

Attachment 1

Royal Columbian Hospital Letter of Support



Better health.
Best in health care.

January 9, 2024

Mr. Brad Davie
Deputy Fire Chief
City of New Westminster | Fire & Rescue Services
1 East 6th Avenue, New Westminster, BC V3L 4G6

Dear Mr. Davie,

I am writing to express my support for the concept for the two-year pilot project that the City of New Westminster is undertaking to address the concurrent crises of homelessness, mental health, and substance use in our community. I would like to express my desire to explore further this project with representatives from FHA MHSU, New Westminster Home Health team and the Toxic Drug Response team under Population & Public Health to ensure a coordinated and collaborative approach.

It is evident that these crises are becoming more prevalent and are significantly impacting the health and well-being of individuals with lived and living experience, as well as the overall community and local businesses. The strain on Royal Columbian Hospital resources is also a growing concern. The provision of non-judgemental, people-centric, and culturally sensitive outreach, engagement, referral, and case management services to those experiencing these crises is a crucial step towards providing immediate support and assistance. This team would have the potential to undoubtedly play a vital role in connecting individuals to the necessary resources and support systems.

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to improving the well-being of our community.

Sincerely,

Genevieve Marier St-Onge
Director, Emergency Department & Cardiac Program
Royal Columbian Hospital

