

Minister of
Small Business



Ministre de la
Petite Entreprise

Ottawa, Canada K1A 0H5

Stephen Ibaraki

Dear Stephen Ibaraki:

I would like to personally thank you for your participation on the renewed Venture Capital Catalyst Initiative (VCCI) selection committee for the inclusive growth stream. Your report to the Deputy Minister of Economic Development was provided to me for my consideration and review.

I appreciated the recommendations the committee developed on the selection of funds for the VCCI program, which demonstrated thoughtful deliberation and consideration. I particularly welcomed the recognition of the significant role of enhancing diversity, equity, and inclusion in Canadian venture capital as part of a market-driven investment program.

As a member of the selection committee, you took on an important role contributing your expertise, insights, and leadership. Your industry experience provided a valuable lens through which to assess the applications, supporting the Government of Canada in its efforts to enhance access to capital to support Canadian entrepreneurs. I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate my thanks and extend my personal appreciation for the time and effort you committed to support the renewed VCCI.

Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Rechie Valdez', written in a cursive style.

The Honourable Rechie Valdez, P.C., M.P.