

Attachment 2

Affordable Housing Providers Letters of Interest



October 24, 2024

Hanieh Berg, City Clerk
City of New Westminster
511 Royal Avenue
New Westminster, BC V3L 1H9

Jackie Teed
Director of Planning and Development
City of New Westminster
511 Royal Avenue
New Westminster, BC V3L 1H9

Dear City Clerk and Ms. Teed,

Re: Partnership Interest in Columbia Square Housing Development Project

On behalf of Red Door Housing Society, I am writing to express our keen interest in the opportunity to partner with the Pooni Group on their Columbia Square development project, particularly in the affordable rental housing units at Housing Income Limits (HILs) rates. We have engaged in discussions with the Group since January 2023. We would welcome the opportunity to operate all or a portion of these units.

Red Door Housing Society has a longstanding commitment to providing safe, affordable housing for families and individuals with low to moderate incomes. Our experience in managing housing operations across Metro Vancouver and the Fraser Valley, combined with our deep knowledge of the affordable housing landscape, positions us as an ideal partner for the Columbia Square project. We believe that our proven track record in delivering sustainable and community-focused housing solutions aligns well with the goals of this important development.

We are excited about the potential impact of the Columbia Square project in addressing the growing need for affordable housing in New Westminster, and we are eager to discuss how our organization can contribute to the successful operation and management of these units.

We look forward to the opportunity to further explore this partnership and discuss how we can support the City's efforts to provide much-needed affordable housing.

Thank you for your consideration. We would be pleased to meet at your convenience to discuss this further.

Sincerely,

Bailey Mumford

Executive Director
Red Door Housing Society



33 - 2688 Blanche Street
Vancouver, BC V5W 4R4



604.431.9925



info@rdhs.ca
www.rdhs.ca



October 24, 2024

Jackie Teed
City Planner, City of New Westminster

Re: Expression of Interest for the Columbia Square project

Dear Ms Teed,

On behalf of S.U.C.C.E.S.S., we would like to express our interest in the Columbia Square project as a non-profit housing provider.

As one of the largest settlement agencies in Canada, S.U.C.C.E.S.S. has over 51 years of history in serving newcomers, youth, seniors and diverse communities. Our client-centered settlement programming, service excellence, and commitment to diversity and inclusion are recognized in the community for its positive impacts.

As a housing operator since 2008, S.U.C.C.E.S.S. provides over 1,200 housing units across 11 facilities in the Metro Vancouver. Highly reputable in serving the diverse community, S.U.C.C.E.S.S. has also developed excellent partnerships with BC Housing, municipal governments and developers.

We look forward to your kind consideration and please contact me if you have any questions.

Yours sincerely,



Queenie Choo, MN, BScN, RN, HCapt(N)
Chief Executive Officer
S.U.C.C.E.S.S. and S.U.C.C.E.S.S. Foundation

For other service locations, please visit: www.success.bc.ca
Email: info@success.bc.ca

Please reply to:

Head Office



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BEST PRACTICE



MEMBER
SINCE 1976

Mike Watson

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Edgar Development Columbia Square Proposal

From: Lisa Rupert <[REDACTED]>

Date: October 24, 2024 at 2:12:02 PM PDT

To: Rupinder Basi <rbasi@newwestcity.ca>, Jackie Teed <jteed@newwestcity.ca>

Cc: [REDACTED]

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Edgar Development Columbia Square Proposal

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Hi Jackie and Rupinder,

The YWCA is a preferred non-profit housing operator for the City of New Westminster and was contacted by the City in November 2019 through John Stark. Since that time, we have been proactively looking for New Westminster opportunities for YWCA housing.

We were introduced to Edgar Development through Pooni Group and have since participated in a meeting to discuss our affordable housing approach and operating model. The Columbia Square location is ideal for single mothers and their families. We would like to see this project advance so we can continue to explore a potential partnership with Edgar Development to operate the affordable housing units.

The Columbia Square master plan would be an ideal development for the YWCA, given its proximity to transit, a proximate grocery store and other retail uses, outdoor open spaces, and the inclusion of a non-profit daycare. We are also encouraged by Edgar Development's previous history of working with affordable housing providers.

According to the New Westminster Child Profile (June 2020), there were 910 children in low-income parent families. Our current waitlist for affordable housing in Metro Vancouver is more than 1,100 low-income families led by single mothers. We know that being adequately housed is key to successful educational outcomes, stable health and economic sustainability for women and their families.

YWCA residents are supported by a YWCA Community Development worker who provides information and referral for counselling, child care, personal safety, legal education, pre-employment training, education, health, food, clothing and local community resources. This staff person will also ensure that women and children have access to the broad network of YWCA services, resident gatherings, Presents of Peace holiday hampers, school supplies, bus tickets, food vouchers, mentorship and bursaries.

The YWCA has 44 years of experience owning, developing, and operating non-profit housing. As of today, we operate 16 housing communities with 346 units of transitional and long-term housing as well as the YWCA Hotel/Residence with 220 rooms. We have an additional 134 units under construction. We are delighted to be recognized as a strong team player, able to work with a range of partners. Our goal is to continue to grow the number of safe, high-quality,

affordable homes, to build successful housing communities and to help low-income single mothers and their children build better futures.

Please contact me directly, should you have any questions or require clarification.

Best Regards,
Lisa

Lisa Rupert
Vice President, Housing Services and Violence Prevention

YWCA Metro Vancouver
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ywcavan.org