



NOV 18 2015

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Mr. Norm Macdonald
MLA, Columbia River-Revelstoke
104 -806 9th St North
Golden BC V0A 1H0

Dear Mr. MacDonald:

Thank you for your letter of September 8, 2015, supporting the establishment of the Better at Home program in Golden, and sharing Golden's Age Friendly Community Committee's letter of August 25, 2015, for consideration by the Ministry of Health. I apologize for the delayed response.

This government knows that, in many cases, seniors would prefer to remain in their own homes rather than in hospital or in residential care. By helping seniors to stay healthy and avoid hospitalization and short- or long-term care, we can reduce the burden on our health care system. We also know that community resources like those offered through the Better at Home program, supplement care provided by friends and family, as well as the services provided by the health authorities, and are an important part of the support network that help seniors to continue living independently in their own homes and remain connected to their communities.

On June 12, 2015, the Ministry committed \$4 million in funding to the United Way of the Lower Mainland for the continued operation of the Better at Home program, bringing the Province's total support for Better at Home to \$26 million. While government provides funding to the Better at Home program, we are not involved in the day-to-day operation of the program or in site selection.

Again, thank you for writing to share your commitment to seniors in your community. I am attaching the Ministry's response that was sent to Age Friendly Community Committee Golden regarding its funding request.

Sincerely,

Terry Lake
Minister

Attachment

pc: ~~Mr.~~ Ryan Watmough, AFCC Coordinator