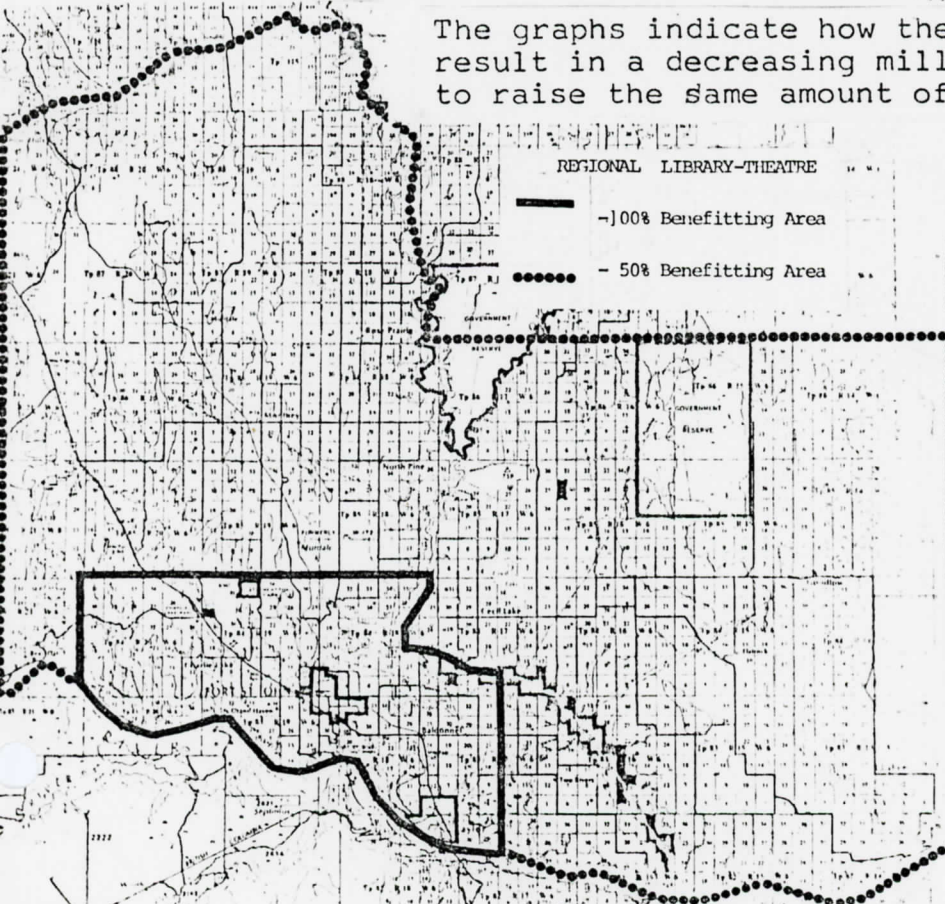
Money sources:

Recreational Facilities Grants \$800,000.00  
 (two grants \$400,000 each)  
 Public Fund raising \$500,000.00  
 (all donations tax deductible)

Taxes  
 maximum estimated mill rate increase  
 in 100% benefitting zone = 4.25  
 in 50% benefitting zone = 2.17



The graphs indicate how the increasing assessments result in a decreasing mill rate which is necessary to raise the same amount of money.



**FORMULAS FOR MILL RATE INCREASE**

Rural areas: Land Exempt

$$\frac{\text{Assessed value for school purposes of buildings less exemptions}}{1000} \times 2.125 (50\%) \text{ MAX. EST. TAX INCREASE 1981}$$

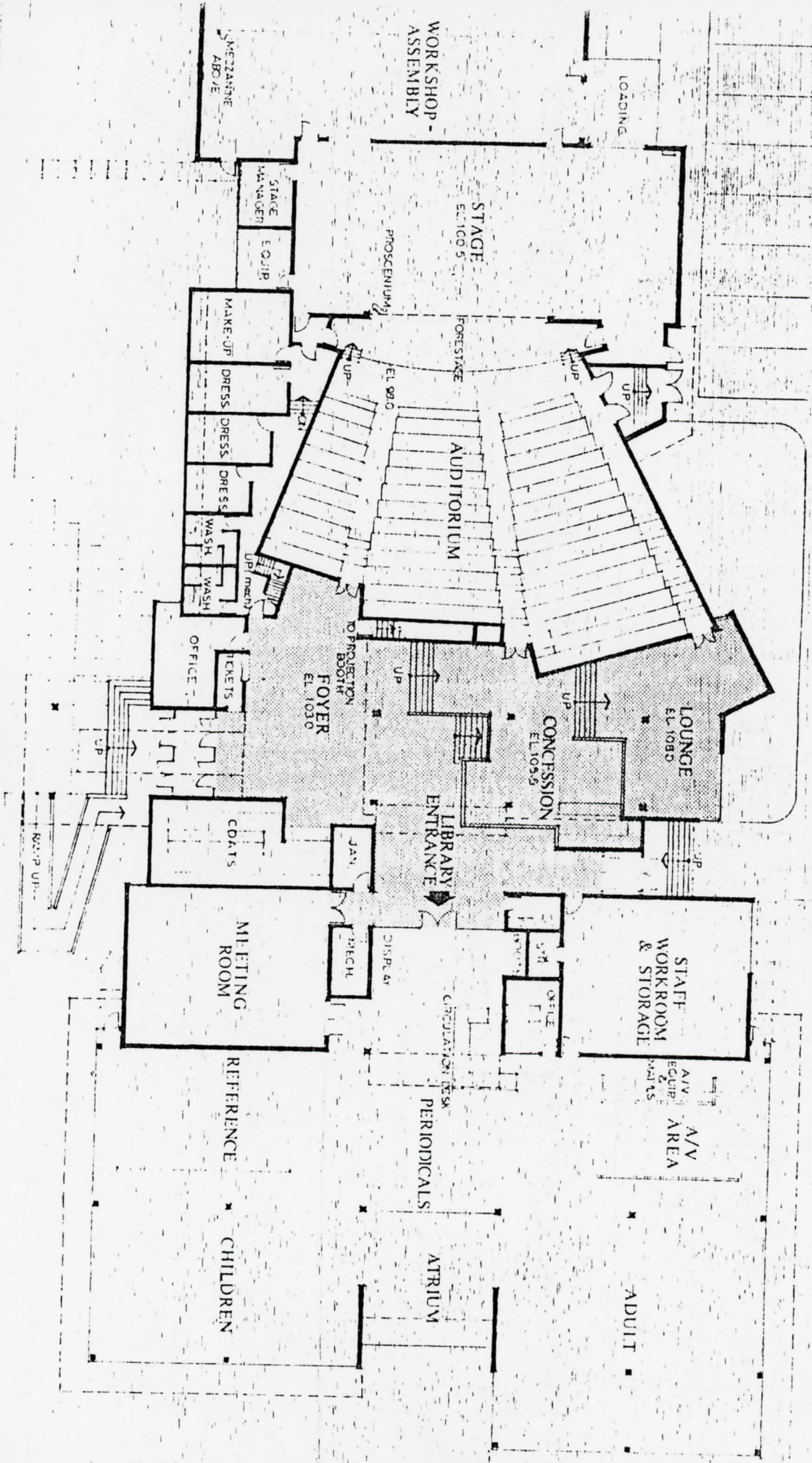
Fort St. John and Taylor

$$\frac{\text{Net Assessed value for school and hospital purposes}}{1000} \times 4.25 = \text{MAX. EST. TAX INCREASE 1981}$$

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ENTRANCE



## Campaign Schedule: March and April

The Community Centre Committee promoting the proposed regional library-theatre would like to make their tentative campaign schedule for March and April available to you.

### NOTE:

\*indicates a District Meeting where the Peace River-Liard Regional District and Community Centre Committee members will be in attendance to explain the project.

All School District #60 schools will have the model on display in the library for one day during the campaign.

All clubs listed will receive a full presentation with information flyers and model on view.

### MARCH

#### Dates

3. Montney Recreation Club, Art Group, Kinsmen
4. Elks Club  
begin Bumper Sticker sale
- \*5. Taylor Community Hall-7:30 P.M., Charlie Lake School-9:15 P.M.
6. Seed Fair Display
7. Open Line CKNL
8. Coop Mall Display all day
- \*10. Grandhaven School-8:00P.M.
11. Speed Skating Club
- \*12. Sunrise-Two Rivers Hall-8:00 P.M.
- \*13. Airport Elementary School(Baldonnel)-8:00P.M.  
Stage North Hard Hats and Stolen Hearts-program mention
15. Concert Series Stringband-program insert/model
- \*17. Goodlow Hall-8:00P.M.
- \*18. Fort St. John Elks Club-8:00P.M.
- \*19. Cecil Lake Hall-8:00P.M.
- \*20. Montney Hall-8:00P.M. Mar 22. Figure Skating- Display
- \*24. Upper Pine School-8:00P.M.  
Intensive Advertising Campaign in AHN,CKNL,CJDC until April 25
25. CCC Meeting at City Hall 7:30 P.M.
- \*26. Country Kitchen-8:00P.M.  
Filming for CJDC program
27. Arnold Edinborough visit to Fort St. John- see back of this sheet
28. through April 7. Spring Break: prepared advertising in media only

### APRIL

more engagements to be added

10. Concert Series Vancouver Radio Orchestra- program inserts/model
15. Stage North Same Time Next Year-program insert/model
16. CJDC program aired
- 14-19. Door-to-door campaign throughout the entire benefitting area:  
phone 785-4653 to offer your help
- 21-25. North Peace Festival- program mention/posters/model
26. Referendum  
transportation campaign- phone 785-6214 to offer your help

POLLING STATION:

Taylor Multi-  
Purpose Recrea-  
tion Complex.

PEACE RIVER - LIARD REGIONAL DISTRICT

DEFINED PORTIONS  
I AND II OF  
ELECTORAL AREA  
"C".

POLL BOOK

FOR

R E F E R E N D U M

Main Poll: April 26th, 1980

A SUBMISSION TO THE ELECTORS WITHIN THE PROPOSED DEFINED PORTIONS OF ELECTORAL AREA "C" ON THE QUESTION OF THE REGIONAL DISTRICT UNDERTAKING ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF FORT ST. JOHN, THE VILLAGE OF TAYLOR AND THE DEFINED PORTIONS OF ELECTORAL AREAS "B" AND "C" THE FUNCTION OF CONSTRUCTING AND OPERATING A LIBRARY-THEATRE COMPLEX TO BE LOCATED IN FORT ST. JOHN.

"I, THE UNDERSIGNED, HEREBY CERTIFY THAT I AM A RESIDENT AND/OR PROPERTY OWNER WITHIN THE PROPOSED DEFINED PORTIONS OF ELECTORAL AREA "C" OF THE PEACE RIVER-LIARD REGIONAL DISTRICT".

"Peace River-Liard Regional District  
Library-Theatre Complex Referendum  
By-law No. 234, 1980".



For AHN:

### WHO CAN VOTE?

You do not have to be a property owner to vote in the April 26 referendum for the Regional library-theatre. Anyone who is 19 years old, a Canadian citizen or British Subject residing in Canada for 12 months, B.C. for 6 months, and in the benefitting area of the facility for 3 months may vote.

Those who own real property in two or more of the jurisdictions holding the referendum may vote more than once. The three jurisdictions are 1. Village of Taylor 2. Fort St. John and 3. the remaining benefitting area.

Taylor residents must vote at the Taylor Recreation Complex. All other voters may vote at Fort St. John City Hall. Clearview, Upper Pine, and Charlie Lake schools are polling stations available to residents in those respective areas. Polling stations will be open from 8 A.M. to 8 P.M. Saturday, April 26.

Advanced polling is open from 9 A.M. to 5 P.M. on April 21 through 25 at Taylor Village Hall and Fort St. John City Hall. A voter who is not on the voter's list may be sworn in April 26 at the polls.

Ballots are color coded to indicate the four areas of Taylor, Fort St. John, remaining portions of Electoral area "C" and defined portions of Electoral area "B". The majority of voters in each area must pass the referendum on April 26 for construction of the facility to begin in the fall of 1980.

A regional library which would be seven times larger than the existing public library would allow reading centers and branch libraries to be established throughout the North Peace. Children's and adults' programs would be expanded to meet the needs of the increasing North Peace population. An auditorium would accommodate



talents shows, fashion shows, festivals and top name performers among other events which draw large audiences. The school gymnasiums where most performing events now take place would be used for the recreational programs for which they were designed.

The time is right for this facility with the increasing industrial and commercial assessments absorbing a large portion of the taxes. Rural land is exempt from taxation for this facility. Phone 785-6214 for further information. Vote yes on April 26 for a library and theatre which will belong to the region.