

Public Hearing
to be held at
City of Penticton Council Chambers
171 Main Street, Penticton, B.C.

Tuesday, October 18, 2016
at 6:00 p.m.

1. Mayor Calls Public Hearing to Order for **"Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 2016-60"** 1-21
- CO Reads Opening Statement and Introduction of Bylaws

"Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 2016-60" (633 Winnipeg)

Purpose: To amend Zoning Bylaw No. 2011-23 as follows:

Add the following site specific provision to the RD2 Zone: Section 10.6.4 "In the case of Lot 6, District Lot 202, Similkameen Division Yale District, Plan 804, located at 633 Winnipeg Street, "congregate housing" shall be permitted."

The applicant is proposing to operate an 11 bed - drug and alcohol recovery house.

Notice: The Public Hearing was advertised in the Penticton Western Newspaper on Friday, October 7, 2016 and Wednesday, October 12, 2016 (pursuant to the *Local Government Act*).
- CO Correspondence received regarding the Zoning Amendment attached (as of noon Wednesday, October 12, 2016)
- Mayor Requests the Acting Director of Development Services describe the proposed amendments
- Mayor Invitation to applicant for comment or elaboration on the application
- Mayor Invites those in attendance to present their views
- Mayor Invites Council members to ask questions
- Mayor Invites applicants to respond to questions and those in attendance may provide new additional information

PUBLIC HEARING for "Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 2016-60" is terminated and no new information can be received on this matter.

Regular Council Meeting
held at City of Penticton Council Chambers
171 Main Street, Penticton, B.C.

Tuesday, October 4, 2016
at 1:00 p.m.

Resolutions

15. Land Matters:

15.2 Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 2016-60
Re: 633 Winnipeg Street

448/2016

It was MOVED and SECONDED

THAT "Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 2016-60", a bylaw that amends City of Penticton Zoning Bylaw No. 2011-23 by adding the site specific use 'congregate housing' to the RD2 (Duplex Housing: Lane) zone for Lot 6, District Lot 202, Similkameen Division Yale District, Plan 804, located at 633 Winnipeg Street, be given first reading and be forwarded to the October 18, 2016 Public Hearing.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Council Report

penticton.ca

Date: October 4, 2016
To: Mitch Morozuk, Acting Chief Administrative Officer
From: Blake Laven, Planning Manager
Address: 633 Winnipeg Street
Subject: **Zoning Amendment Bylaw 2016-60**

File No: PL2016-7738

Staff Recommendation

THAT "Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 2016-60", a bylaw that amends City of Penticton Zoning Bylaw No. 2011-23 by adding the site specific use 'congregate housing' to the RD2 (Duplex Housing: Lane) zone for Lot 6, District Lot 202, Similkameen Division Yale District, Plan 804, located at 633 Winnipeg Street, be given first reading and be forwarded to the October 18, 2016 Public Hearing.

Strategic priority objective

This project is in-line with Council's strategic priorities for creating a safe and healthy community as well as creating additional affordable housing.

Background

The Penticton Recovery Resource Society (PRRS) is proposing the expansion of the "men's supportive living recovery program". This is a program that has been running successfully in Penticton for the past 10 years and provides long-term, live-in housing for those recovering from drug and alcohol addiction. The program is not a treatment program, but a supportive living environment after treatment.

PRRS is proposing the opening of an 11 bed recovery house at 633 Winnipeg Street.

633 Winnipeg Street is designated by the City's Official Community Plan (OCP) as LR (Low Density Residential) and is currently zoned RD2 (Duplex Housing: Lane). While the low density residential policies in the OCP do support the type of facility being proposed, the current zoning does not permit the congregate use. As such a zoning amendment is required.

The property currently features a duplex. The building was originally constructed in 2002 to accommodate a residential retirement business, which was a congregate living arrangement similar to what is being proposed by PRRS. After a few years of operation, the duplex was then altered to accommodate a Bed and Breakfast.

Proposal

The applicants are proposing to amend Section 10.6.4 of Zoning Bylaw 2011-23 to add the following sub-section:

- .4 "In the case of Lot 6, District Lot 202, Similkameen Division Yale District, Plan 804, located at 633 Winnipeg Street, "congregate housing" shall be permitted.

Technical Review

PRRS contacted the City prior to making an offer on the property and formal application for zoning amendment to determine if there would be any major complications with converting a residential duplex into a congregate facility. After review by a registered architect, several upgrades have been identified as required. These include items such as increased fire protection measures, improvements to egress and exiting and other minor upgrades. Both PRRS and the City are confident that these technical items can be addressed prior to occupancy of the facility. Work will begin if the property is successfully rezoned to accommodate the proposed use.

This application was forwarded to the Technical Planning Committee for review and no major issues were identified.

Financial implication

N/A

Analysis

Support "Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 2016-60"

When reviewing an application for a zoning amendment, Council and staff look towards the City's Official Community Plan for direction. In this case, the OCP has guidelines for when reviewing applications for allowing institutional uses within the Low Density Residential designation. Those guidelines state that institutional uses should have the following characteristics:

- Located on a collector road;
- Located at an intersection site;
- Provides screening along property lines that abut residentially zoned areas;
- The size and scale of the proposed use is compatible with the character of the area; and
- The proposed use will not have a negative affect including noise, unacceptable traffic generation or invasion of privacy on the adjacent residential use.

Winnipeg Street is considered a collector road by the OCP's road classification schedule (Schedule G). Although the site is not on a corner, congregate housing is not the type of use that will generate traffic like a typical commercial use or doctor or dentist institutional use. The congregate housing use is more residential in nature and thus staff feel is appropriate to be located mid-block. As no new construction is being proposed, the scale of the building will not have a negative impact with regard to the built form and character of the area.

With regard to a negative impact on the neighbourhood, with unacceptable traffic generation, noise and privacy issues, in speaking with the operators of the current facility run by PRRS, Discovery House, staff are confident that these issues will not be a problem. The clientele that will be living in the facility, for the most part do not have vehicles. The facility will be staffed 24 /7, and there is adequate parking for staff, with parking for up to five (5) vehicles in the rear of the property, accessed via the lane.

All residents of the property are completely drug and alcohol free and are tested on a regular basis. This facility is not a treatment facility. Residents will move in after treatment and live in the supportive environment that the facility provides. Noise will not be an issue.

In the letter supplied by the Executive Director of Discovery House, attached for Council reference as Attachment D, a description of the house is provided. The letter also speaks to the positive impact that a similar facility has had on another neighbourhood in the city, with residents of the recovery house clearing snow and doing yard work for the neighbourhood. The letter indicates that all neighbouring residents will be notified of the facility and be given the opportunity to comment on the proposed use.

Given the above, staff consider that the proposal is in line with OCP policy and recommend that Council support the zoning amendment

Deny / Refer "Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 2016-60"

Council may feel that a recovery style congregate housing use is not appropriate for the subject property. If that is the case, Council should deny first reading of the zoning amendment bylaw. Staff do not recommend this course of action. The Penticton Recovery Resource Society is providing a needed service to the community of Penticton.

Alternate recommendations

- THAT "Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 2016-60 be denied first reading.
- THAT "Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 2016-60 be referred back to staff for additional research as directed by Council.

Attachments

Attachment A – Location Map

Attachment B – Images of Subject Property


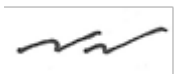
Attachment C – OCP and Zoning Maps of Subject Property

Attachment D – Application Package from the Penticton Recovery Resource Society outlining the proposed use of the property

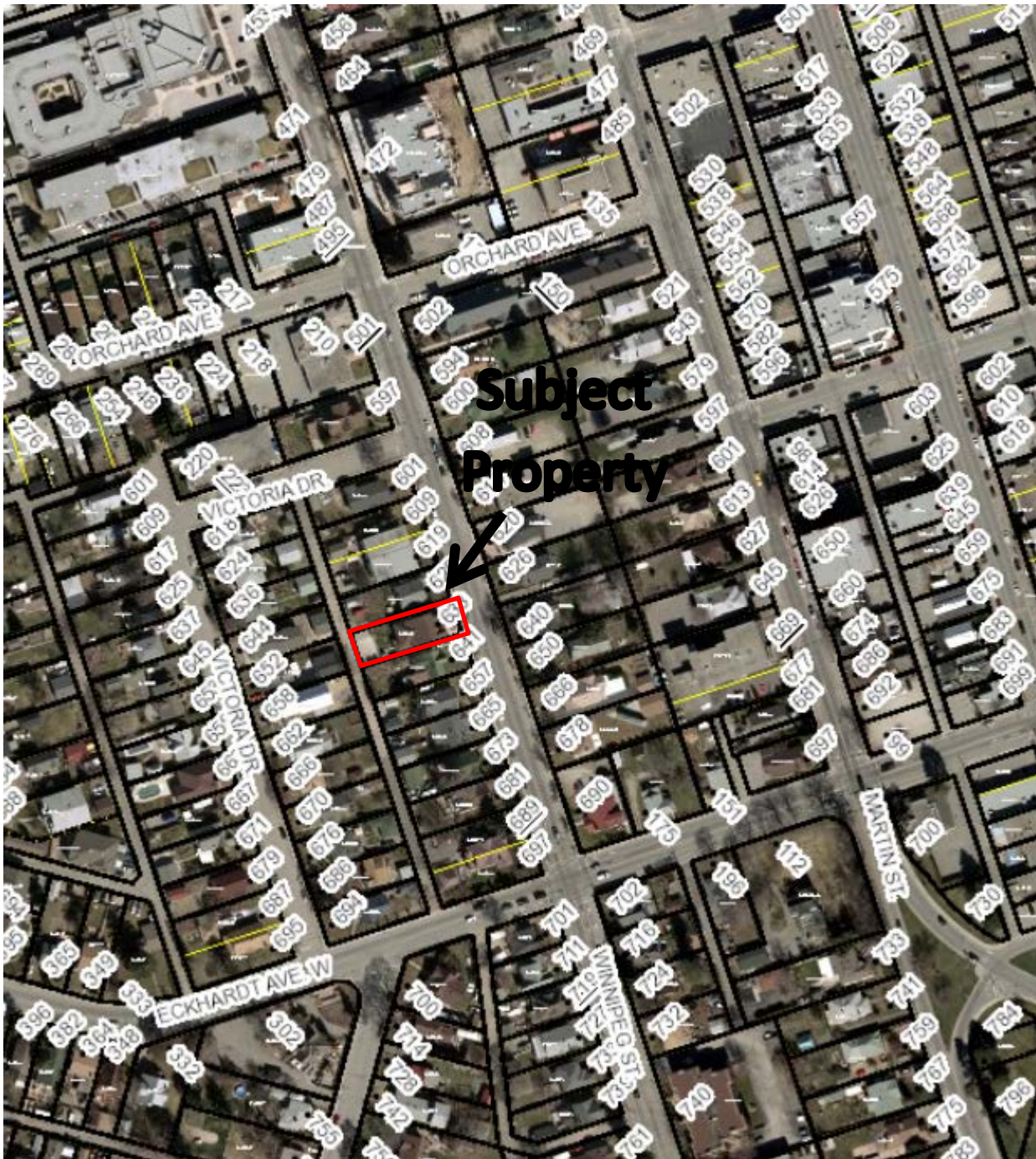
Attachment E – Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 2016-60

Respectfully submitted,

Blake Laven, MCIP, RPP
Planning Manager
Approvals

<p>ADDS</p> 	<p>Acting CAO</p> 
-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Attachment A
Subject Property Location Map



Attachment B
Images of Subject Property



Figure 1: Image of subject property from Winnipeg Street looking west



Figure 2: Image of subject property from Winnipeg Street looking north west

Attachment C

OCP and Zoning Map of Subject Property



Figure 3: Official Community Plan- Future Land Use Map showing the subject property as LR Low Density Residential



Figure 4: Zoning Map from Zoning Bylaw 2011-23 showing the subject property as RD2 (Duplex Housing: Lane)

Attachment D

Application Package from Applicant



Penticton Recovery Resource Society / Discovery House

397 Wade Ave. West, Penticton B.C.

Canada V2A1V2

Phone: (250) 490-3076

Fax: (250) 490-3078

**City of Penticton
Zoning Amendment Application
633 Winnipeg St.
Penticton, BC V2A 5N1**

**Letter of Intent:
Penticton Recovery Resource Society**

The Penticton Recovery Resource Society (PRRS) is proposing the expansion of our current men's supportive living recovery program in Penticton, BC. This project is aimed at helping to meet the acute demand for life-saving addiction recovery services, coupled with affordable housing, for some of the most disenfranchised and vulnerable men in the community. The availability of these services is grossly lacking in the South Okanagan region which directly contributes to homelessness, crime, violence, and social dysfunction. Additionally, this is a major strain on health and justice services, and a direct cause of sky rocketing numbers of needless deaths.

PRRS proposes the opening of an 11-bedroom, 5-bathroom, live-in recovery home located at 633 Winnipeg St, Penticton, BC. The aim of this project would be to increase bed capacity to 11 beds over the next year to help address the growing demand for our services, which saw over 120 men waitlisted this past year. Additionally, this property would give our organization the flexibility to house clients on a longer term basis and enhance our program by allowing clients the option move to a third stage independent sober living for an additional year, once they've completed the first year of our program at the 633 Winnipeg St. location.

Our program offers a unique peer based support structure and mentoring system based on a 12 step recovery philosophy and also stresses life skills development in areas such as: family reconciliation, physical activity, emotional and spiritual development, food & nutrition, gardening, home and yard care, as well as basic financial management and vocational training.

The initial stage of the program is 3 months and could be extended for up to two years depending upon individual client needs and goals. Participants will receive a variety of recovery and life skills based programming plus links to community resources that will allow them to return to their communities and families as productive, active citizens, fathers, and sons.

Abstinence from drugs and alcohol while a resident at Discovery House is mandatory and clients are regularly tested for illicit substance use. There are staff monitors available at the facility 24 hours a day – 7 days a week, 365 days a year.

We have a huge amount of community support for this project including letters from all three levels of government, the RDOS hospital board, members of Interior Health, and a host of various community supporters. We have over 60 letters of support any of which can be forwarded by request including letters from current neighbours who all attest to the positive influence that Discovery House has had in their neighbourhood over the past 10 years.

We encourage clients to engage with society through volunteerism and vocational programs. Currently, some of our clients and alumni offer snow shovelling, yard maintenance, labour and construction help to a number of individuals and businesses in our neighbourhood. We are more than happy to educate neighbours living near the proposed location at 633 Winnipeg St. as to our program and intent. It is our intent to hold an information session prior to the public hearing to allow neighbourhood participants to have any fears or concerns addressed as well as to seek input and support from those stakeholders. We aim to share the positive benefits that this expansion will have for the neighbourhood and the community based on the high standards of conduct that we've exhibited as an organization over the past 10 years.

The location of this property and the layout of the house are ideal for the service we provide. We have looked at other properties, however the Winnipeg St. property is the best fit for our needs. The location provides easy access to 12 step meetings which clients attend on a daily basis, most of which are held in the downtown area. Clients also have easy access by foot, bike or vehicle to Mental Health and Addiction services such as The Martin St. Clinic and Pathways. The property offers extensive garden space for our Gardening and Nutrition program with a fenced yard and three parking spaces in the back. It is extremely rare that any clients will have vehicles but this parking area does allow for staff, community facilitators, and occasional guests to not inhibit street parking in front of the building on Winnipeg St.

Another unique feature of this property is that it is a home rather than an institutional facility. This allows for clients to live in a setting similar to what they will experience when reintegrating into the community once they have completed the program. We favour this model as it also provides a sense of well being and belonging to clients and allows them to care for the property like it is their own home (which it is). This feeling of inclusivity and community is often lost at institutional style facilities as the majority of our clients have been shuffled from one institutional facility to the next with no real support.

This site actually contains 2 separate suites which allow maximum flexibility for our program to meet individual needs and serve group dynamics. The lower suite offers 5 bedrooms and an office space along with a commercial kitchen ideal for our Food and Nutrition training program and group meals. The detached upper suite offers 6 bedrooms which can also be split into two separate three bedroom suites as needed.

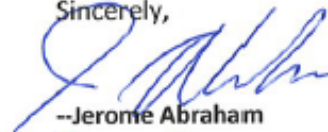
It is our intention to partner with BC Housing to finance this project and to apply for grants from CMHC to cover soft costs leading up to purchase of the property. The property is currently being operated as a bed and breakfast and we aim to convert it into affordable rental housing units for those in need of long term housing and recovery supports.

As requested we have provided an architect's report on the BC Building code review via email and would ask for some support in making some reasonable compromises to allow this project to begin serving this vulnerable population immediately.

The reason for the urgency of this request is that currently there is a health epidemic in British Columbia involving overdose deaths. In the first seven months of this year, there were 433 overdose deaths in this province. This equates to nearly two per day! There were 71 in the Interior region of the province equating to one death every three days. Although these statistics are horrifying enough, we theorize that the actual overdose death toll may be twice what the reported statistics are due to the disconnection from society of those most in need of our support. The fact is that many of these suffering individuals have literally died waiting for supportive living recovery services. Unfortunately, we experienced this tragedy first hand within this last year when a man who waited two months to access our facility died due to overdose in his parents' home while waiting for a bed to become available at Discovery House.

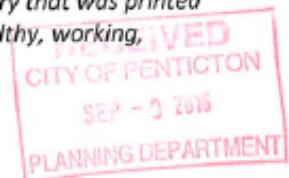
We have thus far appreciated the level of support from all involved and hope that we can continue to partner with the City of Penticton in this endeavour. Penticton has made so many steps in the past few years to make this community a centre for healing and compassionate care. To us, this facility seems like the next logical step that will not only benefit the community and neighbourhood socially and economically, but will literally save and change the lives of the people and families we support.


Sincerely,



--Jerome Abraham
Discovery House
Executive Director
(c): 250-462-1388

If anyone is interested as to the impact of our services: I have attached a personal story that was printed in the Penticton Western News about one of our former clients who is now clean, healthy, working, reuniting with his family, and helping others into recovery.



 Click to Print

[Close](#)

Discovery House Penticton — Returning fathers to children



By Penticton Western News
Published: **June 18, 2015 06:00 PM**
Updated: **June 19, 2015 08:578 AM**

Everyday is now Father's Day for Aron McKenzie.

So it's not a surprise the 38-year-old Penticton man hugs his little 10-month-old daughter Etta just a little tighter than when they were a family together not so long ago.

McKenzie now lives at Discovery House where he has spent several months slaying the demons who brought his soul to the very depths of hell.

At rock bottom, his very life literally hung in the balance when he tried to end his pain for good.

"I, uh was just dangling there and my buddy walked in and just ripped the cord right down and sat on me and called my ex. She came and got me and took me to the hospital," said McKenzie about that horrific day. "I was more than willing just to end my life right there because I just felt so hopeless and I'm almost 40 and I'd tried to clean up so many times and it never worked I always went back to it so I just didn't trust myself to ever do it."

That event was the culmination of many years of addiction to drugs and alcohol which began when he was 15.

Part of the problem he now believes was also the physical and emotional abuse he suffered as a child.

"I grew up being told I had to fight every day because if I didn't I would be taken advantage of, so I fought every day I was just an asshole kid, but that's what was beaten into me. I was told I had to take it like a man and dish it out like I was a man, but I was a kid," McKenzie remembered. "So that stayed with me and along with that I was no good and I would act out on that. I was never going to amount to that. I was a piece of (expletive) so I guess subconsciously I said well, I might as well act like one and I did. Losing jobs, losing friends ripping them off or just lying to them treating them like their idiots.

"I almost left my son and daughter without a father and my parents without a son and I can't believe that I did that," he continued. "I knew the hurt that I was causing, but if that was all it took to clean up everyone would be clean."

He had tried other rehab sessions without success, but at Discovery, through the program and the people he has met, McKenzie has a new lease on life and that includes the responsibilities to Etta and his eight-year-old son Boden who lives in Vancouver.

"I just want to be there for my kids and I see what people in the fellowship (in the Discovery programs) have and I want that. I want to have what they have. I want to be there for my kids," said McKenzie. "I want to see them grow up, I want to see them have kids of their own, be happy and no matter what it is I want to be there.

"I want them to want me there, I want them to have a father they respect and know he loves them, which I didn't know how to do any of that before but I do now."

He now calls Boden almost every morning and at night before bed to tell him he loves him, which was something he couldn't do before.

"I was in their lives but I wasn't totally in their lives," he recalled. "My addiction was everything, I was just being half dad. I was there but I really wasn't really mentally there but all that's changed."

At Discovery House telling his story to people who have been to the very depths he has, who understand and have also pulled themselves up, has been one of the most important things to help him cope.

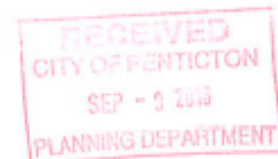
"To go to these meetings and talk to these men and women who have been sober for 20 and 30 years they're my inspiration, they're the reason I'm excited when I wake up every morning, to know that I can do that too," said McKenzie. "I wasn't able to do that before, but now I have the tools to make me a better person, it was hard but in a way I guess I had to hit rock bottom to get better."

He added a big part of the fellowship and his own recovery is also helping new people the way he was helped when he first went to Discovery House.

"I have a sponsor (another member of the fellowship) who told me, 'by you picking me as your sponsor you're helping me more than I'm helping you,'" said McKenzie. "But really, everyone here has helped me one way or another. I scared a lot of normal people, as we call them, off because I've been honest with them about who I am, but I go by the saying that normal is a setting on a washing machine."

So this Sunday, Father's Day, will be an extra special celebration for Aron and his kids and another day closer when they will once again be a family in the truest sense of the word.

Find this article at:
<http://www.pentictonwesternnews.com/news/308308121.html>



Bylaw No. 2016-60

A Bylaw to Amend Zoning Bylaw 2011-23

WHEREAS the Council of the City of Penticton has adopted a Zoning Bylaw pursuant the *Local Government Act*;

AND WHEREAS the Council of the City of Penticton wishes to amend Zoning Bylaw 2011-23;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Municipal Council of the City of Penticton, in open meeting assembled, hereby ENACTS AS FOLLOWS:

1. Title:

This bylaw may be cited for all purposes as "Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 2016-60".

2. Amendment:

2.1 Zoning Bylaw 2011-23 is hereby amended as follows:

Section 10.6.4 Site Specific Provisions

.4 "In the case of Lot 6, District Lot 202, Similkameen Division Yale District, Plan 804, located at 633 Winnipeg Street, "congregate housing" shall be permitted."

READ A FIRST time this	4	day of	October, 2016
A PUBLIC HEARING was held this	18	day of	October, 2016
READ A SECOND time this		day of	, 2016
READ A THIRD time this		day of	, 2016
RECEIVED the approval of the		day of	, 2016
Ministry of Transportation on the			
ADOPTED this		day of	, 2016

Notice of intention to proceed with this bylaw was published on the 7 day of October, 2016 and the 12 day of October, 2016 in the Penticton Western newspaper, pursuant to Section 94 of the *Community Charter*.

<p>Approved pursuant to section 52(3)(a) of the <i>Transportation Act</i> this _____ day of _____, 2016</p> <p>_____</p> <p>for Minister of Transportation & Infrastructure</p>

Andrew Jakubeit, Mayor

Dana Schmidt, Corporate Officer



#303 – 246 Martin Street
Penticton, BC V2A 5K3

Ph: (250) 493- 4366
Fx: (250) 493-3158

info@sowins.com
www.sowins.com

October 13, 2016

To City of Penticton:

South Okanagan Women In Need Society, SOWINS, have been operating in the South Okanagan for 35 years and would have Discovery House as a neighbour anytime. We have worked and volunteered beside Discovery House residents in countless events. We have attended Discovery House fundraisers and BBQ's at their House where the lawn is always mowed perfectly, fence painted and yard clean and organized with vegetable gardens flourishing under the care of the residents and staff. Inside the House you will find it clean, organized and often filled with the aroma of soups or dinner on the go and the dishwasher humming. Is it idyllic – in some ways absolutely, but then factor in the trauma and pain that the residents live with every minute of every day and remind yourself that they are in the House voluntarily. These men wish to beat the demons that cause them to use substance. The men work hard to keep busy in creating a better community, better neighbourhood, and better city so they can take pride in who they are not what they were. Clean and sober these men pose no threat to your home, your neighbourhood, or your community. Clean and sober these men are **exactly who you want as your neighbours** – taking pride in the sanctuary supporting them in their journey on being the person they want to and can be.

I urge the City of Penticton to consider supporting Discovery House's application for rezoning and may we all wish we had the strength to overcome addictions as these men do.

Thank you for your consideration,

Debbie Scarborough
Executive Director

Partners:	Open Door Group
BC Housing	BC Gaming
BC Justice Ministry	Local businesses
YMCA Okanagan	Community donors



Charity BN #12998 7665 RR0001

To Whom it May Concern:

This letter is in support of Discovery House. It is my understanding that the Penticton Recovery Resource Society Board of Directors is planning to expand their operations. They are hoping to purchase a property that will house an additional thirteen clients. This facility is needed!

I totally support this expansion. I am not a resident of Penticton but I live in a nearby community and I know the work that Discovery House does. It saves lives. It helps wounded men be whole again. It provides a service that is desperately needed in the South Okanagan and we are fortunate to have Discovery House in the community. I know from personal experience what it feels like when a loved one is accepted into the program. It is a promise of renewed hope!

Currently there is room for five clients at the home on Wade Avenue. There is a waiting list of other men who wish to join the program but there is no room. A bigger facility is needed.

Perhaps some may question having a recovery house in their neighbourhood, but we need to get past any illusion of fear and put our support behind the expansion of Penticton Recovery Resource Society Board of Directors. This facility is needed. Let the track record of Discovery House speak for itself. There is a high level of supervision and support given the men who live there. Residents are keen to become good neighbours and productive citizens of Penticton.

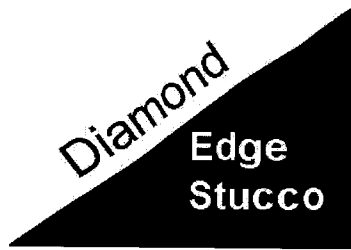
I support the rezoning application and I wish to have my voice heard during the Public Hearing process this month. My nephew is fortunate to be one of the five young men looking to change his life at the Discovery House. He is one of the lucky ones. With the guidance of the support team and his continued commitment, he will walk out a changed man ready to start a new chapter in his life. Without that option, I am not sure where he would turn.

I know there are mothers and fathers in this community who have not been so fortunate. Their children may not have found the help they needed. In some cases, those young men and women died because the system didn't provide the kind of support they needed. I was one of those parents. My son struggled with substance abuse disorder for a number of years and in 2005 he died. No parent ever should have to go through that anguish.

Support the expansion of the work that Discovery House does. It plants the seeds of hope. In the past ten years it has truly made a difference in many lives. May that great work continue in an expanded form, in another location in the Penticton community.



Marian Rudisill
Summerland, BC



May 12, 2016

RFP 2016-17-002-SOK

Colin Smith
Diamond Edge Stucco Ltd.
2281 Barnes Street
Penticton, BC V2A 8L9
diamondedgestucco@gmail.com
250-486-1327

To Whom it May Concern:

My name is Colin Smith and I am the Owner and General Manager for Diamond Edge Stucco Ltd. writing today to express my full support for the Penticton Recovery Resource Society (PRRS) & Discovery House in their funding request for 10 support recovery beds in the South Okanagan.

As an employer of some of the Discovery House alumni (graduates), I have had the pleasure of working with former Discovery House clients on a day to day basis. I have experienced these men to be honest, hard-working, reliable individuals who have gained valuable life skills as clients of Discovery House. I have witnessed countless lives positively impacted over the past 9 years through the holistic recovery and life skills programming offered, combined with the loving peer support network.

I have been honored to see these men be restored as productive members of their communities, their families, and to move toward gainful employability. We are happy to continue to help facilitate employment opportunities and invest in these men upon their integration back into the community. The effect of this organization in the area has been nothing short of amazing.

Because of the fantastic work that PRRS and Discovery House does, and the integrity of this organization, I would consider them the best choice for funding in this community. I would strongly urge you to wholeheartedly support their funding application and provide any future support to allow them to serve a greater number of people searching for help in recovery.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Colin Smith", written in a cursive style.

Colin Smith
Owner/General Manager
Diamond Edge Stucco Ltd.
250.486.1327



**Province of
British Columbia
Legislative Assembly**

Constituency Office:

210 - 300 Riverside Drive
Penticton, BC V2A 9C9
Phone: 250 487-4400
Fax: 250 487-4405
e-mail: dan.ashton.mla@leg.bc.ca
website: www.danashtonmla.ca

Dan Ashton, M.L.A.
(Penticton)

Thursday March 31, 2016.

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to lend my support to the Penticton Recovery Resource Society (PRRS) and their effort to receive funding and move into a larger space for drug and alcohol recovery. A facility has been found that would work for PRRS and increase their recovery beds from 6 to 18. This would in turn get people out of emergency and psychiatric beds and into recovery.

I am also very pleased that the South Okanagan Women In Need Society (SOWINS) have partnered with PRRS and are working to help. This facility in Penticton is the property of SOWINS and it perfectly fits the PRRS needs.

Penticton Recovery Resource Society works very hard to help many in our community and it is with that in mind that I fully support them being able to move into a bigger facility to help even more.

I support the PRRS request for funding to move to a larger building to help those on their road to recovery.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D. Ashton', written over a horizontal line.

Dan Ashton, MLA

Penticton-Peachland.



Richard Cannings, MP
South Okanagan-West Kootenay
202-301 Main Street
Penticton, BC V2A 5B7
Tel: (250) 770-4480
Fax: (250) 770-4484
Richard.cannings.c1@parl.gc.ca

May 6, 2016

To whom it may concern:

Re: Letter of support for Discovery House, Penticton

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing in support of Discovery House in Penticton and their invaluable work in providing support and guidance for men with drug or alcohol addictions. I have come to know this group over the past year and am so impressed with their dedication to these issues and the success they have with the men who come to them in great need. They create a real sense of community among their clients and workers, and I have heard first-hand many moving stories of how a stay in Discovery House has changed lives for the better, indeed has saved these lives.

Unfortunately, they have a long waiting list that cannot be served without significantly increasing the number of beds. So any funding that would allow them to serve more clients with their program would greatly benefit the Penticton and south Okanagan communities.

I heartily support any initiative that would give Discovery House more resources to increase the number of clients they can serve.

Regards

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'R. Cannings', is written over a horizontal line.

Richard Cannings, MP
South Okanagan-West Kootenay



Mayor's Office, City of Penticton

171 MAIN STREET, PENTICTON, B.C. V2A 5A9
TEL: 250-490-2400 FAX: 250-490-2402
WWW.PENTICTON.CA

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Penticton Recovery Resource Society – Discovery House

On behalf of Penticton City Council, it is my privilege to provide this letter of support for Penticton Recovery Resource Society (PRRS) - Discovery House in their response to Interior Health's RFP to fund 10 support recovery beds in the South Okanagan.

PRRS has operated Discovery House successfully in Penticton for the past nine years and currently offers 6 beds in a residential setting. Clients are provided with the tools and skills necessary to achieve freedom from active addiction and are offered a wide range of services including addiction education, relapse prevention, mentoring and peer support, nutrition and exercise, gardening, medical treatment, employment and income assistance, legal advocacy and life skills training. In addition, clients are encouraged to embrace the personal and social benefits of volunteering in our community and are provided with opportunities to be of service.

As the only facility of its kind in the South Okanagan, 10 additional beds would mean the average wait list of 20-30 individuals could be reduced dramatically and more men would have access to the help they require in overcoming the crippling effects of substance abuse.

Discovery House yields important benefits to individual lives and to the entire community. The Penticton Recovery Resource Society has a reputation for integrity and client centered care that is second to none in the South Okanagan region.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'A' followed by a long horizontal line and a small triangle at the end.

Andrew Jakubeit
Mayor

cc: Penticton City Council

Neighbourhood Letter of Support #1:

To Whom It May Concern:

It is our pleasure to write a letter of support for the Discovery House/PRRS that have been located in our neighborhood for 9 years. We live down the block from the house on Wade Avenue and both my wife and I have had the opportunity to volunteer in different capacities at the house through the years. We have also attended multiple Father's Day Celebrations that they have hosted in their yard and other BBQ events through the years. We've enjoyed watching their garden grow and they have shared some of their abundance of rhubarb with us. We have also had the privilege of having some of the clients help us with chores around our own yard, including snow removal in the winter months.

As members of the same neighborhood and community, we have been honored to see these men become productive members of their communities, their families, and their recovery programs. We support every effort that the PRRS is making to expand to a nearby neighborhood, if this means being able to expand as a society and be able to accommodate more men, as we know this is a greatly needed service in any neighborhood. The effect of this organization in the area has been nothing short of amazing.

Sincerely,

Dave & Alison Ray
104-398 Nanaimo Avenue West
Penticton, BC

Neighbourhood Letter of Support #2:

To Whom It May Concern:

This is a letter to express our support of Discovery House in Penticton.

Over the last three years we have really enjoyed having Discovery House as our neighbours across the street. In all of our interactions, the residents have been very pleasant and respectful. We have never experienced any disruptions or had concerns about noise, or any concerns for that matter, regarding the House. The home and yard is always well maintained and esthetically pleasing. We have enjoyed attending their annual Father's Day fundraising/community event.

We feel very strongly that Discovery House is providing excellent support to men in recovery and that they are providing a very important service to our community. Discovery House provides so much more than a home, and we support their endeavours to raise awareness and grow.

Sincerely,

Lindsay & Greg Slobodozian
316 Wade Avenue West
Penticton, BC

Neighbourhood Letter of Support #3:

To whom it may concern -

For the last 3 winters we have employed the fellows at Discovery House to shovel the sidewalks at our complex . I never have to make a phone call , they are here when needed .

Last fall we also had them rake and bag the leave. The men are courteous and reliable.

THANKYOU DISCOVERY HOUSE

Strata K592 - Twin Oaks
601 Wade Ave. West
Penticton, B.C.

Rita McArthur, Treasurer

Neighbourhood Letter of Support #4:

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Guy Smith and I am the writing today to express my full support for the Penticton Recovery Resource Society (PRRS) & Discovery House in their zoning request for 11 support recovery beds at 633 Winnipeg St.

I have been fortunate enough to employ casual help from the Discovery House on several occasions. The residents have helped me with tasks in the garden, snow clearing, firewood, and mechanical work. On every occasion the residents have been most helpful, hardworking, and well mannered. I have no hesitation in recommending the work that is being done at Discovery House to any would be sponsor and see them as an asset to the neighbourhood.

I have been honored to see these men be restored as productive members of their communities, their families, and to move toward gainful employability. We are happy to continue to help facilitate employment opportunities and invest in these men upon their integration back into the community. The effect of this organization in the area has been a benefit to all concerned.

Guy & Sandy Smith
439 Churchill Ave.
Penticton, BC