



SUNRISE

Healing Lodge Society

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October 26, 2021

Re: Letter of Support for the Indigenous Gathering Place (IGP)

The Sunrise Healing Lodge Society is writing this letter in support of the Indigenous Gathering Place in creating a building to house the IGP's important work.

Sunrise Healing Lodge Society has provided addictions treatment through Indigenous and 12 step-based programs in the community since 1974. Our services are open to Indigenous and non-Indigenous Persons.

Currently the IGP is a strong community leader and has the intention of building their physical space as a place of reconciliation and community. It will be a place for Indigenous Peoples to gather and share their traditions, culture and history. For others, the centre will be a place to reconnect - when they have experienced a disconnection from their traditions, culture and history. For others, it will be a place of discovery and education, where they will learn about Indigenous Peoples and their traditions, culture and history – perhaps for the very first time.

Sunrise Healing Lodge Society has been part of the IGP since its inception with the participation of our previous Executive Director, Eve MacMillan as an active member in forming the IGP then Co-Chair. Our agency's Accountant sits on the Board of Directors as their Treasurer and our agency is the IGP's fiscal agent. We would not have so many close ties with the IGP if we did not believe in the work that they do and the integrity with which they do it.

The Indigenous Gathering Place is now and will in the future, enhance the landscape of Calgary by being an accessible avenue for relationship building between the Indigenous community and the greater Calgary community. It can only benefit all Calgarians.

I thank you for your kind consideration.

Yours truly,

Sunrise Healing Lodge Society

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leslie Big Bull". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ms. Leslie Big Bull
Executive Director