Minister of Veterans Affairs

Ministre des Anciens Combattants

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0P4

JUL 1 9 2019

Her Worship Lisa Helps Mayor The City of Victoria 1 Centennial Square Victoria BC V8W 1P6 MAYOR'S OFFICE

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VICTORIA, B.C.

Dear Madam Mayor:

Thank you for your letter in support of BC & Alberta Guide Dogs' plan to build a training and breeding centre of excellence in Delta, British Columbia.

Veterans Affairs Canada welcomes initiatives that improve the well-being of our country's service men and women. We rely on partnerships with other federal departments as well as a network of national, regional and local organizations to assist us in providing comprehensive support to Veterans and their families.

Recently, I met with the BC & Alberta Guide Dogs team and have since provided the Chief Executive Officer, Mr. William S. Thornton, with information about the Veteran and Family Well-Being Fund. Through this fund, non-profit, academic and private organizations may receive grants or contributions to implement innovative projects that make a real difference in the lives of Veterans. More details, including the program guidelines, are available on the Fund's web page:

www.veterans.gc.ca/eng/about-vac/research/well-being-fund

Again, thank you for writing and for your interest in ensuring that those who selflessly served Canada have access to the best possible care. In closing, please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

Lawrence MacAulay, PC, MP

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