

February 10, 2009

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Thank you for renewing your membership and/or your kind donation for 2009. Please find enclosed your tax receipt for your 2008 income tax return. Your valued support at this time for the vital renovations to the hall is immensely important and very much appreciated.

As you will have heard, the midlife refit costs for our much loved hall have ballooned to some \$280,000 - up from the original estimate eighteen months ago of \$70,000. The unanticipated costs for professional engineers, architects, meeting new building codes and permits, failure of the septic system and distribution field, and refit of the electrical and water supply have presented a daunting challenge.

With your support we were able to raise the \$37,500 required in 2008 to complete our application for the second portion of the capital improvement grant from the BC Gaming commission. This enables the amount of your annual membership and/or donation to be doubled! We hope to have confirmation soon.

Some details: This past year PLDCA membership has tripled in size. Community support for the new membership fees of \$20 for individual and \$30 family raised \$2,750 - a ten fold increase. Including donations, PLDCA members contributed some \$4,450 - which will be doubled by the matching grant to \$8,900. To reach the \$37,500 required, PLDCA Directors and members of the community also contributed almost \$19,000 in loans, including the new Prospect Lake Preservation Society and the Water Users Community. Island Aikido paid a years rent of \$4,500 in advance and each of the 4H groups also donated. Support from the Country Grocer program was vital. It has been an amazing effort.

This expression of community support for the hall was pivotal in our success to secure the 5 year interest free loan of \$85,000 from Saanich.

Country Grocer has provided exceptional support through the sales receipt program. This raised \$20,000 though 2008 through a 5% rebate on total sales. Given the dire finances of the hall, Country Grocer has kindly agreed to extend the program through 2009. This is a unique level of support for the PLDCA efforts. We would encourage you to shop at Country Grocer and drop your receipts off at Kens Cafe or Prospect Lake

Gas Station. We're aware that everyone is busy, however this is an easy way for everyone to support our efforts. Big thanks to Kelly McLean - who has processed over \$428,445 of Country Grocer sales receipts, for rebates totalling \$21,422!!! A huge undertaking.

Update on the hall: Thanks to the team work of Paul Scrimger and Barry Moores, the building and kitchen committees, and volunteers, the hall renovations are fully underway. We are optimistic of a March 31st date for kitchens and toilets, with the new septic and distribution field and water supply underway April 1st - for April 30th completion. Target is May 2nd weekend for "reopening" of the hall.

To complete the third, and final, phase of the matching grant in 2009, we need to raise another \$20,000. Please come to us with your ideas, look to support the events, and encourage others to join the PLDCA. Talk to your friends and neighbours. We hope to double our community membership over the next two years.

The PLDCA remains in a difficult financial situation. Our revenue stream at the present time is very limited and is unable to meet the expected annual budget for the next 5 years of some \$35,000/year. We need to grow revenues and support over the next two years so the PLDCA and the community hall is sustainable. Your kind input and support will make this possible.

Respectfully,

Paul Scrimger
(President)

Fred Haynes
(Vice-President)

Barbara Newton
(Secretary)

David McLean
(Treasurer)