

May 17th /21

MAYOR'S OFFICE

MAY 25 2021

VICTORIA, B.C.

To the Mayor and Council of Victoria

RE: TOWNLINE HOME DEVELOPKMET AT PANDORA AND VANCOUVER STREETS

Dear Sirs:

Once again the citizens are staggered by another HUGE bloody condo tower proposal, in this case 16 ugly stories high.

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Again, we have an outside wealthy developer who doesn't about the building heritage of this city but sees an opportunity to make a huge pile of money off our young people.

So this developer wants to entice people, to thinking that it would be great to build rental 'pods' in a condo tower with communal living, shared bathrooms etc. UNREAL. JUST BECAUSE IT HAPPENS IN NEW YORK DOES NOT MEAN IT SHOULD HAPPEN HERE!

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How degrading to have to share a bathroom in 2021!!! The reasoning it would help 'lonely people'. Can you imagine sharing a place with a person, or persons, who may have a drug habit or serious alcohol addiction. This happens with all levels of society, not just the poorer population. AND CAN YOU IMAGINE A STRATA COUNCIL HAVING TO DEAL WITH THESE KIND OF RENTALS AN POTENTIAL SOCIAL PROBLEMS SURROUNDING COMMUNAL LIVING? A nightmare!

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S. 22

What this is about, is an outside developer seeing a great opportunity to make huge pile of money off unsuspecting young people (once again!!!!!!) with marketing gimmicks. This is nothing more than greed and the further erosion of the Victoria skyline. WITH THIS KIND OF CONSTRUCTION HIS COSTS ARE GREATLY REDUCED WITH THE ELIMINATION OF PROPER WASHROOMS, ELECTRICAL FOR FULL AND PROPER KITCHENS, ETC ETC!!!!

But once again Victoria council won't have the guts or the brains to say NO We have enough 325sq

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**foot cheap boxes in this city that will be a nightmare
to live in.....for anyone!! And where are parks etc
for children in the city!!?**

**THIS, AND OTHER DEVELOPERS LIKE HIM
NEEDS TO BE TOLD TO TAKE OFF, AND THAT'S A
VERY POLITE WAY OF SAYING IT.**

**PEOPLE IN THIS CITY HATE, ABSOLUTELY
HATE DEVELOPERS AND THEIR GREED.**

CC: Townline Homes, Vancouver

As a former insurance broker/branch manager of 30 years, I am writing with my view of the challenges that can occur with the proposal for the 16-storey communal living tower downtown.

I'm referring to the opposition that may arise from insurance brokers & the insurance companies they represent.

When I retired from the insurance business in 2010, the standard with tenants buying renter's insurance was that each tenant in a suite or house had to carry their own separate policy. Exceptions were sometimes made with couples living together & insuring them on one policy, but if they split up & the remaining tenant wanted to keep the apartment & keep the tenants policy, a signed release form would have to be obtained from the departing tenant. With the acrimony present in some break-ups, this was not always an easy task.

In the case of two or more unrelated tenants having to obtain their own policies, the insurance broker would need to obtain details on the unrelated tenant, such as full legal name, date of birth, occupation, driver's license number, where does tenant 1 know tenant 2 from & for how long?

In my experience, it was unlikely that insurance companies would issue a tenants policy for an individual or couple where there were three or more tenants sharing a suite.

I recommend that the City of Victoria do some research - perhaps with the insurance broker that covers the City & its buildings and other structures - into whether unrelated tenants would be able to secure insurance in this proposed communal living scenario. Your insurance broker could check with the operators of these types of buildings in Los Angeles and New York, to find out if tenants' policies were obtained from an insurance company that writes tenants' policies in Canada.

Sincerely,
Margaret Goodwin, CIP

[REDACTED]

From: Brandon Williamson [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, January 5, 2022 10:17 PM
To: Public Hearings
Subject: 975-983 Pandora Ave Rezoning Application

Hello Mayor and Council,

I live kitty corner to this proposed development in the 1008 Pandora Ave building atop Save-on-Foods. I live in one of the affordable rental units on the southwest corner with direct views of this currently empty lot from my living room and bedroom windows. I walk or bike past this lot nearly every day. I am writing to express my full support of the proposed redevelopment and rezoning. The proposed building is attractive, will improve street safety and walkability, and add more than 200 new residents to this corner, bringing additional vibrancy to Harris Green.

Victoria desperately needs 1000s of units of additional rental housing to meet affordability targets as per the recent housing needs report. I'm intrigued by the co-housing concept and feel it's something that would have been very appealing to me when I was in university just a couple years ago. Housing more people Downtown helps the region meet its climate goals by encouraging active transportation and public transit. Downtown needs population density to survive, thrive, and for locals to adequately support Downtown businesses. I have been looking forward to more housing on this lot for several years now.

Thanks,
Brandon Williamson
233B-1008 Pandora Ave