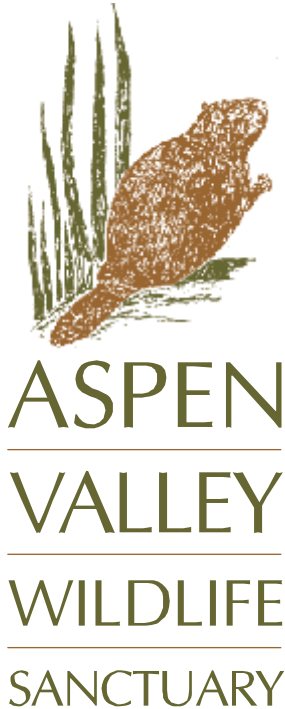


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May 10, 2010



### **No new building at Aspen Valley**

It was announced formally at an 80<sup>th</sup> birthday party held for our founder, Audrey Tournay, that a generous benefactor had come forward with an offer to make a sizeable financial commitment to the Sanctuary. Owen Boris, of Sucker Bay, had proposed to provide a significant contribution from his family foundation. Mr Boris also committed to assisting with fund-raising activities from other generous patrons. The purpose was the construction of a new building at Aspen Valley, with ground-breaking expected in the summer or autumn of this year.

The building is envisaged as a combination hospital/animal nursery/administrative centre, much larger than anything we could have pictured ourselves. We have seen a similar building constructed by Mr Boris and appreciate this would be a big and complicated facility.

In the course of negotiating with Mr Boris, we have been unable to reach an agreement satisfactory to both sides. For our part, it was the view of the Board of Directors that Aspen Valley is not ready for such a facility. Many people will know of the difficulties we experienced in 2009 and we are continuing, slowly but steadily, to emerge from those problems. The Board concluded, after much painful deliberation, that this building would represent a challenge that is beyond our capabilities at this time.

We have proposed to Mr Boris that we delay the project until 2011. Unfortunately, that does not meet with his plans and we had to agree to let the project go. As you can imagine, we are very disappointed.

However, the Board has given consideration to our fiduciary responsibilities to Aspen Valley, its members, its funders, and the regulatory agencies with which we must comply – and the animals. In our view, the construction of this building is not supportable this year.

We do wish to thank Mr Boris publicly for his generous offer, and for kindness shown to Aspen Valley and Board members. We wish also to thank Ted Eigelshoven, Master Builder, who drafted the design of the building.

If it is at all possible, we hope to be able to continue discussions for construction at a later date.

Paul Harris  
Chairman, Board of Directors

[paul@avws.ca](mailto:paul@avws.ca)