

Date: October 18, 2023

To: Glenn Steckman, City Manager

CC: City Clerk

From: Cheryl Thompson, Museum Director

Re: Quarterly Report, Fiscal year 24, 1st Quarter

I became Museum Director on August 1<sup>st</sup> of this year. Already quite a few things have happened. In the beginning of August, Aleksandr Pechen, from Kamchatka Russia came in and wanted to display his exhibit of photographs from the Berengia Sled Dog Race and Native people from that area. He, Sue Steinacher, and Mo Davis put it up in the Special Exhibit Gallery. This was especially popular with our cruise ship guests. We are planning a wrap-up of the exhibit with an evening gathering and talk about this race and the Hope Race next Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30. This will also be the end of Mo Davis's time working here. Please come and check out the Museum and say goodbye.

August and September were our busy cruise ship months and in addition to regular open days, the Museum was opened specially for them on two Sundays when they were in. Many guests had just come through the Northwest Passage and commented that the Museum was the best they had seen.

In September we had our first class visit with Jill Peter's kids. Everyone showed up for school that day so there were 20 kids and 2 two teachers. It was a lot of fun. I think one of the things they enjoyed the most was the old typewriter. We might have to get a ribbon for it!

I attended the Alaska Historical Society Conference in Soldotna at the end of September. I saw friends I had met through the museum world and heard some interesting presentations. One in particular was about the last teacher in Council, presented by a nephew who has a lot of great photos of people, some who's family names I recognized. It would be nice to get copies to be available to people here.

Our statistics for the quarter are 2,227 visitors (unless I entered something wrong), gross sales of \$3,980.00 and donations of \$1,668.00.

We have already taken in several new donations with two people traveling to Nome specifically to bring their items to us.