



For Immediate Release

May 10th, 2017

District of Taylor Cuts Ribbon on Restoration of Popular Landmark Attraction

History is celebrated in Taylor as important historical artifacts are unveiled at the Taylor Visitor Centre.

(**TAYLOR, BC**) – Mayor and Council are excited to unveil their vision to honor local history with the restoration of the Replica of Alexander Mackenzie’s Canoe, an important landmark for the District of Taylor. The official ribbon-cutting will be held on Monday, May 15th at 11:00am at the Taylor Visitor Centre located at 10316 100 St.

Mayor and Council appointed the Canoe Restoration Committee to oversee the project, including Councillor Dave Lueneberg, Councillor George Barber, Community Services Director Laura Prosko, and Travel Counsellor Rita Eichelberger. The Canoe Restoration project saw overwhelming community support, demonstrating the importance the canoe has to Taylor.

According to Councillor George Barber, he believes the project is a labour of love for the community. “I commend the Committee, staff, Cameron River Logistics, and Northern Lights College for their efforts in this project. The project went very well and we are proud of the end result.”

Stephen Janssen of Northern Lights College Dawson Creek, who completed the restoration work alongside colleague Michael French remembers the Taylor canoe fondly from this youth. “As a child when ever we as a family [drove] through Taylor we would look for the big pink canoe. I’m excited and happy I could be a part of its resurrection so that other children can see it and create these same fond memories have I have of it. I hope the original makers would be happy with the new upgrade. We each add our mark in like...our personality...this boat should be around for another 40+ plus years.”

The replica canoe located outside the Taylor Visitor Centre was first built by Glen Kylo to commemorate the travels of Alexander Mackenzie across Canada. Glen Kylo was a Commissioner of the very first Town Commission when Taylor first became a village in 1958. The canoe, donated by the Kylo family, has become a fixture at the Taylor Visitor Centre, creating a picturesque place to stop and enjoy the community for both residents and tourists alike.

In addition to the restored canoe and structure, another exciting historical artifact will be donated courtesy of Tom and Thelma Ostero who will be presenting Travel Counsellors Juanita and Rita with the replica Mammoth Tusk found on their property in 2015. The original tusk was donated to the Tumbler Ridge Museum after it was found by Wayne Gordon at the Nels Ostero Gravel Pit on April 23rd 2015. The original tusk, which belonged to a Mammuthus primigenius, is approximately 27,000 years old and weighs 50 pounds and is on display at the Peace Region Palaeontology Research Centre in Tumbler Ridge. The President of the Tumbler Ridge Museum Foundation, Jim Kincaid, will be attending the presentation as well.

The District of Taylor would like to invite you to celebrate the official ribbon-cutting ceremony and presentation of the mammoth tusk on Monday, May 15th at 11:00am at the Taylor Visitor Centre.

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