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Tel.: 250-657-2000 Fax.: 250-657-2004 **Elizabeth May**Member of Parliament / Députée
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June 19, 2019

## Re: Letter of Support for Lexie's Little Bears child care centre

To whom this may concern,

It is my great pleasure to write a letter of support for Lexie's Little Bears child care centre. I had the honour of meeting Lexie Biegun – the centre's Visionary Director and my constituent – in May, when Ms. Biegun was presented with the Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Early Childhood Education.

On Southern Vancouver Island, there is a considerable need for affordable and high-quality child care centres. At Lexie's Little Bears, children are given the freedom to learn and play and be creative outdoors on the beautiful, four acre property. Studies have shown how important natural environments are in the early learning of a child, and how this exposure can strengthen children's relationships with their surroundings and their peers.

Due to both the need for child care spaces in the area and the quality of care at Lexie's Little Bears, the centre's waitlist has currently over 170 names. It's such a shame that families must be turned away from quality care simply because the centre does not have the capacity to accommodate them. With increased funding, Lexie's Little Bears would help respond to a great need in the area, by expanding its space while maintaining the high calibre care currently being offered to the community.



I strongly recommend Lexie's Little Bears child care centre for their funding application. Please do not hesitate to reach out should you have any questions.

Sincerely

Elizabeth May, O.C.

Member of Parliament

Saanich-Gulf Islands

Leader of the Green Party of Canada