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Sven Fredrickson
4750 Margaret St.
Port Alberni, B.C.
V9Y 6H3

May 18, 1992

Dear Lex:

I got my pictures developed and thought you might like a souvenir of your cruise down the Alberni Canal which, believe me was a disappointment as the "Broken Island Group" of islands farther down are worth seeing and the weather was not the best. It was a great pleasure meeting you as I find very ^{few} individuals with power and prestige still able to communicate on a grass root basis. Most start out well then forget original objectives in order to climb the social ladder. As far as the Disabled Forestry Workers Foundation (Canada) is concerned I believe we have potential but will have to broaden our horizons to include all people with disabilities. Like the environment I think many things must be done today in order to take care of tomorrow, when the population of people with disabilities will be increased ten-fold. My generation will be secure but increasing seniors, most with ~~with~~ some degree of disability, and others with disabilities both genetic and accidental will require specialized housing, medical care and legislation necessary for the continuity and perpetuity of all disability needs so vital for acceptance in the mainstream of society.

Cynthia Zedjlik gave me a copy of "Management of Spinal Cord Injury" which I found to be well researched and certainly an improvement over my original "Nursing Care Manual" on SPI dating back to 1975. Wolfgang's contribution was a disappointment as no one can categorically state that "I made up my mind then and there never to depend on a wheelchair". I worry that he has never accepted his disability and when he gets older and is forced to use one as well as remodel his house he may not be able to cope both mentally and physically. In any case I have to admire his accomplishments so far.

Now that Independence 92 is over but hopefully not the last venture of this kind I am going to revert my energies to the implementation of the Disability Institute on the new North Island College campus. I feel this project, if it goes to fruition will be a very positive development for the city and the disabled community.

I spoke with your attendant a few times and found him to be a gentle and pleasant person. The fact that you get along so well

together is a tribute to you both. My own attendant is functionally illiterate yet has grade 12 education. He also does his job well and has become a good friend.

Well Lex I hope this finds you and yours all happy and in good health. Don't push yourself too hard.

Sincerely



Lex

M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: January 3, 1992

TO: Howard Wolf
Charlie Beall

FROM: Lex Frieden *LF*

As you know, it is my custom to routinely advise you of my activities and seek your direction and critique thereof. Please do not hesitate to share your thoughts with me in this regard.

In February, I was very pleased to have the opportunity to move from my role as Executive Director of the Foundation to my role as Senior Vice President of TIRR. This move was made after what I consider to have been a successful tenure at the Foundation.

Coming to the Foundation as I did, at the beginning of the Institute's largest-ever capital fund raising campaign, gave me a challenge which I enjoyed very much. I benefitted tremendously from Dr. Spencer's leadership and from the support of a great Board and staff. I will be forever grateful for the confidence which you and the Board demonstrated in our Foundation by charging us with the responsibility of raising the additional funds necessary to complete both aspects of the first phase of our facilities replacement plan. The \$4.5 million which we raised for this purpose is a credit to all of our Board and staff, to the history and outstanding reputation of TIRR, and to the insight of the philanthropic community of Houston, particularly of the Dunn Foundation Trustees.

While I learned a great deal from my experience with the Foundation, and while I found the ability to contribute to TIRR from that perspective quite rewarding, I was delighted by the chance to become more closely involved with program development and operational management at TIRR. In many respects, my knowledge and experience in the rehabilitation field were underutilized while I was at the Foundation. Also, though the physical distance between 5100 Travis and 1333 Moursund may be only one mile, it sometimes felt much further in both conceptual and practical terms. While I believe the potential for philosophical conflicts and communication gaps between Systems and its subsidiaries still exists, that likelihood has been significantly reduced by the appointment of Mr. Beall as CEO of both Systems and TIRR.

Memorandum
January 3, 1992
Page 2 --

Moving to TIRR has given me the opportunity to relate better to and learn more about the operational challenges facing the Institute. Furthermore, the move to TIRR has enabled me to work more closely with Mr. Beall, Louisa Adelung, Bill Donovan, and others for whom I have a great deal of respect. In particular, I have gained a great deal by observing and interacting with Charlie and Louisa.

As you have heard at recent Board meetings, we are making progress with our planning efforts at TIRR. Louisa, Charlie, and I are working on a concept paper which we will circulate among senior management at TIRR. This concept paper will be molded into a draft plan which can be revised and edited by our staff and presented to the Board for discussion, further revision, and approval later this year.

In addition to the strategic planning activities which I have been facilitating, I have been involved in a number of other activities on behalf of TIRR about which I would like you to be aware.

You may recall that we received a grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation two years ago. This year, RWJ nearly doubled the size of our original grant to \$585,000. The purpose of this grant program is to develop entrepreneurial profit-oriented approaches to funding independent living centers in lieu of public funding sources. The independent living centers are typically non-residential, community-based, self-help service programs operated by people with disabilities. We are guiding model efforts at 12 demonstration sites around the country, some of which have already received national recognition. As you may infer from the increased level of funding for our work on this project, RWJ believes we are making good progress with our efforts in this regard. At some point, I would like to brief you on this project in more detail.

You are probably aware that we recently received a \$1.5 million grant from the Department of Education to set up a technical assistance center on the Americans with Disabilities Act for a five state region. Our principal collaborators on this project are the Better Business Bureau Consumer Education Foundation at Austin, the Law School at the University of Houston, and the Business College at the University of Texas. We are just now getting underway with this project which I believe will be of great service to the business community. I also see it as a mechanism for making the business community more familiar with TIRR.

Also with respect to the Americans with Disabilities Act, we are finalists in a competition to receive a million dollar contract from the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission to train disabled

Memorandum
January 3, 1992
Page 3 --

people to assist in alternative dispute resolution with the ADA. We should know the outcome of this competition sometime in January.

In addition to my on-site activities at TIRR, I serve on a number of national and international policy boards. Presently, I chair the Board of the new National Center on Medical Rehabilitation Research at the National Institutes of Health. I am on the Executive Committee of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities. I am on the Executive Committee for long range planning at the National Institute for Disability and Rehabilitation Research, U.S. Department of Education. Finally, I am Vice President for North America for Rehabilitation International, the UN affiliated rehabilitation organization. I believe all of these activities bring recognition to TIRR. They certainly enable me to make contacts which benefit TIRR.

During the past year, I concluded duties on a number of outside committees. After completing a long range plan for the Office on Disabilities of the Texas Department of Human Services, I retired as Chairman of the Department's Task Force on Disability. I also completed work as a member of the panel of experts on long term care at the Institute of Medicine in Washington.

Locally, I stepped down as Chairman of the Scouting for the Handicapped Division of the Sam Houston Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America. I will remain on the Council Board of Directors.

Another local activity which I have just begun and which I believe will bring good recognition to TIRR involves a new cable TV program on the Municipal Channel which I host entitled Focus on Abilities. This new program is planned for monthly airing. It is being produced in conjunction with the Mayor's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities. You may also be interested to know that I am serving on Mayor Lanier's transition committee.

I believe this is a good summary of my present activities. Without question, strategic planning at TIRR is my number one objective. Additionally, the program development activities which I am involved with at TIRR, particularly those related to independent living and disability rights are of extreme importance to me and, I believe, to TIRR. Finally, I enjoy the public policy and volunteer activities in which I am involved, and I believe these activities also benefit TIRR.

Please feel free to share your thoughts on any of the above matters and activities with me. I continue to find TIRR to be a stimulating and rewarding environment in which to work.

lex's
copy

REVISED

November ____, 1992

ms. Jane Applegate
Los Angeles Times Syndicatems.
Dear Jane Applegate:

You and the Los Angeles Times Syndicate are to be commended for your recent article on the ADA ("***Businesses have no need to fear disabilities act***").

As a national center for information, training, and research for persons with disabilities, we know that the American with Disabilities Act is nothing to fear. At the same time, we know from the Better Business Bureau that small business owners across the country are being victimized by phony ADA consultants. Many of these "scam mongers" market fear about non-compliance with the Act, then attempt to take advantage of the fear they have engineered by charging businesses large sums of money for information and assistance. And this information and assistance is often available elsewhere for free.

We urge you to continue to write stories on this issue. While we and other organizations like ours, do our best to inform America's business community about ADA, it is primarily through well-balanced media stories like yours that business people everywhere will learn the truth -- that successful ADA compliance is achievable and that the only real protection businesses need is from questionable ADA consultants.

Enclosed with this letter is information about our program. If we can be of assistance to you with information on ADA, rehabilitation, disability rights, or independent living issues, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely yours,

Lex Frieden
Executive Director

November ____, 1992

Jane Applegate
Los Angeles Times Syndicate

Dear Jane Applegate:

You and the Los Angeles Times Syndicate are to be commended for your recent article on the ADA ("***Businesses have no need to fear disabilities act***").

As a national center for information, training and research for persons with disabilities, we know that the American with Disabilities Act is nothing to be afraid of. But we also know, as the Better Business Bureau reports, that small business owners across the country are being victimized by phony ADA consultants. Many of these "scam mongers" market fear about non-compliance with the Act, then attempt to take advantage of the fear they themselves have engineered by charging businesses large sums of money for information and assistance that is often available for free.

We urge you to continue to write stories on this issue. Because while we, and other organizations like ours do our best to educate America's business community, it is ^{primarily} primary through well-balanced media stories like yours, that business people everywhere will learn the real truth -- that successful ADA compliance is achievable and that the only real protection businesses need is from questionable ADA consultants.

Enclosed with this letter is information about our program. If we can be of assistance to you with information on ADA, rehabilitation, disability rights or independent living issues, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely yours,

Lex Frieden
Executive Director

Enclosures as stated



September 18, 1992

Mr. Lex Frieden
Senior Vice President
The Institute for Rehabilitation and Research
1333 Moursund
Houston, Texas 77030

Dear Lex and Mac:

I hope this letter finds you both in good health!

Since April of this year, when I produced "Visions and Voices of the World" for the **World At Work — International Models of Partnership** at Independence '92, I have been searching for a way to be more involved with disability issues.

To make a long story short, Yellow House Productions Inc. is in the beginning stages of producing a feature film for theatrical release.

My associates and myself believe it is time to produce a major motion picture that will confront the viewing public with the realities that people with disability have to contend with ... acceptance, freedom, control, strength, independence, attractiveness, sexuality, responsibility of family, financial concerns, employment, a new body image, and pity.

I have been thinking about both of you a lot since we were last together in April. I was particularly intrigued and inspired by the relationship you both have. I believe it to be quite unique.

The story we wish to develop would examine the relationship between a quadriplegic and his attendant, who suffers from short-term memory loss. The movie would explore each person's disability and their ability to deal with it, and also explore their ability to accept the other person's disability.

YELLOW HOUSE PRODUCTIONS INC.

231 East 10th Street, North Vancouver, British Columbia V7L 2C9 Call: (604) 643-8500 or 987-9873



Mr. Lex Frieden
September 18, 1992
Page 2

This is not, I repeat, not the life story of Lex Frieden and Mac Brody. It is fiction with the central focus on two people with disabilities. The story would examine the development and acceptance of this relationship. It is about the self-esteem of human beings whose lives have been disrupted, whose self-image has been set back. It is about human liberation and creative interventions, and a positive advocacy and growth for everyone.

The reason I am writing you both is to let you know what we are up to and to ask you for any feedback you may have. I would be pleased to keep both of you up to date on our progress. There may be some need, from time to time, to consult with you and I'm hoping that you would be open to this, as your input to the development of this project would be invaluable.

That is about it for now. We are putting together a brief summary on the story idea over the next two weeks. I will send a copy to you and would like to hear any suggestions or concerns either of you may have. Thanks for your time Lex and Mac, and I hope to hear from you soon.

Sincerely,

YELLOW HOUSE PRODUCTIONS INC.

Robert Leier
President

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