



HISTORIC SITES
ADVISORY COUNCIL

WILL R. BIRD, LITT. D., CHAIRMAN

P. O. Box 503

PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

HALIFAX

November 28, 1950

Dear Tom:

Thanks for your letter of the 23rd. It contained much information that I need. To date I have not written a word of the North Nova history nor do I intend doing so unless a very different setup is organized. I was chased for six months before I would go to their annual Dinner and then only after they had assured me that everything was cut and dried, the money arranged, etc. I went and after the usual drinks everybody would promise anything. I came back and soon the Battalion Diary was fired at me. I then had a chance of meeting nine different officers here who all promised once more to send in long written accounts, personal, but not one did so. I was over on the Island and met many there, and all promised immediate cooperation. Not one kept a promise. There is not one dollar available and I just keep on with my regular work and if any enquire I say it is entirely up to you. I had one burning, with the 25th Bn, and that will do me a life time. It cost me around \$500. I am interested in the North Novas as my boy was in it, and was leading his company when killed at Caen, but I have no intention of being a goat for these fellows. I have a strenuous life, with all the angles in my work in this office, then I speak on an average of twice a week - over 50 banquets so far this year - get out my little squibs for the Telephone Bills and Maritime Merchant, write the odd short story when requests become urgent, and try to get out a book each year, one draft writing, ten pages in two hours when I get the chance. So why should I lose sleep over the North Novas? They're not satisfied with a free job, they want me to go to them and quiz them for details and write it down. Nothing doing.

Thanks again for telling me your experience. Some day I'll tell you of the unique tangle I had with the 25th.

Kindest regards

WILL R

BIRD

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PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

HALIFAX

May 26, 1951

BOX 503

*Ans'd
May 29/51*

Dear Tom:

The plaque for the Micmacs to be set up at Shubenacadie has arrived and seems to be okay. Monday afternoon Bruce Ferguson and I are going to Shubenacadie with a man from the Dept. of Public Works to select a site. The plaque will be attached to an iron standard, which will be set in concrete.

I spoke to the Premier about the unveiling and he suggested Hon. Rawding. I have just talked with him by phone and he is very ready to do the job on June 22 at 3 p.m. but does not want to say very much. I told him I was going to ask you to make an address dealing with the Micmacs of Nova Scotia, and he said that would be perfect. Make it any length you like. I'll ask Mr. Rice, the Indian Agent there, to make some remarks about the present-day Micmacs. That should make the program. If Mr. Rice can have the Indian boys sing or so something to add to the occasion, so much the better. Have you any suggestions?

I do hope you can do this job as you are the best qualified person in the province.

There's quite a number of persons up in arms about your book not getting the G.G. Award and, personally, I think it highway robbery. However your book stands for itself.

All the best

WWR

BIRD