

Date: March 8/2024

Re: British Columbia South Peace Mackenzie Economic Diversification and  
Stabilization Trust Grant Application

Atten: South Peace Mackenzie Trust

The Mackenzie Better at Home program under Mackenzie Community Services is most pleased to provide this letter of support for the Mackenzie Seniors Society relocation project. Better at Home Mackenzie works diligently to collaborate with Age Well at Home Mackenzie and the Mackenzie Seniors Society, to provide the best possible support for Mackenzie's local seniors.

Better at Home is provincially funded and managed by the United Way. This program provides non-medical supports to seniors across British Columbia, allowing these older adults to continue living independently in their own homes. In Mackenzie many seniors suffer from social isolation and rely heavily on the Seniors Society for social meals, gatherings, senior-based events, and camaraderie. As social prescribing is being recognized on a national level as a need for our aging population, the relocation *and* expansion of the Mackenzie Seniors Society is critical for our community.

Better at Home has provided services to the seniors of Mackenzie since June of 2023, but has seen exponential growth of it's client base to over 65 seniors and growing. Many of the Mackenzie Better at Home clients have signed up for this program and others, through the connections they make at the Mackenzie Seniors Society. Many seniors in the community have openly stated that if it wasn't for the Friends Helping Friends Meal Program, and the lunches provided at the Mackenzie Seniors Society, they would go without nutritious meals altogether. This relocation will allow

Mackenzie Seniors Society to continue the support they provide to our elders and the community, and the renovation and expansion of the chosen location will allow a broader reach to our more vulnerable and isolated seniors. This isn't just a want, it's a *need*, and Better at Home Mackenzie 100% supports this grant application from the South Peace Mackenzie Trust.

Please consider this endorsement for the Mackenzie Seniors Society, from Better at Home Mackenzie, and its grateful clients.

Sincerely,

**Jacqueline McCulloch**

Jacqueline McCulloch  
Program Coordinator  
Better at Home, Mackenzie BC.