

Letter to the Editor; Where is the justice for our fallen Veterans?

Open letter to  
Honourable Catherine McKenna  
Honourable Mark Eyking,

I just want you to know that The Never Forgotten National Memorial proposal for Green Cove is not dead. It is one of three National Legacy projects initiated in the last 25 years. The Liberal Government must be more transparent regarding their decision after Parks Canada has supported the project for 4 years. Parks Canada overseer Ed Kennedy acknowledged that Parks knew on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015 that the project would not be finished by July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 and yet Parks kept supporting the project. The DIA and the MEKS report were benign. The Foundation could not raise money because they did not have the lease secured – what Banker (Donor) would give you money if you did not have a lease? Parks Canada controlled the lease. This was a “Catch 22” situation orchestrated by the same Mandarins (lead by Nikita Lopoukhine) that wrote that misleading letter to the former Environment Minister. All along, the Foundation said (just like you Mark) that construction would not start without the money being in place. The NFNM Foundation responded to Parks suggestions for change on February 4, 2016. The boom was lowered on Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>; Parks could not have studied this report. The July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 date was now to be a ribbon cutting date.

\$ 60, 000, 000 has been given to the Trans Canada Trail (TCT) by the Federal Government since it started in 1992; millions more have been given to specific trails. The TCT will not be completed by 2017; Alberta has a 58% completion rate and Nova Scotia – 38%. The TCT has no responsibility for any of the Trail’s upkeep or maintenance. The following did not meet their completion dates for Centennial year: the MacKenzie King monument, the National Arts Centre, the Manitoba Museum, the Ontario Science Centre and the monument to Louis St. Laurent (1976) - all substantially funded by our Canadian Government. The Canadian Museum for Human Rights, started by the Asper Foundation, was originally scheduled to open in 2007; it opened in 2014. The Federal Government contributed \$100,000,000 in capital costs, co-shared guaranteed loans of another \$ 70,000,000 and agreed to annual operating costs of \$ 21,000,000!

The approval of the “Victims of Communism” monument in the Environment Minister’s riding was a sign to me that “the pettiness in Parliament “was disappearing; boy, was I mistaken! The Minister approved a cost shared monument but reneged on a legacy project for our fallen veterans. That was shameful. Where is the justice and consideration for our Fallen Veterans? When will the much touted “transparency of the Federal Liberals “be seen by the citizens North of Smokey and across Canada?

Regards,  
Ray Stapleton  
37 Barb’s Lane  
Ingonish Center NS  
B0C 1L0