



TRINITY UNITED CHURCH

FAITH • FELLOWSHIP • SERVICE

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To: Mayor Lynn Hall and Prince George City Council

Re: Rezoning application for the construction of Harmony House

Date: January 28, 2021

Mayor Hall and City Council, on behalf of the Governing Board, Board of Trustees, and Congregation of Trinity United Church we are writing to express support of the proposed rezoning application of our three properties on Zelkwas Ave. and respectfully request that you approve the application.

Harmony House, for us, is an important expression of our core values: inclusive fellowship, living faith, joyful service, and being anti-racist. We see this project and program as an extension of these values and our belief that we are called to help build a healthy, vibrant, and connected community where no one is made to feel othered, pushed to the margins, or forgotten. Harmony House is an important component of making sure that new mothers and their children experience the care and support needed to be healthy, connected, and vibrant families. When you factor in that the majority of residents are Indigenous this becomes even more important and is one tangible way our community can live into its desire to walk in right relations with the Indigenous and Métis peoples of this land.

The Harmony House model has already proven that it works. People excel, not in isolation, but in community. Harmony House is just that, a house. A home. A community. A place where mothers and their children are accepted and wrapped in 360 services and supports. It isn't a traditional transition house. People aren't coming and going at all hours of the day/night (no one with a newborn wants that). Residents stay for extended periods of time. The second stage housing will enable clients and their families to experience an even greater period of support.

We accept that the community has some concerns. Yes, empty lots will now have a two-story house built on them that fits into the community. Yes, there will be people living in them who will come and go. Yes, the people who live at Harmony House will be part of the wider community. However, we reject the assertion that the residents of Harmony House will have a negative impact on our neighborhood any more than anyone else would. To assert anything else is xenophobic. To say that some people don't belong in our neighbourhood is fundamentally incongruent with the Gospel we seek to live out in Prince George and beyond.


The Rev. Dr. Bob K. Filler BA MDiv DM
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Mrs. Gabrielle Slater

Chairperson, Official Board