13868 19A Avenue Surrey, BC V4A 9M2

December 17, 2020

Kavie Toor Director of Athletics and Recreation University of British Columbia Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1

Dear Mr. Toor:

Here is my report, Establishment of a Female Baseball Program at UBC. While preparing for this report, I learned a lot more about the process behind creating an athletic program at UBC. I also gained a greater understanding of the opinions about female baseball. Thank you for your insight and time in regards to this report.

Despite the unlikely chance of creating a female baseball varsity program in the near future, there still is a high interest in creating a club team. With Baseball BC providing support for female baseball, UBC would present as a good option to house a female baseball team and generate post-secondary opportunities for female players. There are many girls growing up in the Lower Mainland and throughout Canada, who would love to continue playing baseball. Seeing opportunities at a higher level of education would help motivate them to stay involved.

Softball has historically been the only option for girls who hope to play with a bat and a ball, and general discouragement towards girls playing baseball leads them to quit baseball at a younger age. This continues the traditional and segregated view of baseball/softball. Establishing a female baseball team at the university level with support from the UBC Athletics and Recreation Department would be a massive step to breaking down these old-fashioned barriers. The UBC men's baseball team has shown support for women to be provided with more opportunities, and female baseball players have shown interest in participating if there were options of playing provided.

I have loved diving into this important topic. If you have any questions for me or wish to discuss the feasibility of establishing a team at UBC, please send me an email at <u>claire.eccles4@gmail.com</u>.

Sincerely,

Claine Eccles.

Claire Eccles