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**From:** Peter Millward [mailto:Peter.Millward@museumnp.org.nz]  
**Sent:** Monday, 28 March 2011 2:08 p.m.  
**Subject:** request for a submission in support of Nelson Provincial Museum

**I do not often send out a request for a political response but your support in this matter is very important indeed.**

For the first time since the major cutbacks of 2006 Tasman Bays Heritage Trust submitted a request to its two funding Councils [Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council] for an increase in base funding to enable some additional staffing to be put in place at the Nelson Provincial Museum Research Facility at Isel Park, Stoke.

The recent release of the Draft Annual Plans from the two Councils seems to indicate that the Nelson City Council is prepared to consider the increase in funding provided that the Tasman District Council agrees to match the increase but there is no such indication in their published draft.

Specifically the request sought funding to enable staff to be added for the purpose of working on a complete inventory of the regional heritage Collection held in care by the Museum. Knowing the extent and scope of the Collection:

- allows sensible consideration of what new acquisitions to accept,
- provides an opportunity to assess the risks associated with each class of objects in storage,
- assists with planning the future storage needs of the institution,
- will facilitate carrying out the obligations associated with special donations and a number of long term loans,
- checks for the accuracy of insurance valuations,
- enables checks to be made against such legislation as the Antiquities Act and Protected Objects Act,
- significantly improves the ability of staff and others to undertake research for exhibitions and publications, and
- helps decide what objects might more sensibly be deaccessioned and redistributed to other museums.

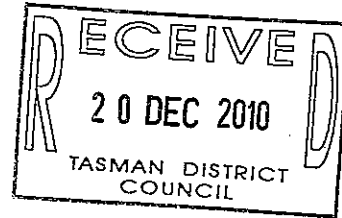
In short the request is designed to make it possible for staff to address the serious business of collection development – the other side of the coin to the core work of collection care.

Completing the inventory is a vital piece of work which has no realistic chance of being undertaken with present staffing unless the Museum ceases creating exhibitions based on its Collection such as the present highly acclaimed PORT NELSON HAVEN AHOY! exhibition or imposes further reductions on access to the Research Facility.

Friends of Nelson Provincial Museum are asked to make an urgent submission to their local Councils in support of the request as outlined.

16 December 2010

The Chief Executive  
Tasman District Council  
Private Bag 4  
Richmond  
Nelson



Attention : Murray Staite

Dear Murray

At the meeting of the Tasman Bays Heritage Trust held on 29 November 2010  
it was –

Resolved (L Richards / A Walker) that Tasman Bays Heritage Trust ask  
Nelson City Council and Tasman District Council to increase the  
operating budget for the Trust by \$134,160 to enable an increase in  
Collections staff. Carried

The details of the staffing changes and the supporting documentation will be  
forthcoming in the early stages of the new year as part of the annual planning  
process for 2012.

Yours sincerely



**Peter Millward**  
Chief Executive Officer

cc: Mr R Kempthorne, Mayor of Tasman District