



MAY 2 - 2019

Ref: 245492

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

Dear Mayor Helps: *Lisa,*

Thank you for your letter requesting ongoing funding to extend Our Place Society's Drop-in Centre hours in the spring and summer months, starting in 2020.

As you know, in addition to providing funding to extend the Drop-in Centre's hours during the winter months, BC Housing approved funding increases to Our Place Society for the current fiscal year that have allowed the society to extend the My Place and First Metropolitan temporary shelters to March 31, 2020; purchase additional mats; and supplement other operating and maintenance costs for the current 2019/20 season. In addition, since 2011, the Province of British Columbia has provided \$100,000 per year toward Our Place Society's meal services through the Community Gaming Grants program—the maximum annual amount allowable to local organizations.

The Province is pleased to continue its support for Our Place Society and its programming, and I have passed along your funding request to BC Housing for their consideration when they are ready to begin looking at budgets for the 2020/21 fiscal year.

The Province appreciates the City of Victoria's commitment to addressing the needs of residents who are experiencing homelessness, and we look forward to continuing this important work in partnership with you.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

Selina Robinson
Minister