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**Subject:** Letter of support - SSHRC Partnership Grant on homelessness  
**Attachments:** Template 2\_SSHRC\_PG\_Application.docx; Summary\_SSHRC\_PG\_Application\_Graham\_2022.docx

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**From:** Greg Halseth <\*Redacted\*>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 25, 2022 3:07 PM  
**To:** Bone, Chris <Chris.Bone@princegeorge.ca>  
**Cc:** Rebecca Schiff <\*Redacted\*>; Greg Halseth <\*Redacted\*>; Marleen Morris \*Redacted\*; Laura Murphy \*Redacted\*>  
**Subject:** Letter of support - SSHRC Partnership Grant on homelessness

November 25, 2022  
Chris Bone

Chris,

We hope and trust that you are well.

As you will recall from the October 28 Zoom meeting about the IURC Homelessness Initiative, one of the partners (Dr. John Graham from UBC-Okanagan) is leading a funding application to the national Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC). That process is now underway, and we are looking for letters of support from our partners. While other members of the UNBC team are reaching out to the FNHA, NHA, and the CSFS, Rebecca and I are taking this opportunity to write to you and the City.

The funding application will involve a national team of diverse researchers and scholars. It will be led by Dr. John Graham, and the focus will be on preventing homelessness through community-embedded research with a positive social impact focusing on small to medium sized cities.

The application is for a seven-year SSHRC Partnership Grant. As with the IURC Homelessness Initiative, we are requesting the City's consideration to join us as an Invited Partner - to build a strong and reciprocal relationship, to collaborate and participate in the decision-making process and governance, and to advocate throughout the cycle of the grant and beyond. We believe that this is a natural role for the City given the importance of social issues to our community's development and that this builds from the IURC Homelessness Initiative.

Attached you will find a brief description of the intent and goals of this project, as well as anticipated timelines, and commitments to assist in your decision-making.

We are attaching a draft template for a letter of support. Ideally, we are hoping this letter of support could be placed on your letterhead and provided back to us by December 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022. A member of our team will be available to provide direction and support in the process of uploading the letter in January 2023, and is also available to help further with the wordsmithing of the letter as would be helpful. We would be truly grateful for your participation in this upcoming grant; it will greatly assist in the significant reduction of homelessness in our community.

We appreciate your thoughtful consideration and are available at your convenience for further discussion.

Sincerely,

Rebecca and Greg

December 15, 2022

To Whom It May Concern,

**Re: Letter of Support - SSHRC PG**

[Enter Agency Name Here] is pleased to support Dr John Graham's SSHRC Partnership Grant application to establish a cross-sector, national platform to identify, mobilize, synthesize, and apply community-driven research and innovative practices for housing and homelessness in small to medium range cities.

We have reviewed the proposed intent, objectives, and timelines of the application and agree in principle with the proposed partnership research activities. We affirm our support and are willing to participate in developing a Stage 2 application. We believe this research team will be of relevance to our organization and via a collaborative process, the findings/results of our partnership activities will be used by community members nationally to make positive social changes to end homelessness.

We will endeavour to provide a senior member of our team to participate in monthly meetings, review documentation, and provide feedback and support throughout the lifespan of the project. It is anticipated that this will consume 3-5 hours per month for the seven-year period, a total in-kind contribution evaluated at [\$Enter Salary Cost Here] each year.

We believe that this innovative opportunity to test and share promising practices and knowledge from small to medium-range cities geared towards ending homelessness will benefit people at-risk of and experiencing homelessness nationally. We hope to achieve the following outcomes as a result of this partnership:

Better evidence-based research to inform improved access for individuals experiencing or at-risk of homelessness

Presents the opportunity to explore longer term impacts of many organizations working toward the same goal of improved collaboration

[Enter Agency Name Here] is committed to engaging with the research team and community partners to identify these innovative solutions to assist other small to medium-range cities nationally in their work towards ending homelessness.

Please contact me at [Enter Contact Information Here] for further inquiries regarding this letter of support.

Sincerely,

Consideration for Partnership – Summary of Grant Proposal (Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC) Partnership Grant Application)

**Background**

Homelessness is a wicked problem, involving all levels of government, private, public, and third sector individuals and groups – indeed most sectors of society, as it involves neighbourhoods and communities. It implicates health and human services, is impacted by inflation, unemployment, housing stock availability, and other facets beyond an individual's control. And yet individual factors such as substance misuse, family violence, mental health, intimate partner breakdown, and other aspects can catalyze an individual to homelessness. Much of what we know about homelessness is in larger cities; our grant acts as a corrective, helping to solve rural and remote homelessness and homelessness in smaller communities to which urban and remote individuals experiencing homelessness frequently migrate. There are disproportionate levels of people of First Nations, Inuit, and Metis (FNIM) background who experience homelessness, to which culturally appropriate work and research needs to be engaged in

In these contexts: the successful grant will provide facilitated communication between otherwise siloed small to medium range Canadian cities in the homelessness sector. The goal is to identify and promote emerging promising practices in this unique, and under-researched, realm of homelessness prevention. From these emerging promising practices, the team will develop a communication platform that will leverage longitudinal and in-depth knowledge mobilization, outreach, assessment, mutual learning, and communication – across often siloed sectors in homelessness service provision, policy development, and advocacy.

During the last half of the grant, the team would identify a location for a demonstration project – wherein the principles that we have developed and fine-tuned – would be applied to one jurisdiction; we would have worked with the various levels of government and other sectors to ensure adequate resources and deployment; and we would measure/evaluate/and engage in a variety of knowledge mobilization. As an example, this project is not dissimilar to the Dauphin Manitoba guaranteed income experiment of the late 1970s.

**Envisioning a Partnership**

The partnership that the team envisions is working collaboratively and closely with the City of Prince George throughout the project – from consulting at the beginning stages currently wherein we germinate ideas and set out to write the application to overseeing strategic and operational goals to implementing and assessing the demonstration project to engaging in fulsome knowledge mobilization. Specifically, the team hopes that the City of Prince George would participate to the level they have capacity for in:

1. Overseeing the strategic and operational goals of the project by sitting on the advisory committee
2. Reviewing documentation (e.g., grant application, analysed data of promising practices, materials on the communication platform, etc) and providing feedback, suggestions, and support

## Commitment

The commitment for the City of Prince George is anticipated to be:

1. 3 hours per month (i.e., reviewing documents, providing feedback, and attending meetings/relationship building activities)

## Timelines/Deadlines/Milestones

December 15 <sup>th</sup> 2022	Commitment and completed Letter of Support from Invited Partners
January 2023	Uploading Letter of Support to SSHRC Portal with assistance from team
February 2023	Submission of SSHRC PG grant application – Stage 1
July 2023	Results of SSHRC PG grant application – Stage 1 released

If SSHRC application – Stage 1 is successful,

Late Summer to October 2023	Submission of SSHRC PG grant application – Stage 2
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If SSHRC application – Stage 2 is successful, the timelines for the grant are as follows:

Year 1 - 2024	Developing platforms and completing an audit of secondary data
Year 2 - 2025	Sharing emerging innovations and developing criteria for working in homelessness prevention
Year 3 - 2026	Complete model for identifying the demonstration project jurisdiction
Year 4 - 2027	Advocacy and policy planning for model and its execution
Year 5 - 2028	Identification of demonstration project city and relationship building with key stakeholders
Year 6 - 2029	Execution of demonstration project with built-in evaluation
Year 7 - 2030	Completion of evaluation and knowledge mobilization