

40350 Huron St, E,

Exeter, ON

January 8, 2019

City of London, 300 Dufferin Ave,

London, ON

N6B 1Z2

Attention: City Councillors

Dear City Councillors,

**RE: MERRYMOUNT CHILDREN'S CENTRE**

I am writing this letter in support of Merrymount Children's Centre. I have been the Finance Director at Merrymount since 1993 and would like to commend the unique services that the agency offers to families and children in London.

Merrymount provides a wide-range of services including our Family and Child Support program (operating 24/7, this program provides care to children whose families are experiencing an emergency or crisis and are in need of non-traditional hours of care), our Crisis Respite / Residential program (including 18 beds, this program is geared to helping families with short-term emergencies and also planned short-term respite care) and our Family Resource program (incorporating groups for children and parents that are strengths-based and that focus on skills development, coping strategies and building stronger parent-child relationships).

Although I am part of the administration at Merrymount, I do witness the wonderful work that our front-line staff does every day and the positive impact they have on all the families and children that use Merrymount's services. As I'm sure you can all appreciate, all families experience problems and stresses and crises from time to time – no one is immune from the realities of life. I believe London is blessed to have an invaluable resource such as Merrymount in the community.

Thank you for considering Merrymount's request for financial support.

Yours sincerely



Richard Macgregor

Director of Finance