

Revelstoke District Health Foundation PO Box 2421 Revelstoke, B.C. V0E 2S0

September 26, 2016

via email: fberuschi@gmail.com

To whom it may concern,

## Re: Queen Victoria Hospital Heliport Project

On behalf of our association and members who operate in and around the Revelstoke region we would like to express our support for the <u>Queen Victoria Hospital (QVH)</u> <u>Heliport Project</u>. The need for a heliport at QVH has been identified many times over many years and will greatly benefit the community as a whole and its development as an international tourism destination well into the future.

Every year the many helicopter and snowcat skiing businesses operating in and around Revelstoke are called upon by the RCMP, Parks Canada and Emergency Management BC to assist public in need. The most notable, recent incident being the Boulder Mountain Accident on March 10, 2010 that resulted in 7 heliskiing operators and over 50 professional guides assisting in the search and rescue efforts for a group of recreational snowmobilers struck by a large avalanche. The resulting <a href="Best Practices">Best Practices</a> Review, conducted by the BC Government in the spring of 2010, highlighted the need and importance of a heliport at Queen Victoria Hospital numerous times. Since that time local search and rescue efforts would have benefited many times from a heliport at QVH. It is without question that a heliport will be of significant benefit to public safety efforts in and around Revelstoke.



Fast and efficient access to medical care needs to be a cornerstone of rural communities across BC developing their adventure tourism industries. The enhancements to the public safety net for residents of and visitors to the community of Revelstoke through the construction of this heliport will be profound and longlasting.

HeliCat Canada supports this initiative, please do not hesitate to contact me at any time should you require further information or clarification regarding our organization's support of this initiative.

Sincerely,

Ian Tomm

**Executive Director** 

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