

Proposal for U.C.H.V. Advisory Board Approval

The Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village has gone to great lengths to display and animate history in its minutest detail. The historic side of the Village affords the visitor an excellent opportunity to view Alberta's past, though we are not yet to the point that the total visitor package is in place. Perhaps the area where the U.C.H.V. could best assist the needs of the visitor is on the non-historic side with attendant facilities worthy of a site of this calibre.

At present, the Food Kiosk is operated in conjunction with the Friends of the Ukrainian Village Society. The Food Kiosk is basically a concession stand for potato chips, gum, and hot or cold beverages which has been altered to accommodate the serving of hot food. The Kiosk itself contains microwave ovens, a steam table and two domestic size freezers for storage. Since there are no cooking facilities, food preparation is done off site, transported to the Village, reheated, and then sold. This type of operation severely limits the selection and items available from the Kiosk not to mention the loss of quality in the reheat process. By nature of the operation the delivery process is notoriously slow on the average day and almost to the point of being impossible on days of greater visitation or special event days. Needless to say the whole operation is strictly at the mercy of the elements. All these conditions combined produced a situation which is labour intensive and does not provide the Friends or the Kiosk operator sufficient remuneration for the effort involved.

The Friends society would like to remedy this situation and proposes that a facility be constructed on the non-historic side of the Village which would provide an indoor licensed restaurant with full kitchen facilities. Since the facility itself would require a substantial capital outlay we propose that the structure be adaptable as a banquet-style facility to seat approximately three hundred and fifty people, have meeting and conference facilities, and include provisions for a staff lunchroom. The facility should be sympathetic in design and structure to the existing buildings on site and adaptable to any expansion which might be considered at a future date.

By providing this year-round facility we ensure our visitors a haven from the elements even in the most severe of conditions. The Kiosk could then revert to its originally intended use and serve as an additional facility on days of high visitation. A large restaurant would allow the volume of sale to be reflected in the menu price. The facility would be a potential local employer and would provide accommodations not available anywhere in the area. It would conceivably attract conference, community and special-event type programmes as well as accommodate school tours (currently eating outdoors), have provisions for an expanded giftshop and display area and alleviate staff lunchroom problems the site is currently experiencing.

Attached please find a schedule of proposed development and time-line for this project. The anticipated revenue from this type of facility would enable the Society to accelerate their participation in the enrichment program of the development of the U.C.H.V.

Respectfully submitted
Friends of the Ukrainian Village Society