February 11, 2015

Dear adjudicating committee,

As executive director of the Golden Family Center, it is my pleasure to write a letter in support of the Golden & Community Resource Society's (GCRS) *Community Team Prototyping* project.

Golden is a very active community with many non-profit organizations trying to allocate resources to projects and initiatives that have the greatest impact on our residents' quality of life. Many individuals and organizations work very hard to understand our community's performance in these areas, and there is a profound understanding of the importance of organizations to work together for the sake of quality, efficiency and sustainability.

One of the more recent initiatives that local social services non-profits are taking part in, and which would tie in very well with the proposed Team Prototyping project, is the provincial *Innovation and Sustainability Community Service Alignment Pilots* project. This particular pilot is intended for social service non-profits only though and could not take the place of a larger community team.

Other small communities have come up with their own versions of community development teams *(Jasper's Community Team, Revelstoke's Social Development Coordinator, Castlegar's Social Planning Society and the Constellation Model of Collaborative Governance)* and GCRS has spent the last few years listening, engaging and researching what team model could work in Golden & Area A. The Banff Centre consultants are world-renowned for helping corporate and community leaders manage complex change. Now is the time to engage their expertise and build this momentum to form a Golden Community Team.

The Community Team Prototyping project is a great, neutral way of engaging organizations and individuals in a sustainable, collaborative and holistic decision-making process.

Sincerely,

Helena Oosthoek
Executive Director