



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
of BRITISH COLUMBIA



February 17, 2022

City of Victoria
#1 Centennial Square
Victoria, BC V8W 1P6

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please accept this letter in support of Pacifica Housing's proposal to develop the Burnside Elementary School site, at 3130 Jutland Rd., in Victoria, BC. This proposal addresses key needs my constituents have identified to my community office, such as new housing opportunities, childcare spaces and recreational facilities.

As the Member of the Legislative Assembly for the Burnside-Gorge community, I have heard from constituents the need to introduce a balanced approach to housing. Due to a drastic increase in transient and supportive housing projects in recent years, the neighbourhood is now actively seeking new, mixed income developments, in an attempt to re-stabilize the community's demographics. This proposal aims to do just that, as it will create 80 units of affordable and market housing for families and individuals. This development would not only help to ease the drastically low vacancy rates in my riding, but it will also offer childcare spaces and recreational facilities. These services are identified as key priorities in the community and offering these amenities on site may also help to attract families and young professionals.

Pacifica Housing already has key stakeholders at the table, like the City of Victoria and the local school district, to ensure this development addresses the community's identified needs. Many of the recent developments in the area have been established without any real consultation, causing much concern. This project, however, has the strong support of the community association and may go a long way in rebuilding the trust of local residents and businesses.

This proposal represents an exciting opportunity for the community and will help reinvigorate a family friendly and community focused atmosphere. It offers key services to an underserved area and so, has my full support.

CC: Burnside Gorge Community Association; Pacifica Housing; BC Housing

Sincerely,

Rob Fleming
MLA, Victoria-Swan Lake
Minister of Transportation and Infrastructure

Constituency Office

1020 Hillside Avenue

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