



Appendix A

3421

May 20th, 2003

Shayne Ramsay, CEO
BC Housing
601- 4555 Kingsway
Burnaby, BC V5H 4V8

Dear Shayne:

With funds from Human Resources Development Canada, Supportive Community Partnerships Initiatives, the Seniors Housing Information Program were able to offer client outreach services to seniors and vulnerable adults, homeless or at risk, for close to two years. Funding for that position ended March 31st 2003. The program was successful beyond our expectations.

Our Client Outreach Worker opened 257 client files and of those, 139 were settled in long term stable housing. For all, she ensured that they had access to safe, temporary housing, assessed their housing and care needs and made referrals to other agencies as appropriate. These other agencies included BC Housing, mental health teams, and health centres, drug and alcohol treatment programs and the Tenants Rights Coalition. She accepted referrals and worked closely with other programs such as Vancouver's Tenant Assistance program, other housing providers and hospital social workers.

To ensure sustainability of this program we began meeting with representatives of various ministries and agencies in 1999. Of the groups we met with BC Housing Director of Housing Services and Housing Operations, Michelle Neilly agreed that if we were able to secure other funding partners, BC Housing could offer \$10,000 of bridge funding for the client outreach position.

We have just had word that Human Resources Development Canada, Summer Career Placements program will provide us with funding to hire a student to provide this service for ten weeks at \$8.00 per hour including MERCS. With the funding you provide we will be able to top up that amount to \$17.00 per hour and continue the service beyond the time frame for the HRDC Summer Career Placement contract.

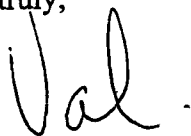
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As well Cameron Gray, Director of the Housing Centre, City of Vancouver and Garry Charles, Manager of the Greater Vancouver Housing Corporation will be presenting proposals to their respective councils/boards in June to request approval for grants of \$5,000 each.

These funds will allow us to offer client outreach to the point when HRDC will be seeking Expressions of Interest for the next round of SCPI funds.

Thank you for agreeing to provide us with a grant for \$10,000. We are anxious to bring back our client outreach worker as demand for this service continues.

Yours truly,



Val MacDonal, Executive Director
Seniors Housing Information Program

CC: ✓ Cameron Gray, Director, The Housing Centre, City of Vancouver
Garry Charles, Manager, Greater Vancouver Housing Corporation