
From: Robert G. Billard <robert@billardarchitecture.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, June 18, 2025 6:48 PM
To: Mayor and Councillors
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for the Purpose Society Temporary Use Permit TUP00038
Importance: High

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Dear Mayor and Council,

As a resident of the Quayside and a business owner, I wholeheartedly support the temporary use permit application for the Lower Mainland Purpose Society at 40 Begbie Street.

The Purpose Society is a valuable and important part of our community, and I support their request for a permit for up to 18 months to allow the Purpose Society and Fraser Health adequate time to move onto the next phase of safe consumption for our neighbours who use illicit drugs.

When my family of S22(1) Personal Information to New Westminster I found a great commercial space to open my business in. It was right next door to the Purpose Society and two doors down from the shelter at the corner of Begbie and Carnarvon. During that time, we had absolutely no problems and no one felt scared for their safety there. We greeted our neighbours kindly and they treated us kindly in return.

That is how a community works.

I value having support in place for the most vulnerable members of my community right there where I am day in and day out. I look forward to having more services available for today, I will limit my ask to this issue.

Every aspect of our healthcare system is maxed out and I trust that Fraser Health and the Lower Mainland Purpose Society have the best understanding of resources and timelines needed to ensure this program is accessible in New Westminster. It is our role to support them in their work and not create barriers to it.

Please support this application

With thanks,

Robert Billard
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We sadly recognize that we practice Architecture on the stolen and occupied land Halq'eméylem and Hənq'əminəm' speaking people. We understand that wherever we do this when not asked to by the local indigenous peoples, we are upholding colonialism and are complicit in the theft of the land. We are seeking ways to mitigate, atone for, and decolonize our impact while respectfully providing homes and places for people to work and play. It's not enough, we know, and we seek guidance to do more, and we will keep trying.