

Point Ellice House
2616 Pleasant Street
Victoria, BC
V8T 4V3

August 15, 2005

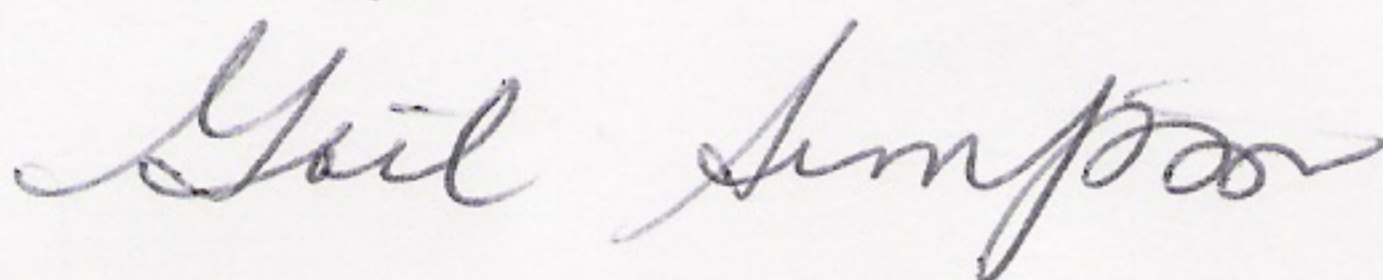
RE: "A Woman's Place" Virtual Exhibit

To Whom It May Concern:

The following is a letter of support for the development of a web site and virtual exhibit for the CURA project "A Women's Place".... Point Ellice house is a National Historic site and the significance of the collection of art and artifacts at the site have been part of the material history research for this project. The project has been both mutually beneficial as students from the University of Victoria gained valuable experience working with and studying artifacts while contributing to the collection catalogue and document files for the site. Several excellent research papers have been completed based on this research providing a greater insight into the life of Kathleen O'Reilly. The important of this research can not be overlooked as it has contributed much to the better understanding of women in early Victoria and their role within the formation of Victoria's society. More than just a study of the domestic space, or the womanly arts, the project has uncovered the significance of the contribution women made to the social and cultural formation of Victoria.

When the project began three years ago the site was operated by the BC Heritage Branch and has since (March of 2004) been devolved and is now operated on a 15 year lease to the Victoria **Capital Mental Health Association**. The Capital Mental Health Association both recognize **and appreciate** the previous research that has been done and fully support the continued work. Access to the collections and the sharing of information with researchers will continue with the assistance of the sites collections manager. Permission to use reproductions (digital images) of objects in the collection for a web site would of course be part of our contribution to the project. It is hoped that this letter and our support will contribute to the success of the application for funding. We firmly believe that through a web site and the development of the proposed educational component many more people will be made aware and can benefit from the excellent work that has been done so far.

Yours truly,



Gail Simpson
Capital Mental Health Association