

5 November, 2014

Hi Gentlemen,

Here is a brief report on how your Hill 70 Committee is doing. We have been making steady progress on all fronts.

First , we have welcomed to the committee a new member Thady Murray- he is the construction coordinator and is dealing with the architect in Paris, Max Castro (of Castro Denishoff), and the on-site construction managers, Eddie Woods and Paul Fenton (of WSP Paris branch). They have created a blur of highly professional plans and documents to guide the project. The CEO of WSP is very interested in the project and he has offered the company services at a discount. Welcome aboard Thady

The Hill 70 website is fully designed and is now being populated with text and photos. It is stunningly beautiful, (though I may be a tad partial!)

The Education team has created many portions of their package, including a book which describes all the Battalions of the Canadian Corps. It is fascinating reading. Much of the material they create will be of use in fund-raising, in construction, and for the website.

Our man on the ground in the UK, Peter Last, has booked the use of the CWGC Cemetery at Loos for us for the opening ceremonies, and also most of the Lens Hotel , since the owner is a good friend of his.

The editor of our academic work on Hill 70, Dr. Doug Delaney of RMC, has received all the abstracts for the chapters and he himself has completed the introduction.

In October we met twice with the Vimy Foundation. It is an organisation dedicated to the propagation of the Vimy story in Canadian history. Our foundations have many similar aims and we have agreed to work together on several fronts where possible. Their CEO, Chris Sweeney, said he was delighted someone is at last doing something at Hill 70; it has been on his radar as a necessity for Canadian posterity and he is delighted they do not have to erect a monument themselves. They are very busy and hope to have an information centre erected at Vimy in 2017.

We have many new friends and advisers, including those shown on the attached draft letterhead. These eminent Canadians have already proven their value to the project by helping to open doors and to meet new supporters. We are honoured to have their assistance.

Big news this week is that the Canadian Revenue Agency has approved our new charity number so we can now issue tax receipts in our own name rather than that of the PWOR. That has already had a positive affect on our cash flow. Sean tells me that if we are going to have a monument up in April 2017 we must spend on average \$150k per month from now on! That is a daunting thought.

Our fundraisers are busy beavers though and are confident they can support that level of expenditure. I pray for them daily!

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any suggestions at all about the project. All the best.

Cheers

Mark Hutchings

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