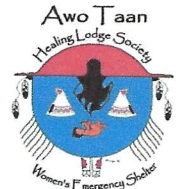


Awo Taan Healing Lodge Society



"Nurturing Families Living in Peace"

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July 29, 2019

Dear Eve Macmillan and John Fischer,

I am pleased to provide a letter in support of the Indigenous Gathering place. I understand that the committee has been working diligently on this strategy for quite some time. This project is very much needed as more Indigenous peoples move into the city connecting to community is crucial for safety and transition.

Awo Taan Healing Lodge has been providing services to families affected by violence for more than 25 years to families in Treaty 7 and area. We are very excited about the potential for a gathering place because we often see new families who are isolated and disconnected. Quite often families have no choice to leave their home communities to seek shelter and a safe place. The gathering place will fill a void where families can gather and build community relationships.

This will benefit all Calgarians as we work towards reconciliation and building greater understanding. This will be the place to plan, gather and educate. I imagine a space that will be welcoming, inclusive, filled with love and kindness and healing. I look forward to the completion of this project where we as Indigenous peoples can have a place to call our own.

I wish to congratulate the co-chairs for their hard work and dedication on the project. please contact me if you require further support. Wishing you all the best.

Sincerely,

Josie Nepinak
Executive Director

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