



Debbie & Gerry Warren

October 19, 2006

Pierre (Pete) Garneau,
Communication Director,
Royal Canadian Legion,
Branch 79, Richelieu,
745 Des Carrieres,
St. Jean-sur-Richelieu, QC J3B 2N7

Dear Mr. Garneau,

We were so happy to be told about your initiative to raise funds for the CFB Edmonton Trust "Material Assistance Program to Afghanistan". Gordon O'Connor, the Minister of National Defence, said that the Afghanistan conflict will not be won uniquely by military means. It will also require financial, material, and moral support in order for Canadian Soldiers to help Afghanistan to recover from decades of war.

Afghani citizens are the true victims of this conflict. They overwhelmingly and freely voted for a Government to represent them and groups like the Taliban and Al Qaeda want to take away this precious right by force. This is something we sometimes take for granted. Whenever we hear about people or groups who get together to raise funds to help them, we are truly grateful.

Our son Jason understood that ensuring the security of the Afghani people from the Taliban menace was not enough to win their hearts and minds. It will also be by initiatives like yours, which will help the most vulnerable. Our soldiers are doing their part to help, and it is very appreciated that other Canadians stand ready to help our soldiers with their mission and the people of Afghanistan by providing assistance in anyway that they can.

Debbie and I are sorry that we could not attend your fundraising event. Debbie was born in St. Jean and the visit would have been doubly pleasant for us. We hope to have the opportunity of visiting St. Jean in the near future, and we hope that your event is a big success.

Sincerely,