



February 14, 2020

Attn: Grant Review Committee

Re: 2020 UBCM Poverty Reduction Planning & Action Program

To Whom It May Concern,

As their local Medical Health Officer, I offer my support to the cities of Port Moody, Port Coquitlam and Coquitlam, and the Village of Anmore in their joint application for the 2020 Poverty Reduction Plans & Assessments grant. Poverty and food security are important determinants of health that require systems planning and cross-sector action. The cities of Port Moody, Port Coquitlam, Coquitlam and Village of Anmore recognize the need for collaborative partnerships and comprehensive food system analysis to improve food security in this region.

Fraser Health Authority is committed to working with communities to improve access and availability of healthy foods and promote healthier, supportive food environments, particularly for our most vulnerable citizens. Understanding the social, economic and built environments that affect local food resources and systems is critical in addressing community and household food insecurity. Thus, I look forward to partnering with these municipalities in their collaborative initiative to conduct a comprehensive food system analysis and develop a localized strategic action plan to improve food security.

Poverty and food insecurity have serious consequences for the health and wellbeing of our communities. With the support of the Poverty Reduction Planning & Action Program, this project will build local capacity and identify opportunities to create supportive environments and healthy public policies to improve food security and support those living in poverty.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or further discussion pertaining to Fraser Health Authority's support of this project.

Warm regards,

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