

June 24, 2025

The Government of Alberta 10025 Jasper Avenue NW P.O. Box 1360 Station Main Edmonton, AB T5J 2N3

Dear Members of the Review Committee,

Re: Letter of Support - Big Hill Haven "Shelter Without a Shelter" Project (Airdrie)

On behalf of Airdrie City Council, I am pleased to provide a letter in support of Big Hill Haven – Airdrie's application to the Service Delivery and Crisis Interventions and Rebuilding Lives - "Taking Action on Family Violence" grant stream for \$275,000 in funding for their "Shelter Without a Shelter" pilot project.

Since spring 2025, the Airdrie community has been actively engaged in collaborative discussions with Big Hill Haven to explore the potential of implementing their unique and impactful program model locally. Big Hill Haven's ability to provide critical supports—including safe shelter, outreach services, education, referrals, safety planning, and advocacy—to adults (with or without children) experiencing abuse, without operating a physical shelter, is both innovative and commendable.

Our community's goal is to expand supports for individuals at risk of or experiencing abuse through modern, flexible, and cost-effective strategies. Big Hill Haven's success in Cochrane exemplifies a community-based model that is responsive, scalable and grounded in dignity-driven care. Their proven approach aligns with Airdrie's priorities and values.

With Airdrie's population approaching 100,000, it is more important than ever to pursue solutions that address the needs of our most vulnerable residents. The City of Airdrie is committed to supporting Big Hill Haven in fostering collaborative partnerships with local organizations to bring the Shelter Without a Shelter model to our community.

Thank you for your consideration of this important initiative.

Yours truly,

Peter Brown

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Mayor