
Subject: Letter of Support for Harmony House

From: Cianna Pawluk [Redacted]

Date: February 12, 2021 at 3:05:48 PM PST

To: Mayor <MAYOR@princegeorge.ca>, "Councillor Everitt, Frank" <Frank.Everitt@princegeorge.ca>, "Councillor Frizzell, Garth" <Garth.Frizzell@princegeorge.ca>, "Councillor Krause, Murry" <Murry.Krause@princegeorge.ca>, "Councillor McConnachie, Terri" <Terri.McConnachie@princegeorge.ca>, "Councillor Ramsay, Cori" <Cori.Ramsay@princegeorge.ca>, "Councillor Sampson, Kyle" <Kyle.Sampson@princegeorge.ca>, "Councillor Scott, Susan" <Susan.Scott@princegeorge.ca>, "Councillor Skakun, Brian" <Brian.Skakun@princegeorge.ca>

Cc: mariahendrikabrouwe [Redacted]

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Dear Mayor Hall and Council,

Please accept this as my letter of support for the new Harmony House Initiative, proposed to be built behind Trinity United Church, on land they have donated for this project.

Harmony House provides a safe place for recovery and growth of the Mother-child relationship, specifically for families who have lived with addictions. While evidence shows the strong correlation between trauma and addictions, we also have strong evidence that positive bonding and healthy childhood development work to offset trauma. With trained staff members and peer support systems, Harmony House provides an ideal environment to build these positive bonds and foster healthy child development. While Harmony house works towards increasing the health and wellbeing of future generations, current social challenges such as homelessness and addictions are also addressed.

As a primary care/perinatal nurse, I have seen firsthand the positive impact that Harmony House has on the health and wellbeing of members of our community. However, I find it heartbreaking that there is often insufficient space at the house for the clients whom I serve. Many of these mothers and families show great potential if only the appropriate support systems were in place. How can we expect an individual who does not have a safe place to stay and is facing the stress of a child apprehension with little support to have the capacity to work towards healing from their own traumas and addictions? My hope would be to see a new house with a larger capacity be approved in order to continue to serve more of our community members.

This project is vital for both the current and future health and wellbeing of our community. Please support it in every way you can, as the Mayor and Council of Prince George.

Thank you for your attention to this most important initiative.

Cianna Pawluk, BScN RN(C)
Registered Nurse
Central Interior Native Health Society
[Redacted]

I respectfully acknowledge that I live, work, and play on the traditional territory of the Lheidli T'enneh