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Tuesday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2013

Mayor and Council  
Town of Fort Frances  
320 Portage Ave.  
Fort Frances, ON P9A 3P9

Dear Mayor and Council,

I thank you for the consideration of your support of the annual Dragon Boat Festival; Fort Frances' fastest growing community event.

In the two short years since its founding, the Boundary Waters Dragon Boat Club has played a major role in the creation and development of a Dragon Boat Festival which takes place on July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. This past summer we worked diligently with other local committees (Canada Day Committee, Fun in the Sun Committee, FF Chamber Events & Projects Committee, the International Pulling for Peace Committee, and Community Living Fort Frances & District) to co-ordinate events and provide a cohesive and inclusive Canada Day. The Dragon Boat Club organized 15 vendors, the marina site map, brought in 22 Dragons to assist with course and race day set up, and had 13 teams and 200 paddlers compete on the water. Over 1,500 attendees from the community enjoyed this event this year, and was number one in a poll conducted by the Fort Frances Times as the 2013 summer event most likely to be attended again.

A priority need for the Dragon Boat Club, which operates as a non-profit organization under the direction of a Board of Directors, is assistance with the costs associated with site preparation and race day maintenance, advertising, and promotion of the event. Although we did receive funding from the Trillium Foundation, these funds are specifically allocated, to items such as the purchase of a new boat, trailer, paddles, storage unit, and life jackets to help establish our Dragon Boat Club and annual Festival, with necessary reporting of all dollars spent.

As such, the Boundary Waters Dragon Boat Club is requesting \$ 2,500 from the Town of Fort Frances to support our effort to provide a local event that we can all be proud of, as well as an essential destination tourist draw to inject needed dollars into our local economy. A contribution from the Town of Fort Frances would be very welcome to assist us with the costs of hosting such a large scale community event that has proven great promise in growing substantially over the coming years.

We believe that the Dragon Boat Festival is consistent with the mission and economic interest of the Town, and we hope that you will find it in your budget to support this community event. If I can provide additional information to encourage consideration of our request, please feel free to contact me at (807) 274-2282.

Most sincerely,



Sarah Marusyk, Board Member  
on behalf of: Boundary Waters Dragon Boat Club

ENC: Dragon Boat Festival Event Video 2013