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To all believers residing in the Tri-Cities cluster

(Anmore, Coquitlam, Port Coquitlam, and Port Moody)

Dear Bahá’í Friends,

It has been a source of joy for the Bahá’í Council to witness your cluster’s sustained growth over the last couple of years, especially with the success of your recent teaching conference where scores of believers arose to engage in community building activities by extending the Revelation of Bahá'u'lláh to numerous awaiting souls. In addition, we are delighted to know about the pattern of community activities gaining strength in your focus neighbourhood located in North Port Coquitlam. Due to current and anticipated growth, it became clear that it was timely to lease a modest space for the purpose of the spiritual education of the younger generation in that focus neighbourhood (i.e., for children, junior youth, and youth).

The acquisition of a property that is dedicated to serving the younger generations is a precious blessing and speaks to the sacrifice of friends in the cluster on many levels – from those serving directly in the focus neighbourhood and working to establish and support the spiritual education of children, junior youth and youth, to those who are contributing the material means required to support the costs of growth, and those who are praying for the advancement of the Plan. These are but a few examples of the efforts that draw on the resources in a cluster to support the possibility of acquiring spaces that are dedicated to the educational process.

We are reminded by the International Teaching Centre in a letter dated 3 May 2018, that “… [E]xperience suggests that, to establish a centre of intense activity in an urban neighbourhood, selecting a suitable area where conditions are favourable for a long-term process of community building and committing to its development are critical. … Once the neighbourhood is identified, often a team of two or three friends who are imbued with a strong sense of mission is encouraged to settle with a long-term dedication to becoming one with the population and to raising up and accompanying an expanding nucleus of individuals. In many cases, an Auxiliary Board member works closely with them. …

“The educational activities in the neighbourhood become more systematized when a suitable facility is rented or acquired, allowing the nucleus of friends to meet daily and institute activities that run regularly. Furthermore, unless a system is established by which children and junior youth are retained in children’s classes grade after grade and in the junior youth programme from one level to another, the Faith cannot permeate deeply into the soil of the neighbourhood. If such formalization is achieved, engagement in these “foundational activities” becomes “so embedded in the culture of the population that it is viewed as an indispensable aspect of the life of a community. …”.

Friends, as we embark on this new area of learning, we are confident that the use of this facility will be focused on strengthening the development of the three imperatives of the educational process. For example, the space will be used for teaching campaigns, junior youth camps, and the training of children’s class teachers and animators. To assist with the organizational aspects of this space, including booking, the Council is pleased to share that Mr. Diba Taghvai will serve as interim facility coordinator. He can be reached at 604-376-1601 regarding the booking of the new facility.

It is with profound love for every believer striving to serve the Cause of God in the Tri-Cities cluster that we invite you to offer your prayers and financial support. We beseech the Beloved that we will all realize our longing to serve Him in these days leading to the bicentenary of the Birth of the Báb and beyond.

With loving Bahá’í greetings,

Susan Ardekany, Secretary

cc: Counsellor Borna Noureddin

National Spiritual Assembly

Auxiliary Board Members (2)

Institute Board for BC & Yukon

Regional & Cluster Agencies

Cluster Treasury Assistant