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To Whom It May Concern:

Joan Larson's Artworks Celebrating the RCMP Musical Ride

I am pleased to offer this letter of introduction to a Qualicum Beach artist, Joan Larson, and, particularly, her breathtaking work celebrating our national icon - the RCMP Musical Ride.

In Qualicum Beach we celebrate our arts, culture and heritage. We are honoured to have many renowned artists who make their home in Qualicum Beach but Joan's work is very special, as it honours one of Canada's most recognizable Canadian identifiers - the "Mountie" and their spectacle, the Musical Ride.

Beginning in 1876, the Musical Ride was developed from a desire by early members of the North-West Mounted Police to display their riding ability and entertain both themselves and the local community. The Musical Ride has become a familiar sight, performing throughout most of the world. Joan has photographed the Musical Ride on several occasions, and captured those images in a series of paintings.

I was very moved when I first saw Joan's work...and I know you will be too. With the recent Winter Olympics, Canada's national pride is soaring. Enjoy Joan Larson's artworks celebrating the pageantry of the RCMP Musical Ride and our heritage.

Yours truly,

Teunis Westbroek,
Mayor