

June 2, 2016

Burnaby City Hall Executive Committee of Council c/o Administrative Officer I, Executive Committee Council (grants), Clerk's Department 4949 Canada Way Burnaby, BC V5G 1M2

Dear Burnaby City Council,

"Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland has had a profound impact on my life – not only as a Little Sister, but also as a maturing adult. The support of this organization and the friendship of my Big Sister have meant the world to me. Without Big Sisters and my Big Sister, I can tell you that I would not be where I am today. I would not have had the drive to enroll in university, I would not be able to say that I now have a healthy and loving relationship with my mum, and I would not have developed confidence in myself to push through life's daily struggles." – Jenny, Little Sister

Vulnerable girls throughout the Lower Mainland of BC, just like Jenny, are waiting for a Big Sister of their very own. Someone in their corner, who supports them, listens to them and helps build their confidence. Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland facilitates mentoring relationships that champion a girl's potential.

Each time Big Sisters of BC Lower Mainland pairs a young girl with a role model, we start something incredible: a one-toone relationship built on trust and friendship that can blossom into a future of unlimited potential. At a time in their lives when even small choices can change the course of their future, having a Big Sister can help at-risk girls avoid a life riddled with low self-esteem, trauma, substance abuse and poverty.

On behalf of all our Big Sisters, Little Sisters, Board of Directors and staff we wish to thank you for the City of Burnaby's past support of our mentoring programs. We would be honored if you would consider renewing your support by investing in our Burnaby Big Sisters Program. A gift of \$12,000 will make a positive different in the lives of six vulnerable girls from Burnaby in 2016.

Your gift can help us to build more than just productive mentoring relationships – you can help us create brighter futures for young women. Big Sisters is a volunteer-based organization aimed at prevention and intervention, as research shows that a supportive relationship with a caring adult is a major factor in helping children overcome challenges in their lives.

Thank you for taking the time to consider our proposal. Your financial support will enable Big Sisters to provide vital mentorship to vulnerable girls and help build brighter futures. Should you have any questions, please contact Fleur Cooper our Senior Manager, Corporate Giving, at the coordinates below.

Sincerely,

Brenda Gershkovitch Executive Director

Contact: Fleur Cooper, Senior Manager, Corporate Giving Email: <u>fcooper@bigsisters.bc.ca</u> Direct: 604 873 4525 ext 317

