

From: etytc@gate.sinica.edu.tw
Sent: November 16, 2001 1:59 PM
To: Epp Weldon
Cc: Mr. James Mitchell
Subject: Dr. MacKay Exhibition

The original mail was sent at Nov. 11th.

Shung Ye Museum

Dear Weldon:

First of all, I, as representing Shung Ye Museum, would like to thank you for co-organizing the Dr. MacKay Exhibition so successfully. It is our honor to work with Canadian Trade Office in Taipei and Royal Ontario Museum.

For the past several days, my director and all of the staffs in the museum have developed deep discussions concerning about the Dr. MacKay Exhibition tour venues. We found that it is very, very difficult for us to control what will and will not happen in other museums. While the loan artifacts was exhibiting and storing in Shung Ye Museum, we could confidently be certain that we were taking good care of the artifacts, handling them in the proper ways, and making sure the security of the exhibition area. However, I believe that both CTOT and us learn from the experiences of negotiating with other museums in the past months and from the newspapers that what will happen in other museums is totally out of our control. Each museum has its own policies and ways of accessing an exhibition, and we do not know if there will be accidents such as fire or humidity damaging happen to the loan objects. Shung Ye Museum is the importer and it means we are responsible for the loan objects till the day they go back to Canada. If anything happen to the loan objects, not only the trust of Shung Ye Museum will be effected but also the reputation of Mr. Yuhani, Director of Council of Aboriginal Affairs Executive Yuan, who file the Guarantee Immunity and CTOT, as an organizer and recommending the venues, will be effected too. This is way too much pressure for us and it is definitely beyond our capability to handle and control.

As a consequence, we realize what Mr. Dan Rahimi previously suggested was positively correct. He suggested that in order to avoid future damage that might happen to the loan objects, the best way to do is to ship back the load objects to Canada. If other museums are interested, they can file the document to ROM and Taiwan government, and apply for the exhibition again. We all understand that it is not the matter of communication or negotiation complicity, it is the "responsibility" that really matters. Mr. Rahimi has realized such consequences before we do. Therefore, we would like to take Mr. Rahimi's suggestion and let the loan objects being shipped back to Canada.

Sincerely,

Yi-Ting Chen

Shung Ye Museum of

Formosan Aborigines

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