



C/Supt Ray Bernoties
Island District RCMP
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Your File

Ms. Jackie Powell
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Our File

2016-01-08

Ms. Powell, Jackie

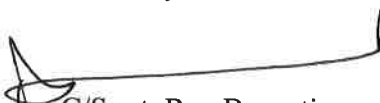
I would like to acknowledge and thank you for your efforts to support those suffering with mental health issues. I can tell you that RCMP members and elected officials right across the island raise the issue of mental health with me on a regular basis.

Although RCMP members are primarily thought of as "law enforcement officers", I can tell you that we spend a great deal of time dealing with those who are distressed and in the midst of a mental health crisis. In fact, just last night, RCMP members on the island responded to multiple calls of suicidal individuals. Fortunately, our members were able to effectively and safely apprehend those individuals and get them to a health care provider. However, this is less than ideal and rarely seems to result in a long term positive result for those individuals or their families.

I was pleased to learn about your Clubhouse Model and the many success stories you provided from other areas which have already implemented this model.

I wish you all the best in your drive to open up a Clubhouse here on Vancouver Island. There are so many individuals who could benefit from a stable, predictable, respectful, and supportive environment.

Sincerely,


C/Supt. Ray Bernoties