



The Corporation of the District of Saanich | Mayor's Office

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August 26, 2020

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Office of the Prime Minister
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

VIA EMAIL: pm@pm.gc.ca

Dear Prime Minister:

Re: Supported Housing Funding in British Columbia

This letter is to advise that on August 17, 2020, Saanich Council considered a Report to Council from Mayor Haynes and resolved as follows:

"That Council write to the Office of the Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance, and the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development, requesting that the Federal Government take clear action to step forward with concrete funding support to match the funding already committed by the Provincial Government of British Columbia for supported housing, given the crisis in available supported housing in our region and in the Province."

Saanich greatly appreciates the work that the Federal government is doing in housing and addressing the COVID-19 pandemic through supporting residents with the Canada Emergency Response Benefit and wage supplements.

To date, the financial commitment and action by the Federal Government regarding supported housing has yet to be clarified and acted upon. Please consider this request to the Federal Government to match the contributions made by the British Columbia Provincial Government in supported housing funding in this Province.

A copy of the report and excerpt of the draft meeting minutes are enclosed for reference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'F. Haynes', with a horizontal line drawn across it.

Fred Haynes
Mayor

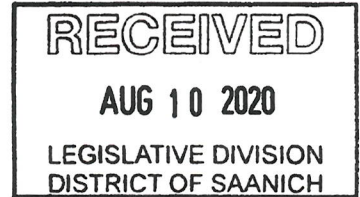
Enclosures

cc: Saanich Council
Paul Thorkelsson, CAO



The Corporation of the District of Saanich

Report



To: Saanich Council
From: Mayor Fred Haynes and Councillor Zac de Vries
Date: August 10, 2020
Subject: Request for Supported Housing Funding in British Columbia from the Federal Government

RECOMMENDATION

That Council write to the Office of the Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance, and the Minister of Families, Children, and Social Development, requesting that the Federal Government take clear action to step forward with concrete funding support to match the funding already committed by the Provincial Government of British Columbia for supported housing, given the crisis in available supported housing in our region and Province.

BACKGROUND:

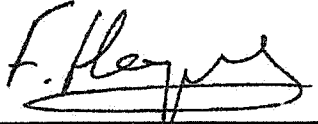
Collectively across Canada we recognize the demands that COVID-19 has placed upon our residents, our health, and our economy. Amidst this significant crisis of blended issues we applaud the practical, well-measured steps the Federal Government has taken to protect our residents' health and to soften the economic impacts.

We also recognize the great value that is realized across Canada when our three levels of government, Federal, Provincial, and Municipal, work jointly together to address the pressing issues of the day. The exceptional, cooperative approach of our governments in addressing COVID-19 has provided an example of this.


An additional area that all Federal and all governments have spoken up on is the collective, collaborative work needed to address the needs for the adequate provision of supported housing.

In British Columbia, the Provincial Government and Municipalities are stepping up with funding and the resources to join with the Federal Government. By example, our Provincial Government has put forward funding and municipalities are aiding and identifying suitable lands.

To date, the financial commitment and action by the Federal Government has yet to be clarified and acted upon. This is causing great difficulties in moving forward. We request that the Federal government steps forward with a clear contribution matching that of the Provincial government.



Fred Haynes
Mayor



Zac de Vries
Councillor

1410-04
Report - Council

REQUEST FOR SUPPORTED HOUSING FUNDING IN BRITISH COLUMBIA FROM THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

Report from Mayor Haynes and Councillor de Vries dated August 10, 2020 recommending that Council write to the Office of the Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development requesting that the Federal Government take clear action to step forward with concrete funding support to match the funding already committed by the Provincial Government of British Columbia for supported housing, given the crisis in available supported housing in our region and Province.

MOVED by Councillor de Vries and Seconded by Councillor Mersereau: "That Council write to the Office of the Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development requesting that the Federal Government take clear action to step forward with concrete funding support to match the funding already committed by the Provincial Government of British Columbia for supported housing, given the crisis in available supported housing in our region and in the Province."

CARRIED