



OUR LADY QUEEN OF PEACE RANCH (NORTHERN ALBERTA) LTD.

903 153 Avenue NE Edmonton, Alberta, Canada T5Y 6C8

Phone: (780) 475-7259 Fax: (780) 473-4853 Website: www.ourladyqueenofpeaceranch.com

Rod Risling
Branch Manager
Assessment and Taxation

June 13, 2017

8th Floor Chancery Hall
3 Sir Winston Churchill Square NW
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2C3

Dear Mr. Risling,

Our Lady Queen of Peace Ranch (Northern Alberta) Ltd. ("OLQP") is a registered charity (Corporate access number 519972509) offering non-denominational programming experiences to children, youth and families who face physical, mental, emotional or financial challenges, at no cost to the participants. Its programs include various outdoor activities such as day trips, off-season camping, week-long summer camps, weekend family camps, and an annual children's Christmas party. We also have the 'Trading Post' which is our store on the property that houses gently used or new clothing, runners etc. to provide a free shopping experience to the guests that visit OLQP. The 'Trading Post' is also stocked with new hats and gloves for each child that attends the Annual Children's Christmas Party, again at no cost and is completely run by volunteers.

Although our main focus is the children and families of the Edmonton and surrounding areas we also offer our facilities during times of emergency in whatever capacity needed. Last year when the "Fort McMurray Wildfire" lead to the evacuation of the entire city, we opened our Ranch to any families needing a place to stay, opened the 'Trading Post' as most left in a hurry with only the clothes on their back, and opened our kitchen to feed them during their time of need and all for free.

Outside of the various schools, non-profits & agencies we partner with, we also serve the City of Edmonton with a unique community relationship with the Edmonton Police Services. Multiple times a year, various departments of EPS utilize the Ranch for training exercises at no cost. This year so far, on May 12th, 2017, Sgt. Paton & the EPS Tactical Unit came out for half a day to run a mock hostage situation using our 'Trading Post' building. On June 13th, 2017, the EPS Canine Unit utilized our property to provide training for canine members. It is our pleasure to serve the Edmonton Police Service & the City of Edmonton in this capacity and hope to continue in the future.

OLQP has always been solely financially supported by private donors, which has been steadily decreasing over the past few years. The economic downturn, which has affected many companies and individuals, tends to affect non-profits the most although, the need for our services increases at the same rate if not faster. Not only have we been faced with a decrease in donations we have also been dealing with the newly implemented Carbon Levy which is expected to increase our monthly expenses. As well, the increase in the minimum wage over

the past 2 years and the continuation over the next 3 years for 80+ staff which we typically hire in the summer has also affected us dramatically. We have taken advantage of the provincial STEP program (Summer Temporary Employment Program) in the past to help out with a few of these employees but again, unfortunately because we shut down in January, we didn't think we would require it for 2017 and the deadline had passed by the time the new donor was found.

This year our Foundation was faced with our one major donor immediately halting our main source of income and we were forced to make the difficult decision to shut down OLQP in its entirety (both North and South locations) as of January 3rd, 2017. This included the lay-off of nearly all full time employees, except for the three (3) essential staff required for 24 hour security of the property.

In mid-April of this year, we found a private donor willing to make monthly donations to our Foundation. This made the 2017 season plausible but at an exceptionally reduced rate and with the condition that we reduce every possible cost that does not directly related to the programs. We went to work rehiring a few of our past staff and finding new hires willing to work for a reduced salary and without the inclusion of health benefits as we previously offered. When running at full capacity in the summer OLQP would have approximately 80 staff on payroll. For the summer of 2017 we will have only 23 staff, a 71% reduction.

	Previous Years at full capacity	2017 Projected Year End
Day Trips – April-October	6500 Participants	240 Participants
Off Season Camping	350 – Mostly school groups	0
Summer Camp – July & Aug	1760 Children age 7-16	400
Family Camp	1920 Family Members	0
Children's Christmas Party	1200 children + families	?

Having our facility located within the Edmonton city limits, we've been able to continually provide a unique experience to the children of agencies without excessive travel & cost. If you review the attached list of community partners we have a minimum of 82 agencies that used our facilities in 2016 alone, not to mention the advertising we've done throughout the hundreds of Edmonton school's opening it up to all financially challenged youth for our summer camp program. You'll notice the great diversity of the agencies & organizations who utilize OLQP from Edmonton and Northern Alberta. They all represent a wide margin of the mentally, physically, emotionally and financially challenged mandate our Foundation serves. Not only do we service every Ward in the City of Edmonton but we also work with outlying agencies in places like Wabasca, Ponoka, Sherwood Park, Stony Plain and Fort Saskatchewan. You can see the impact that not being able to serve these day users might have on our city.

Currently OLQP is the process of applying for various Provincial & Municipal grants that fall under our guidelines. On the Provincial level, we are submitting our first grant application to the Community Initiatives Program (CIP) for Operating Funding to help with the high operating costs of the facility including utilities, insurance & staffing. Unfortunately the Local Improvement Levy cost does not qualify as an available coverage through this program. Municipally, the Foundation plans to apply for the Community Investment Operating Grant

though the application deadline and decision is not until October 13, 2017. Fundraising continues to be a challenge in this economy but our staff is looking at various ways to fundraise with maximum benefit to our programming. Our Communications Coordinator has also been in touch with the Edmonton Community Foundation to start a dialogue about possible support.

At the time when our Local Improvement Levy was set in place, the Alberta economy was strong and our donors were flush with funding availability for our Foundation. With the City's consideration and with the advice of our consultants, the decision was made to utilize this local improvement levy of \$14,150.13 (accounts#1099522, #1223353 and 1099530) over 25 years. Now with the downturn in the economy, when searching for new donors, this seems to be our biggest hang up after they look at the audited financials. Although we would graciously accept any kind of deferral or forgiveness you are able to provide OLQP at this time we are still hoping it will be for the full amount.

Please find letters of support from some of the agencies we partner with, in the communities as well as the list of all those that participated in 2016.

Respectfully submitted,



Mike Doherty, President and CEO
Our Lady Queen of Peace Ranch (Northern Alberta) Ltd.

Our Lady Queen of Peace Ranch (Northern Alberta) Ltd.

2016 Master Agency List – Agencies Served in 2016

Abbottsfeld Youth Project Society - Summer Program

Adaptabilities-Hearts in Action

Action for Healthy Communities New Immigrant Camp

Alberta Association for the Dependent Handicapped

Alberta Health Services-Intensive Day Treatment Program

Alberta Health Services-Youth Residential Program

Alberta Health Services -Youth Addiction Services

Allendale School-Interactions Program

Autism Edmonton

Belmont School

Ben Calf Robe School-St. Clare

Ben Calf Robe Society

BGCBIGS-Agency Picnic

BGC-BIGS-Summer Club Program

BGC-BIGS-New Immigrant Camp

Boyle Street Community Services-Family Program

Brander Garden ROCKS

Britannia Jr. High School

CANDORA Society of Edmonton, The

Cardinal Collins High School-Fresh Start

CASA Child Adolescent and Family Mental Health-CASA House

Center for Autism Services-Camp A.C.E

Children's Autism Services Edmonton-Summer Outings

Community Options-Edmonton Northwest Out of School Care

Crystal Kids Youth Centre

Delton Elementary School

Duck Inn Society

Edmonton Catholic Schools-Partners For Youth Outreach

Edmonton Catholic Schools-Fresh Start Mills Woods Outreach

Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton

Elmwood School-Individual Support

Evansdale School

FCSS - Vegreville & District

Fort Saskatchewan Boys & Girls Club

Fraser Community Childcare Center

Fraser School

Harry Ainlay High School-Interactions Program

Jasper Place Child and Family Resource Centre

KARA Family Resource Centre-KARA Explorations

Keheewin School

Kids on Track Association of Edmonton Summer Day Camps

Killarney School

King Edward School

Lauderdale School

Lillian Osborne High School-Connects Program

McMan Youth Family & Community Services Association Family Intervention

Meadowlark School

Menisa Elementary School

Monarch Child Care Society

Montrose School

Mother Teresa School-Social Worker

Multicultural Family Resource Society

New Comers-St. Alphonsus School

Ottewell Junior High School CLS

Our Lady of Peace School

Parkdale After School Care Society

Ponoka Youth Centre

RJ Scott School

Robin Hood Association for the Handicapped-Children's Services

Ross Sheppard High School-CLS Interactions

Rosslyn Jr High School

Salisbury High School

Scott Robertson School Rosecrest Program

Sherwood School

St Benedict Elementary School

St Elizabeth Seton Elementary/Junior High School

St Francis of Assisi Elementary School

St Maria Goretti

St Teresa School

St. Albert Community Info and Volunteer Centre Sidekicks Mentoring

St. Albert FCSS Family and School Liaison Program

Stony Plain FCSS-Stony Plain Youth Centre

Tipaskan School

Uncles and Aunts at Large (Edmonton Area) Society

Weinlos School

WINGS of Providence Society

Balwin School

Catholic Social Services Immigration & Settlement

Greenfield School Age Day Care Association-Lendrum Site

Westmount Junior High School

Mother Teresa School-School Trips

To Whom It May Concern,

We have had the pleasure to be able to work with Our Lady Queen of Peace Ranch and their amazing team through our mental health collaborative program Connects Out trips. On 6 separate occasions we have been able to take groups of approximately 50 students out to the facilitate to enjoy amazing adventures such as hay rides, hikes, campfires, petting zoo, canoeing, sledding, team challenges, and unscheduled swimming. The team at Our Lady Queen of Peace Ranch have been amazing at engaging our youth and providing a safe and supportive environment for them to learn through experiential programming, getting in touch with nature, therapeutic time with animals as well as just providing them an experience that is new and unique that they otherwise would not be exposed to. We cannot speak more highly of this amazing program and have been so impressed with the staff. They have always gone above and beyond to be flexible and supportive with the needs of our complex clientele and the youth and staffs always speak so highly of their experiences out at the ranch. We hope that this outstanding program continues to flourish and grow through your support and are more than open to share our experiences and our highest esteem. I have added some photos from our trip for you to get a glimpse of the amazing experiences our team has had there.



Jennie McLester
Connects Team Lead
Lillian Osborne High School
Jennie.mclester@epsbc.a



Matthew Wiebe
Family Centre
Success Coach
Matthew.wiebe@epsb.ca

June 12, 2017

To Whom It May Concern

Re: Our Lady Queen of Peace Ranch (Northern Alberta)

Dear Sir/Madam:

It is with a great deal of pleasure that I write this letter to support the work of Our Lady Queen of Peace Ranch. My Students at Delton School had the privilege and pleasure of visiting the ranch during the 2015-16 school year. Previously, at my other schools Lawton and Rosslyn Junior High, the students also had outstanding experiences while receiving programming at the ranch.

Delton Elementary School is situated in the Delton community in Edmonton in close proximity to Northlands Coliseum and Commonwealth Stadium. Approximately one-third of our students self-identified as First Nation Metis or Inuit, and about 17% are considered English Language Learners. In addition about 30% of our students require specialized services. This group of students represents one of the highest needs (according to the vulnerability index) in Edmonton. Lawton and Rosslyn Schools had sectors of the population which were equally vulnerable.

We are constantly seeking ways to enrich our students' experiences and providing them with exposures to as many activities as possible since many of our families are unable to provide these for their children. We were very excited when we were presented with the opportunity to partner with Our Lady Queen of Peace Ranch. Their programs surpassed all of my expectations.

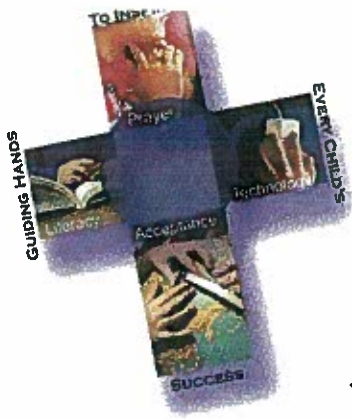
The staff and students constantly spoke about the power of these experiences. One teacher pointed out that she has never seen ALL of her students that engaged in physical activities. Another indicated that the program was an excellent gateway for students to develop an awareness and appreciation of the outdoors. Overall, the relationship was extremely positive experience for our students and our school.

It is with utmost confidence that I recommend the programs offered by Our Lady Queen of Peace Ranch. Our students absolutely found it beneficial and would definitely like to visit the ranch again in the future. If you have any questions or require further information, please feel free to contact me at 780.477.8742 or at errol.johnson@epsb.ca.

Sincerely,



Errol Johnson,
Principal



ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI SCHOOL

CATHOLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

6614-129 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5C 1V7 Tel: 780 476-7634 Fax: 780 476.3932

June 9, 2017

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I'm writing you to tell you of the importance of the support provided by the "Our Lady Queen of Peach Ranch (Northern Alberta).

St. Francis of Assisi has had a tremendous relationship with this worthwhile organization for at least the last 5 years.

They have hosted our students for fieldtrips and activities and made connections with our very diverse student population including our Indigenous students.

I also know that many of our families we're able to receive support for our children to attend in the summer months and the donors who provided funding played a significant role for these children who suffer from poverty, abuse and trauma.

The students and parents were very grateful to have the opportunity to attend. I would heartily encourage municipal and provincial programs to support this camp

If any more information is required, please feel free to contact me at the school.

Sincerely,

M. Sylvestre

Mr. M. Sylvestre
Principal

LEARNING INITIATIVES FOR EVERYONE



EDMONTON CATHOLIC SCHOOLS



St. Elizabeth Seton

Catholic Elementary/Junior High School

3711 - 135 Avenue | Edmonton AB T5A 2V6 | Tel: 780 478-7751 | Fax: 780 478.7764

June 9, 2017

Paula Vinnick
3711 135TH Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta
T5A2V6

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Paula Vinnick and I am writing on behalf of the Our Lady Queen of Peace North Ranch (OLQP). I am proud to say I have experienced this ranch from both sides, as an employee and as a teacher utilizing the facilities with my school St. Elizabeth Seton. I have worked and volunteered with the ranch since 2011 and have come on field trips with my classes since 2013.

This ranch has reached out to thousands of children and adults in so many capacities. Whether it was a day trip for school children, week long camp for 7-16 year olds, families coming in on weekends to spend some quality time relaxing or the countless number of agencies bringing in children who might not get to experience an outdoor facility. OLQP has been like a home to so many staff members. Many staff have returned for multiple summers to work because they believe in what OLQP offers to everyone: a chance for you to be your best self, no matter your circumstance. The one aspect about this camp that is so appealing is that it is completely free to attend. So many people who come here are in circumstances where they wouldn't be able to afford to send their children to camp. Receiving grants and funding are what helped keep this camp going. This letter is being written because this camp needs to stay open and be there for those who see this camp as a need to fulfill in their lives.

I thank you for your time and hope that you are able to help keep this remarkable place open and there for all those people who need it.

Paula N. Vinnick





support something | start something

Boys and Girls clubs Big Brothers Big
Sisters
10135-89 St
Edmonton, Alberta
T5H 1P6

June 9, 2017

To Whom It May Concern,

Boys and Girls Clubs Big Brothers Big Sisters is a not-for-profit organization with a Mission to facilitate the healthy development of children, youth and their families by providing safe places, positive relationships services and opportunities to develop personal strengths and interpersonal skills that enhance their long term success.

This letter is to express support for Our Lady Queen of Peace Ranch (OLQP) is a non-denominational ranch that provides a fun experience for youth and families who have physical, mental, financial or emotional needs. The staff at OLQP strives to empower children through many exciting group activities. The Ranch is a place to make friends, relax, and discover "Happy Trails"!

Not only is the ranch an enjoyable place to be, it also provides children with the opportunity to learn the important values of respect, empowerment, safety and family by exploring the outdoors with likeminded peers and the supportive OLQP staff.

This valuable funding will allow for OLQP to support the increasing demand of a growing community and to better ensure that children and youth along with their families are able to seek and access the services that they need for success within an environment where they feel a sense of belonging and that they can provide a variety of services in the right way at the right time. Our experience and interactions with OLQP has been fun, and inclusive for all the children we serve. They have over many years accommodated our kids and families in a variety of ways through day camps, and agency annual picnics.

We have felt privileged to partner with OLQP through different programming initiatives. We have collaborated together on Summer Programs for youth over the last 5 years, which enhanced BGCBig's support to children and youth in Edmonton. Boys and Girls Clubs of Canada has incorporated a model for success which describes the common features and core programming areas offered by Boys and Girls Clubs across Canada. These core programs are designed to create positive outcomes for children and youth that are achieved through core programming, these include Arts and Culture, Physical Activity, Academic, Health and Nutrition, and Growth, Empowerment and Leadership. These Programs are supported to develop and increase young people's capacity to make healthy choices and engage in positive behaviours that promote their safety and well-being. Every element is based on the values and activities of boys and girls clubs and it is grounded in the latest research in child and youth development.

Funding to maintain the support and services will enable OLQP to expand their programming and opportunities to collaborate with others to better serve their communities, and focus on programs that are catered to immigrant's Children.

We strongly support the value of OLQP, its programs, vision and mission they so kindly share with the community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sandra Prefontaine".

Sandra Prefontaine
Club Manager
Boys and Girls Clubs Big Brothers Big Sisters of Edmonton
sandra.prefontaine@bgcbigs.ca
780-937-1005

To Whom It May Concern,

For the past 3 years, our organization, Children's Autism Services of Edmonton, has participated in group day programs with Our Lady Queen of Peace Ranch. Our agency provides specialized services for children and families of children with special needs. An integral part of our programming consists of supporting these children and families to access the greater community. Our Lady Queen of Peace Ranch has been a safe and engaging place for us to attend. The Ranch's location is unlike any other in the city. It is beautiful and well kept. So many of our families enjoyed going on wagon rides, visiting the petting zoo and having their first hot dog roast. The staff was always supportive, flexible and patient with us. The challenges that some of our families and children face are often hard to understand, but the staff were willing to learn and accommodate us throughout every day program we attended.

We believe that the continuation of operations at Our Lady Queen of Peace Ranch would greatly benefit our organization and the greater community. Thank-you.

Sincerely,

Kimberley Sloman

Primary Consultant/Events Coordinator
Children's Autism Services of Edmonton
780-901-5298
kim@childre autism.ca

BRANDER GARDENS ROCKS



Our Lady Queen of Peace Ranch
903 153 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5Y 6K8

To Whom It May Concern,

June 12, 2017

Thank you for the opportunity that Our Lady Queen of Peace Ranch has given to children in need. For the past two summers, the youth of Brander Gardens ROCKS (reaching out to community kids) has thoroughly enjoyed their visits to the camp. The children of my program are children living in poverty, and they do not have the opportunity to travel to many places in the summer. Our Lady Queen of Peace has offered the children two different opportunities. One was to stay at a camp over night for a few days. Since I can confirm that their families are living in poverty, I can pass on the application forms to the families. When the children returned from the camp, they were so excited about all their adventures of kayaking, camping, delicious foods, fort building, wagon ride, Capture the Flag and petting the animals.

Another wonderful opportunity was the chance to visit the camp for a day trip. Field trips are often unaffordable for children so the field trips were a high light of the summer for the children. The children enjoyed lunch, games outside, the petting zoo and time in the forest.

Families were dreaming about camping overnight for a week-end to have quality family time, and enjoy all the activities at the camp, but that has not been feasible yet at OLQP.

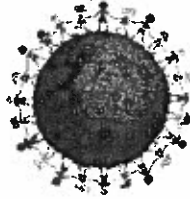
On behalf of the program Brander Gardens ROCKS, I would encourage you to consider helping fund this amazing camp that are available to children around the Edmonton area.

Please do not hesitate to call if you have any questions.

Thanks,

Sharon Gritter
1724 Haswell Cove
Edmonton, AB T6R 3B1
780-884-0570

Fraser Community Child Care Center



2611 – 151 Ave. Edmonton, Alberta T5Y 2M4
Phone 476-2591 Fax 476-4998

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Christy Fraser and I am the Program Director at Fraser Community Child Care Center. For the past 5 years I have witnessed the tremendous impact Our Lady Queen of Peace Ranch has had on families and children from our child care center and community. The Ranch has consistently played a major role in the off-site pursuits we plan during the summer months.

Children have had the opportunity to partake in engaging outdoor activities such as nature hikes, building tree forts, visiting a petting zoo, swimming and much more. More importantly, this organization has helped develop confidence, positive values, environmental education, teamwork, leadership and self-worth in our children. Our summer visits to the Ranch are definitely a highlight of the summer.

Due to high costs and location, many families at our center would not have access to such experiences. Fortunately, this program has provided these children with the opportunity to do so.

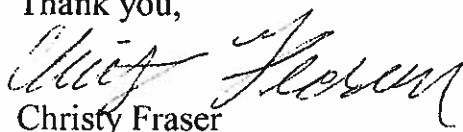
After taking part in summer excursions to the Ranch and witnessing the dedication of this amazing organization, our center wished to give back. We began volunteering at the annual Christmas Party. Here we were able to meet with other families from the community and see first-hand how the Ranch has positively impacted the lives of so many.

We hope that you will find it in your hearts and budget to support this program. If I can provide additional information to encourage consideration of our request, please feel free to contact me at

P: 780-476-2591

fraserchildcare@yahoo.com

Thank you,


Christy Fraser