

April 9, 2025

Dear Mayor and Council,

We at Mackenzie Community Services are requesting a letter of support for an application for the Imagine Grant with Northern Health.

We are applying for approximately \$5400 for Snow Removal for the 2025/2026 Winter Season.

We believe that this project meets several of the goals identified in the Imagine Grant Outline Including Mental Wellness, Community Diversity, Climate Health Action (Extreme Weather Preparedness), and Community Safety.

Before this point, Staff have been responsible for snow clearing and due to incidents in the last season, we are looking for opportunities to have this need met through a contractor instead of the Mental Health and Support Staff. If staff are injured while clearing snow and ice, they may not be able to engage in their service duties during their recovery and follow up appointments. This is detrimental to the community as MCS often only has one type of worker for each program. We want to ensure that there are no program disruptions due to staff injury from the winter conditions.

If staff are unable to maintain the perimeter, stairs and ramps to the building, the risk to the public increased greatly, and may even lead to inaccessibility for clients who need access to ramps or handrails. We must have full access for all to access the services they need, especially in the winter months when being in a good state of mental health is extra vulnerable.

We hope that you too will see the value in this service for MCS and would be willing to contribute a letter of support for our application by May 15th, with a contribution from the Accessibility and Inclusion Committee, if suitable to do so. If we can answer any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Sasha or Cassandra at 250-997-6595 or svandenberg@mymcs.ca and ccarter@mymcs.ca.

Thank you for your consideration,

Cassandra Carter
FASD Keyworker



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Spectrum Supports