

December 6, 2021

Jane Bachart Pembina Trails Early College 181 Henlow Bay Winnipeg MB R3Y 1M7

Dear Jane,

I am writing to thank you for your contribution to Winnipeg being named the World's Most Intelligent Community. Your participation in interviews and submissions for Winnipeg's Intelligent Communities Forum submission is deeply appreciated and played a significant role in our city earning this prestigious global recognition. But most meaningful - and appreciated - of all, is your commitment to Winnipeg. You have demonstrated early faith in our potential as an intelligent global city, and in doing so, have been key to securing this historic designation as the Most Intelligent Community in the World. It is a title belonging to all of us, but especially to you. Congratulations!

Most Intelligent Community in the World is a recognition I am deeply proud of, and I hope you and your entire team are proud as well. Its impact secures our position as a city of tech, digital and innovation leaders for years to come, attracting future investors, talent and residents. It is a designation reaching far beyond the innovation sector, extending success to every corner of the community. The collaborative cross-sector effort to earn this designation is truly monumental.

Steve Jobs said "Innovation distinguishes between a leader and a follower." As Winnipeg's Mayor, I have always believed our city is positioned as innovative leaders with the potential to attract incredible talent. For many years, since 2014, the ICF has recognized Winnipeg as a Top Smart Community. Over this time, our community partnerships across government, industry, business and education have become more forward-thinking to adapt to fast-paced changes in connectivity, inclusivity and innovation sustainability with a collective eye on the future. How each sector evolved to synchronize with each other to support future investment and talent that we can grow with, is what set Winnipeg above the rest this year. Our city's rise to the top designation in 2021 was years in the making. Leading-edge collaboration has long been our community focus, and our crowning point as intelligent global leaders is the crescendo of exceptional accumulative efforts. It affirms the clout we all believed our city has offered for a long time. I am confident this will not only show potential investors why Winnipeg is the best city to invest live and play, but also reaffirm for Winnipeggers that we deserve global