



Burnaby Mountain Secondary School

January 26, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Grant Application for Burnaby Mountain Secondary School Debating Team

This letter is in support of Miranda Collett and Carolyn Chen's application for a grant from the City of Burnaby to attend the Oxford Cup Finals International Debating Championship in Oxford, England. Miranda and Carolyn are two Burnaby Mountain students who have successfully advanced to the upcoming Oxford Cup debates. The debates will take place in England on March 10, 2018, and therefore they need funding to help defray the expense of getting to the venue.

Miranda and Carolyn successfully competed against dozens of other teams recently in Montreal to secure their place in the Oxford Cup. They earned a place at the Montreal competition because they ranked so highly at the BC Provincial Debating Championships. They are the only British Columbia school team to advance to the Oxford Cup, and they ranked third overall in Canada at the conclusion of the Montreal competition. Travel to all of these competitions has not come cheaply, as you can imagine. Carolyn and Miranda have exhausted personal savings and other funding sources in order to qualify for Oxford, and this is the reason why they are turning to the City of Burnaby for this funding grant.

Miranda and Carolyn have booked flights to London, England for the period from March 7-13, 2018. The mothers of these two students will accompany them as chaperones. The request for grant money is strictly to be put towards the cost of Miranda and Carolyn's plane tickets, no one else's. The girls are seeking out a variety of sources for funding this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, including creating a GoFundMe crowdsourcing web page. However, the request for this grant is also necessary to cover all their costs. School funds for debating championships are non-existent, which is another reason why these girls have turned to the City of Burnaby with this grant request.

Any assistance that the City of Burnaby can provide regarding this funding request would be greatly appreciated. These girls have worked very hard to achieve this level of excellence, and will be fantastic ambassadors for not only Burnaby Mountain Secondary School, but the City of Burnaby as well. I am respectfully asking for approval of this grant request.

Sincerely yours,

Mr. Jozsef Budai – Social Studies Department Head and sponsor of the BMSS Debating Club