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**The Honourable Stephen McNeil, MLA**  
**Leader of the Opposition**  
PROVINCE OF NOVA SCOTIA

March 7, 2013

Ms. Bernadette MacDonald  
Chair  
SHYFT Youth Services Society  
Box 2000  
Yarmouth, NS B5A 1E5

Dear Ms. MacDonald,

I am writing to offer my support of SHYFT Youth Services Society.

The support that SHYFT provides to youth in the Yarmouth area is immeasurable. I have offered my support to SHYFT in the past and I will continue to offer my support as I have witnessed the good work done by your organization in our community.

When SHYFT did not get support from the NDP government, I was proud to stand up with my Liberal Caucus colleagues, and especially your local MLA, Zach Churchill, who has been a strong advocate for SHYFT in the legislature, to call on the NDP government to support this critical service in our community.


The Liberal Caucus has raised this issue in the legislature and will continue to raise this issue in the legislature. I was very proud when Mr. Churchill stood with SHYFT staff and residents in our Caucus Office before the media to call on the government to support this organization.

SHYFT has a successful model of supporting young people through offering emergency services, food, counseling and programming. Your organization has seen success with youth in the southwest region and, with the proper support, will continue to see success.

I firmly believe that it is the job of government to support society's most vulnerable. The youth who access supports and services from the SHYFT society, all too often have no other options. My Liberal Caucus colleagues and I will continue to call on this government to see to it that young people in the Yarmouth area can access services through SHYFT youth services.

A Liberal government will ensure that SHYFT house can provide the 24/7 services required by vulnerable youth in the region.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stephen McNeil". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the end.

Hon. Stephen McNeil, M.L.A.  
Leader of the Opposition  
Nova Scotia Liberal Party