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November 27, 2017

Ms. Kim Barhaug  
Historic Site Manager  
Heart Mountain Interpretive Center  
1539 Road 19  
Powell, WY 82435

Dear Ms. Barhaug:

The Buffalo Bill Center of the West is a large world class museum dedicated to telling the story of the American West. Our 325,000-square-foot museum located in Cody Wyoming is the largest private cultural organization in the state and has received many accolades for its programs including the National Medal for Museum Service the highest honor a museum in the United States can receive from the Federal Government.

Our Center and its Trustees, staff and volunteers strongly support the Heart Mountain Interpretive Center's (HMIC) proposal to help educate school children and the public about the issues related to the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II. The issues related to peace and justice developed in the proposal and the methods used to instruct children of our region and beyond are sound and follow accepted museum education practices. The support of the community for the HMIC is stellar and in the brief time they have been open to the public they have effectively told the stories of this chapter of our national history in a balanced and professional manner.

As a former President of the Cody Rotary Club, I strongly support this application as it is in the true spirit of peace and reconciliation in keeping with Rotary's objective to further understanding of key issues related to conflict resolution and peace. By helping the HMIC develop this educational program, we can go a long way towards ensuring that such practices as relocating citizens without their consent never happen again.

Former Secretary of Transportation Norman Mineta told the story at the opening of HMIC in 2011 of President George Bush meeting with his cabinet the day after September 11, 2001. When several members of the cabinet proposed that Muslim Americans be rounded up and held, President Bush turned to Mineta and said, "We will not

do to Muslim Americans what we did to Norm's people in World War II". If our country is to continue to be a shining beacon of liberty and hope in the world, we must develop educational programs that help our young people to understand basic civil rights and their place in protecting them. As a lesson for other countries that do not have the same traditions of conflict resolution and peace that we do, this dark chapter in our history can be an example of how a great country became greater in a time of world strife by telling the story effectively. We strongly support this project.

Should you or the Rotary Grant Review Committee have any questions about our support for this project, I would be pleased to answer them.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce B. Eldredge". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "B".

**Bruce B. Eldredge**  
Executive Director & CEO