

BRIDGES

Connecting People, Land and Culture

Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center



2010—A Year of Memories, Special Gifts and Progress

We're almost there! State Grant and Special Gifts Boost Exhibit Funding

To date, we've raised more than \$28.9 million. We need just \$375,000 more to fund the exhibits. We owe much thanks to those who have helped us in 2010. When Gov. Sean Parnell signed the FY10 state capital budget this summer, it included a \$500,000 grant. "The Interior Delegation has been very supportive over the years," said Leadership Team Chair Sam Kito. "They've helped create something very special."

Indeed, community response has been extremely positive. It's clear from what we are hearing, the community appreciates

this new facility. Members of IBEW Local 1547 came by for a group tour. Business Manager Jay Quakenbush said, "When we walked into the exhibits, a few jaws dropped. The exhibits reflect our members lives, the industries we work in, how we enjoy the outdoors, the hunting, fishing, snowmachines, boating, dog sledding to name a few."

The positive response from membership prompted a \$10,000 gift from IBEW. "We felt it really captured the Alaskan way of life, and we wanted to do what we could to help get the exhibits finished."

We are thankful to many local businesses and organizations who have made special gifts this year.



"One part of the exhibits focuses on how we make a living – and mining is a significant part of that story," said Kinross/Fort Knox Gold Mine's Lorna Shaw as she presented a \$10,000 donation to Board President Charlene Marth. "Kinross is proud to be a part of telling the story of how we make a living in Interior Alaska."



IBEW's Jay Quakenbush (far left) presents Board President Marth with a \$10,000 contribution. Also pictured (left to right) are Tony Delia and Karm Singh.



"The bank was impressed with how the Center serves the entire community. It's not just about tourists. Everyone can use and enjoy the facility. As a community bank, that's something that we are happy to be a part of," said Mt. McKinley Bank President Craig Ingham as he presented a donation of \$15,000.



Michael Friborg with the Operating Engineers Local 302 presents a check for \$1,000 to Project Director Cindy Schumaker. "Our union was a part of building this facility, so it is right that we make a contribution to help get it done."



Flint Hills Resources showed its support with a gift of \$10,000. External Affairs Director Jeff Cook (center), who knew Morris as a friend and colleague, said, "This contribution is in Morris' honor." Also pictured are Board President Charlene Marth (left), Flint Hill's Marisa Sharrah (right) and interns (back).



MORRIS THOMPSON
CULTURAL AND VISITORS CENTER

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Open Daily

8am-9pm/Summer (May 11-Sept 25)

8am-5pm/Winter (Sept 26-May10)

Our Mission

The Morris Thompson Cultural and Visitors Center combines the missions of its partners to:

- Celebrate Interior Alaska's people, land and culture
- Promote economic development with an emphasis on rural Alaska
- Be a community gathering place, where diverse cultures come together to appreciate and respect one another

To

Your support—whether a first-time or an additional gift—will complete the Center.

Honor Wall: Don't Miss the Opportunity to Have Your Message Included

Would you like to be listed on our Honor Wall? With a donation of \$150 or more you can have your name, or the name of someone you love, inscribed on our Honor Wall. This stainless steel plaque will be 7 feet tall by 18 feet wide and will hang in our main lobby. It is our way of recognizing the many businesses and individuals who have helped make the Morris Thompson Center a reality. "We want our donors to be able to see their name, and know they've been a part of making this happen," said Project Director Cindy Schumaker.

We installed a temporary mock-up of the Honor Wall in mid-October, so if you are already a *Friend of the Morris Thompson Center*, your name should be listed. Please stop by to check it out, and don't hesitate to let us know if a correction is needed.

The size of your inscription is based on the size of your gift. If you have already given, any new gifts will be combined with previous gifts to determine your giving level. All inscriptions are limited to 45 characters, including spaces and punctuation. For more information, call 907.459.3701 or email info@morristhompsoncenter.org.

Visitors' Voices

It actually feels like I'm outside, especially the part where it's night time and the moose is outside.
Kira Pride, age 11.

Thanks for computer [linking to Project Jukebox oral histories]. I got to listen to my mom sing!
Cal Simon & Mary Beal

"[The exhibits] make us want to come back in the winter!" Lee and Lisa Simmons

BUILDING PARTNERS

Alaska Geographic Store
www.alaskageographic.org
907.459.3710

Alaska Public Lands Information Center
www.alaskacenters.gov
907.459.3730

Denakkanaaga
907.451.3904

Fairbanks Convention and Visitors Bureau
www.explorefairbanks.com
907.456.5774

Tanana Chiefs Conference Cultural Programs
www.tananachiefs.org
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