



FRANCIS SCARPALEGGIA
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT / DÉPUTÉ
LAC-SAINT-LOUIS

October 7, 2014

Mrs. Nathalie Chapman
Director
West Island Association for the Intellectually Handicapped
111 Donegani
Pointe-Claire, Quebec
H9R 2W3

Dear Mrs. Chapman,

I would first like to acknowledge the excellent services the West Island Association for the Intellectually Handicapped (WIAIH), one of the largest and best-known non-profit organizations in Quebec serving persons with intellectual challenges and their families, provides to the West Island community and beyond.

WIAIH has served the West Island for over fifty years, creating extensive and lasting ties with other community groups, school boards and various levels of government all with the aim of creating the most seamless of support networks for citizens with intellectual challenges.

Second, WIAIH's plan to further develop the Pat Roberts Developmental Centre (Pat Roberts Centre) into a comprehensive "Family Centre" will provide a much-needed additional pillar of support to address the supplementary needs of families with intellectually challenged members; particularly the lower-income families of the Sainte-Geneviève area of Montreal's West Island. Especially important, the centre would help create a venue for individuals, families and organizations to connect with each other, under one roof, and access multi-disciplinary services located in one place.

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The Family Centre would play a central role as a community-builder by being a focus for quality programming in an area of the West Island that is predisposed to low primary-school student performance, an elevated high-school drop-out rate, and incidents of crime.

I wish you great success in making your vision into a much-needed reality. As your Member of Parliament, please know that you can count on me and my staff to provide you with any assistance we can for this visionary community-service initiative.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Francis Scarpaleggia". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Francis Scarpaleggia