

## Rhonda West

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**From:** Rhonda West  
**Sent:** Monday, October 16, 2023 10:24 AM  
**To:** Rhonda West  
**Subject:** FW: letter of support for Foundry

**From:** Sarah Zuidhof <szuidhof@salmonarm.ca>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 16, 2023 9:58 AM  
**To:** Rhonda West <rwest@salmonarm.ca>  
**Subject:** RE: letter of support for Foundry

To Mayor Alan Harrison and members of the Council of Salmon Arm,

I am writing to respectfully request your support for a significant community initiative that holds immense promise for Salmon Arm youth. A Foundry Center, a vital resource for young people, aims to provide comprehensive health and wellness services to address the physical, mental, and social well-being of our local youth. There are currently 16 Foundry Centers across the province. Five organizations including the Shuswap Children's Association, Rise Up Indigenous Wellness, the Division of Family Practice, CMHA and the Shuswap Family Center are submitting a community partnership application to request that a Foundry Center for Salmon Arm youth. A Foundry Center greatly compliments the work of the Building Safer Communities Initiative and the Shuswap Youth Services Collaborative. Your endorsement would not only emphasize the significance of this project but also show strong collaboration across the sectors in Salmon Arm.

Thank you for your attention and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sarah Zuidhof

*"We acknowledge that the City of Salmon Arm offices are located on the traditional territory of the Secwepemc people, with whom we share these lands and where we live and work together".*

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# What are Integrated Youth Services anyway?

**Sometimes, life is simply overwhelming. You name it – school stress, family conflict, friend or relationship drama, pressures to look a certain way, questions about sexual and mental health, addictions (anything from substances to social media). It adds up.**

There is so much to do and to think about, it's hard to know where to start. Many young people and their families/caregivers aren't sure where to find resources and support designed specifically for them.

But imagine if there were places where counsellors, doctors, therapists and social workers were working together to meet your needs. Well, this is not a distant reality.

If you find yourself exhausted from juggling the competing demands of life, sometimes taking a break and finding someone to genuinely listen and help you with what you're going through is what it takes. This is how integrated youth services (IYS) are revolutionizing the health care system.

**IYS combines multiple service areas and supports for what you need when you need it. IYS usually cover most of the following service areas:**



The overall vision of IYS is to make it easy for young people and their families/caregivers to connect with the right services at the right time, no matter who you are or what's happening in your life.

Say goodbye to wondering where to get support and say hello to IYS!

There are IYS initiatives emerging across Canada. One example is Foundry, located in British Columbia. Foundry brings together the services described above for young people ages 12-24. Services are also available for their families/caregivers, including groups, workshops, counselling and peer support. Foundry designs its services in collaboration with service providers, families/caregivers and youth to make sure they are culturally safe, youth-friendly and meet the needs of young people.

**Young people can walk into a local Foundry centre across BC, explore online tools and resources at [foundrybc.ca/get-support](https://foundrybc.ca/get-support) or connect virtually through the Foundry BC app. Some of the services offered through the app are available in English and languages other than English.**



**October 2023**

**To the Foundry Expansion Team,**

The City of Salmon Arm would like to express its wholehearted support for the establishment of a Foundry Center in Salmon Arm. This initiative is a testament to the power of community collaboration and an essential step towards providing much-needed support to our youth.

One of the guiding principles for the City of Salmon Arm is to support a prosperous, vibrant and welcoming community. We understand that the well-being of our young people is of utmost importance, and the multi-faceted approach of Foundry would help to strengthen this welcoming, supportive environment for our youth. By introducing a Foundry Center in Salmon Arm, we are not only addressing the pressing mental health and wellness needs of our youth but also demonstrating our commitment to their future.

The City of Salmon Arm believes in collaboration and a holistic approach to youth health. A Foundry Center would align with the Shuswap Youth Services Collaborative, the Wellness Center through Sullivan High School, and the new Integrated Youth and Child Teams through School District 83. All of these initiatives complement Foundry's vision of building a network of professionals who work collectively to reduce barriers to youth accessing services. Through the Building Safer Communities Initiative, the City of Salmon Arm has conducted a community scan for youth services and asset mapping activities to identify the strengths and gaps in our youth services, which will be an excellent foundation to developing a Foundry Center in this city.

A Foundry Center in Salmon Arm will have far-reaching positive effects. Our local youth will have access to an array of integrated services, and our community as a whole will benefit from the well-being and resilience of its young members. We wholeheartedly support this endeavor and believe it aligns perfectly with the values and needs of the community.

Thank you for considering Salmon Arm in your Foundry Expansion plans. We eagerly anticipate the positive changes that the introduction of a Foundry Center will bring to Salmon Arm as we continue to work together to ensure a prosperous, vibrant and welcoming city for all.

Sincerely,