



Royal  
Canadian  
Mounted  
Police

Gendarmerie  
royale  
du  
Canada

Commanding  
Officer

Commandant  
divisionnaire

April 27, 2017

Dear Mr. Roberts,

You recently spent some time in the Province of Manitoba speaking with our youth and engaging with community partners as part of your ongoing effort to put an end to youth homelessness in Canada.

When I first heard about Push for Change, I was immediately inspired by the campaign and its goals. I was so pleased that the RCMP could be a partner with you to raise awareness for this worthy cause.

Youth homelessness is a sad and frightening reality across Canada and certainly in Manitoba, but it is a reality that must be met head-on. Every day in Manitoba, our officers encounter young people that have lost their way and have lost hope for a better future. Their stories are painful reminders of the dangers that our youth face in communities across Manitoba and across the country.

What is so amazing to me about your story, is that you know, first hand, the immense struggle of homelessness and addiction. More importantly, you can share with our youth how you were able to lift yourself out of that life and how to overcome seemingly impossible odds.

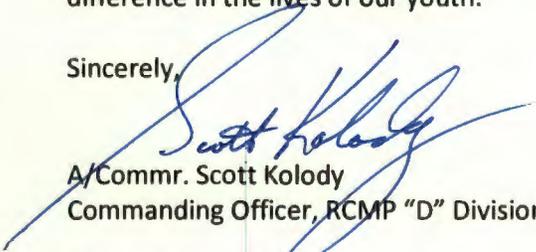
You shared this message of hope with youth in schools across Manitoba. Thousands of children across this province heard your message that if you reach out, if you ask for help, there is a way out and a way forward.

We were honoured to walk alongside you on Manitoba highways, to support you in schools in communities across Manitoba and to be your partner in your fight to eliminate youth homelessness.

I commend you and your campaign team for your intense determination and truly believe that the Push for Change Campaign is an important opportunity for all of us to engage and connect with youth in Manitoba and across Canada.

Thank you Joe for bringing this important issue forward and reminding all Canadians that we cannot just walk away or ignore youth homelessness. We need to push forward and make a real difference in the lives of our youth.

Sincerely,

  
A/Commr. Scott Kolody  
Commanding Officer, RCMP "D" Division

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