

Good day everyone,

A few weeks before the announcement on Tuesday, when Brain Storeseth was here, he phoned to tell us the government had indeed approved our application and... for the full amount, BUT it had to be kept confidential or we would risk losing the money. Well do you know how much I wanted to share this information with you!!! I was asked how hard it was to keep this secret, and replied very hard, and then Father says no problem for me , I do it all the time.

We now know, our application was accepted by the Harper government for the full \$250,000. **applause.**

Now, to keep you informed as to what is going on. Until Tuesday, we had to remain silent but now the doors are open.

Some questions asked :

1. Who will be doing the work? We have been working in the background. Group2 Architecture and Interior Design has been chosen as the architect firm. We have secured Delnor construction as the contractor, they both have a good reputation and have been involved in these types of jobs before and come with excellent qualifications and recommendations.

2. When will we start? The preparation of working drawings is already in progress. Once the drawings are complete Delnor will put the work out to tender. When the contract negotiations are finalized, you should see scaffolding go up sometime in April.

3. How much money has been collected? A total of \$362,610 was collected and of that \$9,020 has been expended thus far on the drawings.

4. What will we do with the excess funds? We will not know the extent of damage until we start the dismantling, but any money left over will remain invested and kept in reserve for future repairs and maintenance.

Now, if you have any further questions please feel free to ask any of us.

We will continue to keep you abreast and again will negotiate and spend the funds wisely, with care and to the best of our ability. This is our hard earned cash too.

There are many people to thank that contributed to our success. Father Ignacy, for your support and input, the Parish council for their go ahead, the finance committee for taking the lead and pursuing all avenues required in the fund application. Also, thank you to Stephen Dafoe from the Morinville News who took up the cause and supported us with articles, art work and ideas. He, penned the slogan People for the Steeple which became the catch phrase in the community. For the many letters of support, we say thank you.

But no amount of work would be worth a nickel if you the people had not come forward to meet the challenge. Participation came from young and old, near and far, parishioners, friends, community members, organizations, clubs, non profit organizations, businesses, fund raising within the church and community. Tough decisions and sacrifices were made by families and individuals when giving so generously and it was because of this generosity success was achieved.

Each and everyone of you be proud, we have made history, we have saved our Historical church for future generations.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you, thank you, thank you.

God Bless and now let us offer a prayer of gratitude. Please bow you heads

Heavenly Father. Thank you for opening our hearts to the need of the church,  
Bless the parish and community for their prayers and support. We ask the work be  
done fairly, with care and caution. Please fill the workers with a desire to perform  
their tasks to the best of their ability. Please keep them safe from any work injuries,  
that steeple is high. Amen