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Jacqueline Howard, Director of Planning & Development

Dear Supporter

Over the past five years you have taken an amazing leap of faith through your generous support of Homes For Heroes Foundation. We would once again like to thank you for your generosity, and your faith.

We expect that you, like us, found it unacceptable that there were as many as 5,000 Veterans of the Canadian Armed Forces who were homeless and living on the streets of our cities. You likely identified with Homes For Heroes' vision of ending homelessness among our Veterans. You likely also identified with the game plan - building unique, affordable and innovative urban villages to house Veterans during their transition back to civilian life; and, providing a full-service, wrap-around program that will deliver the resources, training and counselling necessary to ensure their success on this journey – enabling them to achieve the goal of living independently in the long term.

Well, your faith has been rewarded. Your investment in what started as a fledgling charity is already generating heart-felt rewards.

We opened our first Veterans' Village in Calgary in November 2019, and our second in Edmonton in December 2021. Because donors like you cared enough, over 50 Veterans have been able to get off the street, to be warm and safe, to take care of their personal needs and have a secure place to keep their belongings – to begin the journey back into mainstream society.

The great news is that our Veterans are already succeeding. Since opening, 18 of our tenants have graduated from the program and, as they departed, new tenants moved in to take their place.

And this success has not gone unnoticed. We couldn't be more pleased to have received the endorsement of the former Vice-Regal couple, the Right Honourable David Johnston and his wife Sharon as our Honourary Patrons, as well as the support of Canadian Astronaut Commander Chris Hadfield and former CDS and Deputy Minister of Veterans Affairs, Gen (Ret'd) Walt Natynczyk as members of our National Advisory Board. The recent endorsement and support of Jonathan and Drew Scott, the "Property Brothers", has provided us with wide-spread awareness across the country.

We are now expanding our program to a national level. We have secured land for Village sites in Kingston, Ontario, and Winnipeg, Manitoba. We are actively fundraising to build these Villages and, in both cases, have achieved almost 50% of our goal. At the same time we are working to secure sites in Halifax, Nova Scotia; Victoria and the Lower Mainland, British Columbia; Quebec City and likely two more in Ontario. Our goal is to build one or more Veterans' Villages in every major city in the country – whatever it takes to realize our vision of ending homelessness among Canada's Veterans.

Meanwhile, we are learning lessons and evolving best practices. There are supports that our Veterans require that we did not anticipate. Based on our experience with both our Calgary and Edmonton Veterans' Villages, we are currently working to build a "H4HF Veteran Morale and Well-Being Fund". The fund is designed to help our Veteran tenants with some of their key living and support expenses such as medical supplies and fees, pharmaceutical supplies, bus passes, physical activity programs, emergency transportation, replacement identification costs etc. - assistance that will reduce stress and bolster their mental health and well-being. Your assistance in building this fund, particularly at this time of year, would be greatly appreciated.

Contributions can be made by visiting our website at: https://homesforheroesfoundation.ca/donate/

With your help, we will get our Veterans off the street; we will help them deal with the devils that haunt them; we will restore their pride, dignity and self-respect; and we will welcome our Veteran brothers and sisters back into our society as proud and productive citizens.

Together, we will end homelessness among Canada's Veterans!

Once again, thank you for your support.

Yours, in the service of our Veterans, The Homes For Heroes Foundation

Cameron H. Diggon

Cameron H. Diggon, Capt. (Ret'd)

Vice President & Director of Fund Development

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