



## Mission Association for Community Living

*"Building Bridges Together"*

September 15, 2008

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in support of the Cold Water Respite Lodge Committee's vision. I understand the Cold Water Ranch in Merritt, BC is building a charitable respite lodge for individuals with disabilities... with a vision to make the Lodge as accessible as possible.

I further understand that folks with disabilities and their families or caregivers (or by various disability groups such as ours!) would be able to book a respite holiday for free or for a minimal rate. In the off season the lodge could be accessed by corporations and other organizations for a fee.

We at MACL are excited about plans thus far to build a fully accessible lodge including wheelchair accessible showers with lifts, cabins and tenting areas (for those who want to truly rough it!). With a vision for the property to eventually have accessible trails, a playground and possibly a pool, it is great to hear the Cold Water Ranch has already designated the property.

We believe a respite lodge of this type would be useful and benefit families and individuals with disabilities. It would definitely be an asset to this province.

Sincerely,

Robert Keys, Executive Director

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