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Dear Mr. Goertzen.

I just wanted to follow up on our November 14th meeting and give your committee a sense of how I see this project coming together. The first thing is the creative treatment.

It is my contention that as a promotional vehicle this video is selling potential tourists and museum patrons on the history of the Peace River District and not just on a group of museums. It is my intention to present the "Stories" of the region in an entertaining and informative package that will peak the viewers interest in the rich history of the Peace. By getting a viewer interested in the history we get them interested in the museums as providers of historical information.

It is my intention to create four characters who will provide the voices and tell the stories of four different historical eras. This will be done not be recreating historical events but by shooting the artifacts, photos and archival film footage from the museums collections and using audio soundscapes to tell the stories.

My initial feelings are that the characters should be an aboriginal elder, a missionary, a blacksmith and a War-era Homesteader.

The native elder will be a key figure in the video. As one of the area's first inhabitants he will be a link between all the different historical periods and act as the narrator. I envision the video starting on a campfire scene just before sunset with the elder sitting by the fire and inviting the viewer to join him by the fire to hear the stories of his land. This character can be used to tell the Pre-historic and the Aboriginal stories of the region. In his function as narrator he will also be the linking factor between the other characters and the video will keep returning to him at the fire to introduce each new section with the light getting dimmer and dimmer as the video progresses. For example after he has told of the native history we would return to the campfire and he would tell us about how he remembers when the missionaries came to the area.

I haven't done much work in terms of developing the other three characters yet, but it is my intention to try and incorporate as much of the area's history into these characters stories

As I discussed with you, Fran Louisa, and Lisa it is of the utmost importance that we have all of museums pulling in the same direction on this

project. A video that simply listed 27 museums wouldn't be very effective in terms of persuading people to visit. The Spirit of the Peace Museums logo will be incorporated in the opening and closing titles. It may also be possible to list the museums in the closing credits. Another idea is to provide brochures with the video that has a map of the area and gives people phone numbers to call for more information or web-site addresses.

Due to the vastness of the area it would be impossible to shoot at even half of the Spirit of the Peace Museums in just the four days of shooting that we have budgeted. This means that we will have to map out a route in which we are able to get as much done as possible in such a short time. This means we will need everyone to cooperate in terms of centralizing moveable exhibits, photos, etc. in the central locations at which we will be shooting. I realize that everyone wants their museum to be part of the video and that goal may be attainable if our time is planned out properly and if everything is properly organized ahead of time.

Peter, it is a big job that you have bringing together all these groups and working towards a common goal but the more we can look at the big picture as opposed to special interests we should be able to produce something we can all be very proud of.

As we discussed over the next three months of so I will research the area and begin working on a script so that we can have it ready for March. I just today received a package from Fran containing three video tapes of old film footage and several pictures of Saskatoon Mountain. Judging by the pictures it looks like an ideal setting for our campfire scene. Please thank her for me and let her know I'll get the materials back to her as soon as I'm done.

I'm really excited about this project and I'm looking forward to getting back up there for the shooting in the summer. Please feel free to call me any time you have any ideas, facts or suggestions. I would be more then happy to answer any questions your committee members may have. If you had a speaker phone available I'd be more then willing to participate in any discussion they may want to have about the project.

I hope the winter treats you well and I'll talk to you soon.

Yours Truly.

Aquila Productions Inc.

Mike Dodson

Producer