

February 16, 2023

City of Richmond 6911 No. 3 Rd Richmond BC **Office of the President and CEO** 601 West Broadway, Vancouver, BC V5Z 4C2

Schedule 1 to the Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting of Richmond City Council held on Monday, April 17, 2023

Dear City of Richmond,

Over the past two years, our communities and our healthcare system have faced unprecedented challenges associated with the pandemic. COVID-19 significantly increased the demands on our healthcare system, as we adjusted and expanded our services to reflect the evolving needs of our communities.

COVID-19 vaccines first became available in British Columbia in Dec. 2020 and immediately became one of our most important tools in combating the impact of the virus on our communities. Vaccines provide the best protection available against serious illness and hospitalization, and our priority was to deploy them as efficiently and safely as possible to neighbourhoods and communities, including First Nations communities, across every corner of our region.

To help facilitate distribution, our leadership team issued a broad appeal for support to our municipal, community and NGO partners to collaborate with us as we launched our region's most ambitious vaccination campaign to date. We requested supports, including resourcing and suitable spaces, to operate mass and pop-up vaccination clinics, which would serve as accessible, inclusive and welcoming clinics to adults and children getting immunized in the months to follow.

The response from our trusted partners was extraordinary. For over two years, your organization along with others, helped us establish COVID-19 vaccine sites in over 100 different locations throughout Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH). Today, over 90 per cent of people living in the Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH) region have been vaccinated against COVID-19, and we record the highest coverage of any other health authority in British Columbia. This is attributable, in part, to the significant support your organization and others have generously provided us, including the infrastructure needed to run vaccination clinics.

On behalf of our entire organization, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude for your continued partnership during the COVID-19 vaccination campaign, which has offered important protection to the vast majority of British Columbians today. In recognition of this, we would like to gift you a commemorative plaque on behalf of VCH. It marks a pivotal moment in our response to the COVID-19 pandemic and acknowledges the role your organization played in helping to serve British Columbians.

Yours sincerely,

Vivian Eliopoulos

President and Chief Executive Officer