



July 7th, 2021

Dear Members of the Gustavus City Council:

Thank you once again for awarding Tidelines Institute (formerly the Arete Project) a City of Gustavus Endowment Grant in 2020. We are grateful to have the city's support for our work, and we look forward to serving the Gustavus community for many years to come.

As you are no doubt aware, this has been a challenging year for Tidelines. Though buoyed by many good things – the merger with Inian Islands Institute, our new gap year program, an emerging partnership with the GCC – the fire at the former Good River B&B has been a major setback. With staff bandwidth diverted towards that rebuild project, we are now planning to postpone construction on our new educational building – for which we were awarded the Endowment Grant – until spring 2022.

We therefore respectfully request that the Council permit us an extension on our grant timeline, ideally through July 31st, 2022. Not only will this give us the chance to complete the rebuild project and dedicate full attention to the new building, but it hopefully will also allow the price of building materials to normalize.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any further questions regarding this request or the project in general. Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Laura Marcus", with a stylized, flowing script.

Laura Marcus
Co-Executive Director
Tidelines Institute
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