

CHIEF OF ARMY

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To Whom it May Concern

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR PROPOSED SOUTHERN PARALLEL SPORTS CAMPUS

It is with pleasure that I express my personal support for the Southern Parallel Sports Campus (the *Campus*) proposed by Southern Parallel Sports Campus Limited (*SPSCL*). The range of life skills development programmes being proposed by SPSCL to support veterans, including the equestrian sport training programmes, is exciting. It really does promise to be once in a lifetime opportunity, particularly in terms of veteran care and rehabilitation, not just for Canterbury but for the whole of New Zealand.

Regretfully, veterans and particularly those injured while on operational service, are not always able to be provided with the type of reintegration and support services they need to be able to assimilate back into everyday life. This is particularly so with respect to mental health. The model proposed by the Campus reflects international best practice for the provision of veteran rehabilitation practices and will go a significant way towards filling this gap.

It's great to see that SPSCL is being supported by the Westbury Group Investment Bank representing international veteran alliance partners. To have partners of this standing, willing to invest in the Campus, is a considerable achievement and provides an invaluable opportunity for both the New Zealand Army and our many veterans. I also note both the significant economic benefits that an undertaking of this size will provide to the Canterbury regional, and the various sustainability measures being proposed.

I congratulate SPSCL on pursuing this initiative and look forward to them being an active supporter of New Zealand's veteran community.

J.R. BOSWELL, DSD

Major General

Chief of Army