



2017-03-27

Dear sir or madam,

The Ottawa Parole Office is writing this letter to offer support for the establishment of a Community Residential Facility by House of Hope – La Maison de l'Espérance on McLeod Street.

The staff of the Ottawa Area Parole Office has worked closely with the House of Hope located on Gilmour Street for numerous years. The House of Hope has been a very valuable partner to our office and our endeavor to ensure public safety while assisting offenders to effectively transition from federal custody back into the community as law abiding citizens.

Offenders released from federal prisons often benefit from a more gradual release to the community through residency at a residential facility such as the House of Hope, which offers structure, support, regulation and oversight. The House of Hope offers its residents education and employment assistance, individual and group counselling, life skills, and community transition supports. They also provide assistance to those with mental health issues to ensure positive reintegration and lifestyle changes.

It is inevitable that federal offenders will be in our communities, and the existence of residential facilities such as the House of Hope allows those who reside in them additional resources to increase their chances of success, while also allowing additional supervision which can contribute to public safety. Establishing and maintaining these facilities within Centretown is advantageous to released offenders, given that Centretown is also home to many other resources and services accessed by this clientele, and is easily accessible by public transportation.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Lindsay Maahs in black ink.

Lindsay Maahs,  
Parole Officer Supervisor  
Ottawa Area Parole Office

Handwritten signature of Richard Marceau in black ink.

Richard Marceau  
Area Director  
Ottawa Area Parole Office

Handwritten signature of Laura Holthus in black ink.

Laura Holthus,  
Parole Officer Supervisor  
Ottawa Area Parole Office