

June 27, 2021

District of Central Saanich

Notice of Motion RE: 1909 Prosser Road Supportive Housing

Submitted by: Councillor Robert Thompson and Councillor Niall Paltiel

WHEREAS: The District of Central Saanich has received a significant amount of neighbourhood concerns, suggestions and feedback since BC Housing announced the supportive housing project at 1909 Prosser Road on March 24.

WHEREAS: The District of Central Saanich and the Saanich Peninsula have limited local resources and primary services to assist individuals with significant immediate needs. For example,

- Island Health designates Saanich Peninsula Hospital as a rural healthcare unit;
- The Saanich Peninsula Hospital is a seniors-focused hospital with very limited mental health and addictions services;
- The Province of BC recently announced the elimination of the overnight ambulance service at the Saanich Peninsula Hospital location; and
- The District of Central Saanich community police department is only resourced with a limited number of overnight on-duty officers.

AND WHEREAS: The District of Central Saanich has requested re-evaluation and extension the current BC Housing Prosser Road RFP (closing date June 30, 2021) due to the cumulation of neighbourhood concerns, the nature of the current neighbourhood settlement patterns, contextual community age and demographics, and inadequacy of local support services.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the District of Central Saanich write to BC Housing and MLA Adam Olsen requesting a facilitated meeting between the Minister Responsible for Housing, Ministry of Housing Senior Administration, BC Housing representatives, MLA Olsen and representatives from the District of Central Saanich to:

1. Re-affirm the District's interest in informing creation of the required Community Action Committee prior to selection of a Housing Provider in order to facilitate local discussions as soon as possible.
2. Re-affirm the District's interest in working with BC Housing to draft a Good Neighbour Policy for the Prosser Road supportive housing project designed to ensure the successful, long-term management of the project and establish stronger relationships with the neighbourhood, prior to the facility becoming operational.
3. Express concern around the District's and regions capacity to facilitate housing for individuals in immediate crisis and therefore not set people and the project up to fail.
4. Determine a preferential outcome for housing residents which meet at least one of the following three individual profiles:

- a. **Stabilized Individuals.** Individuals who are working on achieving employment and looking for a secure and drug-free environment to transition from an at-risk environment.
- b. **Local and First Nations Residents.** Residents from the Saanich Peninsula who have been displaced due to a lack of housing and appropriate treatment who are looking to return to a more familiar neighbourhood for support.
- c. **Seniors Supportive Housing.** As defined in the BC Housing website, seniors supportive housing would mean seniors with higher acuity who are looking for a safe and substance-free environment to transition from an at-risk environment.