

Minister of Sport
and Persons with Disabilities



Ministre des Sports
et des Personnes handicapées

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0M5

Her Worship Lisa Helps
Mayor of Victoria
City Hall
1 Centennial Square
Victoria BC V8W 1P6

MAY 24 2018

Mr. Rick Hansen
Founder and Chief Executive Officer
Rick Hansen Foundation
300-3820 Cessna Drive
Richmond BC V7B 0A2

MAYOR'S OFFICE

Dear Madam Mayor and Mr. Hansen:

Thank you for your letter of April 6, 2018, in which you informed me of the City of Victoria's Crystal Pool and Wellness Centre Replacement Project, with the primary focus on the redevelopment of the facility as a barrier-free and inclusive environment for community members of all ages and abilities.

I wish to assure you that the inclusion of Canadians with disabilities in society is of great importance to me. As you know, as Minister of Sport and Persons with Disabilities, one of my key priorities is to ensure greater accessibility and opportunities for Canadians with disabilities. To this end, the Government of Canada is committed to following through on its promise to develop legislation that will increase the inclusion and participation of Canadians with disabilities or functional limitations and promote equality of opportunity by increasing accessibility and removing barriers in areas of federal jurisdiction. I plan to table this legislation in Parliament this spring.

I have noted your reference to the Investing in Canada Plan. In that context, I am pleased to inform you of a funding opportunity that may be of interest to your organization. Until May 24, 2018, the Enabling Accessibility Fund is accepting concept applications for mid-sized projects that help improve and make Canadian facilities and venues more accessible for people with disabilities. For more information about this funding opportunity and its eligibility criteria, please consult www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/services/funding/enabling-accessibility-fund-mid-size.html.

.../2

- 2 -

Thank you for informing me about your planned barrier-free and inclusive recreation centre and for your continued leadership in supporting access and inclusion for all Canadians.

Please accept my best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Duncan', with a stylized, cursive script.

The Honourable Kirsty Duncan, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Science and Minister of Sport
and Persons with Disabilities