

Christmas 2007

December 5, 2007

Seasons Greetings to all our members and friends!!

On behalf of the Board of Directors I am forwarding a short update of fundraising and restoration activities of the Society for the 2007 Calendar Year.

Last October (2006) members of the Societies Executive inspected the church because of concerns regarding the integrity of the sills and back wall of the building. As a result of this inspection it was decided to be prudent and consult with our architects and an engineer about these concerns.

In the spring these gentlemen visited the site with the Vice Chairman, Glenn Miller and Site Manager, Carl Leslie. Based on their opinion it was decided to proceed with caution and issue tenders to restore the east side of the building; however, restoration would have to include full inspection of the sill and studs framing the back.

A tender was issued and Jayco Construction was the successful bidder. In October 2007, Jayco's crew began restoration work. Upon opening the back it was found that more repairs were required than first anticipated. As a result part of the sill, the corner posts and various studs were replaced as required. The

back wall was re-covered with tongue and groove plywood, and tarpaper was placed over the plywood. New primed clad-board was placed on the back wall.

We thank David MacDonald, of Jayco Construction, and his crew for the fine job they did. The back looks fabulous!! The Board of Directors now feel that the back is now strong enough to weather many more years of wind, rain and storms.

Next year the Society plans to restore the south side of the building and if funding allows move on to the front. It is very exciting to see the restoration becoming a reality. The scope of the work is broader than initially anticipated. However, the end result will be a stronger, more enduring building.

Thank-you to all the members who are helping the Society make this restoration a reality! Your membership, your support of the fundraising activities and your encouragement have been instrumental in making this possible. The Society is very fortunate to have a dedicated Board of Directors who work tirelessly on this project. However, without the support of our membership, our families and our friends it would not have been possible to achieve all that we have in the last two and a half years. You are "the wind beneath our wings"; together we are making a difference - we are preserving a site that symbolizes a history and culture that built and shaped our Province and our Country.

During the past year the Society has hosted various fund raising activities to support the restoration process. For those who don't have an email address I am including a copy of the information posted on our Website, www.stjamesheritagesociety.com. It will give you an overview of 2007 activities and upcoming dates for activities taking place in 2008.

Once again a sincere thank-you for all your support and encouragement; it is greatly appreciated.

Merry Christmas and a very Healthy, Happy New Year to all!!!

Sincerely;

Linda MacDonald
Treasurer
On behalf of the Board of Directors

St. James United Church Heritage Society