

Noraye Fjeldstad

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2017 11:17 PM
To: Jeremy Loveday (Councillor); Ben Isitt (Councillor); Michael Angrove
Subject: Rezoning application 3198 Quadra Street

To Mayor, Council, and Sustainable Planning and Community Development Department,
Re: Rezoning application for 3198 Quadra Street to rezone to allow a cannabis retail storefront.

I have been a resident and property owner in the Quadra-Hillside area for 13.5 years, and I am opposed to the rezoning of 3198 Quadra St. to allow for another cannabis retail storefront.

There are currently already three cannabis retail stores and a bong shop a short distance away in the Quadra Village. Adding a fourth cannabis retail store to this neighbourhood feels in excess of what is reasonable or needed regarding the density of this type of business. Cannabis/marijuana retail shops are already very well represented in this neighbourhood, with Quadra Street taking on the feel of a "cannabis corridor".

This neighbourhood has a large number of families and young children in the immediate vicinity of 3198 Quadra Street. There are also many schools, daycares and community centres nearby, and the long-term effects of these types of businesses on cities such as Victoria and its respective neighbourhoods may still not be known. Also, it appears that 3198 Quadra street is approximately 200 - 250 meters north of Quadra School (I am familiar with the rezoning requirement of these types of businesses not being within 200 meters). In addition, there has been recent development of a housing site ("Cottage Grove"), by the Cool Aid Society which provides housing for many "at risk" individuals. Many, if not all of the individuals residing at Cottage Grove have suffered from marginalization due to severe mental health disorders, and/or substance use disorders. Many of the individuals residing at Cottage Grove are attempting to continue their recovery, in part, by residing away from individuals or retailers in the down-town core who provide psychoactive substances (such as cannabis). Avoiding potential triggers is an important element of ongoing recovery, and a cannabis retailer in close proximity may undermine the recovery efforts of some individuals.

Seeing further expansion of cannabis retail shops in this neighbourhood would be extremely disappointing and discouraging.

Thank you for considering my thoughts and position on this re-zoning application.
Regards,

[REDACTED]

*Please note, for personal reasons I do not wish my name to be shared on any public record. I am submitting this to you, with the expectation of maintaining confidentiality.

Noraye Fjeldstad

From: John Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, October 01, 2017 9:15 AM
To: Michael Angrove; nag@quadravillagecc.com
Subject: Pot Shop Tolmie and Quadra

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

I'm writing to oppose the application to open a marijuana store at the corner of Quadra and Tolmie streets, in the current B&V market.

We are the only municipality in the area to allow marijuana stores and we certainly have more than enough by now, We need to put a moratorium on more pot shops and wait until the federal government figures out how they want to sell marijuana.

This location is less than a block from Quadra School and only a couple of blocks from Cloverdale school. This should eliminate the site immediately.

When you drive though Quadra Village you notice that it consists mainly of:

Salvation Army

thrift shops

money marts

pot shops,.

It would be nice to try to get more upscale businesses into the core area, now that the Summit and Quadra Village is being built.

We certainly don't need more pot shops in our neighbourhood.

Doris McLennan

3161 Fifth St,

Victoria B,C, V8X 1E8

[REDACTED]

This email has been checked for viruses by AVG.
<http://www.avg.com>

Lacey Maxwell

From: Phil Schram <[REDACTED]>
Sent: October 3, 2017 8:37 PM
To: Victoria Mayor and Council
Subject: Rezoning application for 3198 Quadra St for retail cannabis sales

Dear Mayor and city councillors

I am writing with regard to the application for rezoning of the above address. This property is currently operating as a corner convenience store, next door to a bicycle sales store above the whole building are rental apartments. With regard to the bylaws regarding the placement of such establishments (for retail cannabis sales) it is my understanding that they are not within 200 metres of licensed daycares or schools. Although the school on Quadra is outside of this boundary, there is a licensed daycare and pre-school on the corner of Jackson and Tolmie and it is my belief that it is considerably less than 200 metres from the proposed business.

I am therefore wondering why the rezoning would be considered? Personally speaking neither myself nor my husband are interested in an establishment of this kind operating in the neighbourhood within which we live, there are similar establishments on Quadra close to Hillside and don't feel there needs to be another.

Yours Sincerely
Yvonne E Schram
3108 Quadra St
Victoria BC
V8X 1G1

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad

June 12, 2017

Mayor Lisa Helps
City of Victoria

MAYOR'S OFFICE

Re: Application of Cannabis Storefront 3198 Quadra Street

SEP 29 2017

VICTORIA, B.C.

Dear Mayor of Victoria,

I wanted to provide a letter of support for the proposed application submitted by GS Pharmaceuticals at the location of the address stated above. I am a former Correctional Officer and I offer my support of this application for it abides by the rules and regulations set out by City of Victoria.

This is a strong application for a few reasons; first, it addresses and meets the requirement of 300 meters away from a school; second it is the only license application that has not been in operation is following the law by not opening its doors prior to receiving the proper licenses and approvals. This itself speaks volumes and demonstrates that this group is abiding and plays by the rules. This is the ONLY application that has respected the will of the people and the by-law set out by City of Victoria. Given their position and integrity it only makes sense to grant this group with the proper approvals. This to me is the application that stands out from the rest.

I will be happy to speak publicly on their behalf and I hope you use these points when giving your decision. I sincerely thank them for being fair and transparent company.

Regards,

Raman Sandhu

Contact:



May 30, 2017

Attn: Mayor Lisa Helps
City of Victoria
1 Centennial Square

MAYOR'S OFFICE

OCT 06 2017

To whom it may concern:

VICTORIA, B.C.

To City of Victoria, I am pleased to provide you with my support of the storefront cannabis application of 3198 Quadra Street submitted by GS Pharmaceuticals. I am a Nurse at the Royal Jubilee Hospital and work in the ER. I have personally witnessed overdoses and drug related problems in my 25 year career. Although I am not a user of cannabis nor have I personally consumed the product, I have been told by patients that it has helped relieve pain and anxiety. Working in an environment where people/patients are often relying on hard medicines it satisfying to me that overdose is preventable through other medical approaches. I am not condoning the use of any drugs; however there are cases where marijuana has served as a softer approach to medical problems. I also do support this application for the fact that patients in the area will have access to this medicine in non-criminal environment.

Please accept this letter for your consideration when giving your decision. If you wish to contact me personally I have provided my phone number below.

Thank you for time.

Jassy Kaur



September 05, 2017

Attn: Mayor's Office
City of Victoria
1 Centennial Square
Victoria, British Columbia

MAYOR'S OFFICE

OCT 04 2017

VICTORIA, B.C.

Dear Mayor Helps,

As a medical pharmacist employee and student of pharmacy, I wanted to provide my unequivocal support for the application of GS Pharmaceuticals Ltd. for a storefront cannabis retail license. The community has proven to be onside for the purpose of providing patients with alternative means of healing of ailments and other medical illnesses.

Working in a pharmacy, I have personally seen firsthand the battles patients go through to overcome pain symptoms by using prescription medication that leads to substance reliance and abuse. From speaking with patients regarding alternative measures, they do not wish to rely on strong prescription medication, however, feel the purchasing of cannabis puts them in harm's way especially when dealing in the black market. I strongly believe GS Pharmaceuticals will not provide a safe environment for the sale of alternative medicines, but educate patients on substance abuse and the health risks and benefits of cannabis related products.

I am comfortable with stating that GS Pharmaceuticals will provide a safe and responsible environment for the purchase of cannabis and if you should have any further inquiries please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jas Gill', written over the word 'Sincerely,'.

Jas Gill

Mayor Lisa Helps
City of Victoria

OCT 04 2017
VICTORIA, B.C.

1 Centennial Square

Victoria, British Columbia

Re: 3198 Quadra Street | Cannabis Storefront- Support provided by Maximum Courier

Hon. Mayor Lisa Helps:

I am here to pledge my support for GS Pharmaceuticals Ltd's application FOR MEDICAL DISPENSARY at 3198 Quadra Street. My name is Harmesh Chumber and I am the owner/operator of Maximum Courier & Logistics and our location is based on Hillside Avenue in the City of Victoria.

This outstanding application is impressive to me for that this stakeholder GS Pharmaceuticals has demonstrated a law abiding application. I am happy that it meets the criteria set out by your city staff, zoning officers and the mayor's office. I respect that they have engaged the community and are executing the application through the proper channels. I am also pleased that the proposed storefront is not in a close proximity of a school or another dispensary. As a business owner in Victoria, it is refreshing to see businesses that are operating with ethics and responsibility - this business trait helps grow the city and it is these practices that are contributing to all businesses climate across the region.

At this time I would like to congratulate this stakeholder for seeing out the process and consulting with me and my partners. I would also like to extend the same note to the City of Victoria and staff for its due diligence in rendering the licenses. Should you have any further questions, I will be delighted to take your call.

With Respect,

Harmesh Chumber

Maximum Courier & Logistics



MAYOR'S OFFICE

September 01, 2017

OCT 06 2017

Attn: Mayor's Office
City of Victoria

VICTORIA, B.C.

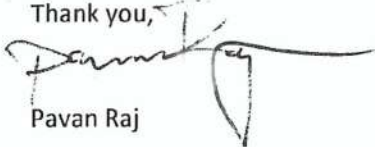
Dear Mayor & Council:

My name is Pavan Bajwa, and I am a resident of Victoria. I was approached by GS Pharmaceuticals regarding a medical marijuana storefront in the City of Victoria district. I stand by this application for the following reasons:

- Sufficient consultation with the community and neighborhood
- Social programs and incentives regarding veterans and seniors
- The educational component GS Pharma is willing to provide for their patients
- Alternative approaches to medicine especially in this hostile time of the opioids crisis
- The criminal component of the purchase of marijuana being dissolved in the community

I am firm believer in working and living in a community where there are safe measures in place and especially regards to the sale of cannabis. I look forward to publicly supporting this application and hope that this company is given the opportunity to operate a safe and clean storefront.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Pavan Raj', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Pavan Raj

From: "Lisa Helps (Mayor)" <mayor@victoria.ca>

Date: November 5, 2017 at 9:08:07 PM PST

To: Donna Petrie <[REDACTED]>

Cc: "quadra.pac@vcpac.ca" <quadra.pac@vcpac.ca>, Chris Coates <ccoates@victoria.ca>, Jonathan Tinney <JTinney@victoria.ca>

Subject: Re: As Per Our CFAF Conversation on Friday: Proposed Dispensary 1 Block from Quadra Elementary School: Please Read

Hello Donna,

Thanks so much for following up. Chris, please see email below. Please count this as correspondence opposed to the proposed dispensary at 3198 Quadra (I believe!). Jonathan, please see below. Please have Mike send an update on this file (in terms of where it's at in the process) to Donna and copy the PAC which is also copied here.

Take good care,

Lisa

--

Lisa Helps, Victoria Mayor

Lekwungen Territory

www.lisahelpsvictoria.ca

[REDACTED]
@lisahelps

"When in doubt do the kindest thing possible." - Unknown

On Nov 5, 2017, at 2:05 PM, Donna Petrie <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hello Mayor Helps,

Thank you for your time via CFAF on Friday. Below is the email I sent this week re the proposed re-development at Tolmie and Quadra from a convenience store to a dispensary. I really hope this application will not be considered as we already have 1 legal store in Quadra Village as you mentioned. I don't think more than one store is needed in the area given the low number/ratio of commercial businesses to pot shops. We need to be aspirational about the types of businesses we want to see open in the Village so we can start to revitalize our community which is home to many families.

I look forward to hearing back from you on this. Thank you again for your time and attention on this.

Warm regards,

Donna Petrie

Property owner & concerned parent: [REDACTED]

Begin forwarded message:

From: Donna Petrie <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Proposed Dispensary 1 Block from Quadra Elementary School: Please Read
Date: November 1, 2017 at 5:12:26 PM PDT
To: mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca
Cc: rob.fleming.mla@leg.bc.ca

Dear Mayor & Council,

RE: Potential Re-zoning of Convenience Store on Quadra @ Tolmie to Allow for a Dispensary (.3km away from Quadra Elementary School)

As a parent of a 9 year old boy in grade 4 at Quadra Elementary School, and as a new property owner on Fifth Street between Finlayson and Tolmie, I am extremely concerned to learn of a potential **marijuana** dispensary opening in our neighbourhood. As I am sure you are aware the potential drug dispensary is only .3 KM away from Quadra Elementary School. **Barely .1km (point one km) outside of your minimum** requirement for a dispensary to be located away from a school.

Quadra Village is already overflowing with dispensaries. Do we really need another? The potential location is not a busy commercial area, it is primarily residential. There are only a few other commercial businesses in that area. Also, this area of Quadra is already in need of serious community revitalization and beautification. I would welcome a new small local businesses that would complement our neighbourhood. Not another dispensary. There is no need for this service. This type of product can be easily resourced just a couple of blocks in the other direction on Quadra Street. Please, please consider the long term vision for our residential community when making your decision on this application. I am confident that if you hired a consultant such as Urbanics to conduct a visioning process or GAP study for this area the findings would not include more dispensaries. This area is already experiencing social problems as you will know.

What stakeholder engagement has been conducted in the area? Have you spoken with the residents and existing business owners? What about the Principle, parents and PAC at Quadra Elementary?

As Mayor and Council you were voted in to make the right decisions for your tax paying residents. Please do the right thing here. I can be reached via email or via cell at 250-686-1170 if you wish to discuss this further. I would appreciate a response to this email.

Thank you,

From: "Lisa Helps (Mayor)" <mayor@victoria.ca>
Date: November 5, 2017 at 9:08:07 PM PST
To: Donna Petrie <[REDACTED]>
Cc: "quadra.pac@vcpac.ca" <quadra.pac@vcpac.ca>, Chris Coates <ccoates@victoria.ca>, Jonathan Tinney <JTinney@victoria.ca>
Subject: Re: As Per Our CFAF Conversation on Friday: Proposed Dispensary 1 Block from Quadra Elementary School: Please Read

Hello Donna,

Thanks so much for following up. Chris, please see email below. Please count this as correspondence opposed to the proposed dispensary at 3198 Quadra (I believe!). Jonathan, please see below. Please have Mike send an update on this file (in terms of where it's at in the process) to Donna and copy the PAC which is also copied here.

Take good care,

Lisa

--

Lisa Helps, Victoria Mayor
Lekwungen Territory
www.lisahelpsvictoria.ca
250-661-2708
@lisahelps

"When in doubt do the kindest thing possible." - Unknown

On Nov 5, 2017, at 2:05 PM, Donna Petrie <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hello Mayor Helps,

Thank you for your time via CFAx on Friday. Below is the email I sent this week re the proposed re-development at Tolmie and Quadra from a convenience store to a dispensary. I really hope this application will not be considered as we already have 1 legal store in Quadra Village as you mentioned. I don't think more than one store is needed in the area given the low number/ratio of commercial businesses to pot shops. We need to be aspirational about the types of businesses we want to see open in the Village so we can start to revitalize our community which is home to many families.

I look forward to hearing back from you on this. Thank you again for your time and attention on this.

Warm regards,

Donna Petrie
Property owner & concerned parent: [REDACTED]

Begin forwarded message:

From: Donna Petrie <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Proposed Dispensary 1 Block from Quadra Elementary School: Please Read
Date: November 1, 2017 at 5:12:26 PM PDT

To: mayorandcouncil@victoria.ca

Cc: rob.fleming.mla@leg.bc.ca

Dear Mayor & Council,

RE: Potential Re-zoning of Convenience Store on Quadra @ Tolmie to Allow for a Dispensary (.3km away from Quadra Elementary School)

As a parent of a 9 year old boy in grade 4 at Quadra Elementary School, and as a new property owner on Fifth Street between Finlayson and Tolmie, I am extremely concerned to learn of a potential **marijuana** dispensary opening in our neighbourhood. As I am sure you are aware the potential drug dispensary is only .3 KM away from Quadra Elementary School. **Barely .1km (point one km) outside of your minimum** requirement for a dispensary to be located away from a school.

Quadra Village is already overflowing with dispensaries. Do we really need another? The potential location is not a busy commercial area, it is primarily residential. There are only a few other commercial businesses in that area. Also, this area of Quadra is already in need of serious community revitalization and beautification. I would welcome a new small local businesses that would complement our neighbourhood. Not another dispensary. There is no need for this service. This type of product can be easily resourced just a couple of blocks in the other direction on Quadra Street. Please, please consider the long term vision for our residential community when making your decision on this application. I am confident that if you hired a consultant such as Urbanics to conduct a visioning process or GAP study for this area the findings would not include more dispensaries. This area is already experiencing social problems as you will know.

What stakeholder engagement has been conducted in the area? Have you spoken with the residents and existing business owners? What about the Principle, parents and PAC at Quadra Elementary?

As Mayor and Council you were voted in to make the right decisions for your tax paying residents. Please do the right thing here. I can be reached via email or via cell at 250-686-1170 if you wish to discuss this further. I would appreciate a response to this email.

Thank you,

Donna Petrie
Property Owner, Tax Payer & Concerned Mother

Donna Petrie
Property Owner, Tax Payer & Concerned Mother

September 29, 2017

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

RE: CANNABIS REZONING APPLICATION

Dear City Council,

I am compelled to write you today to express my strong support for the Green Gallery Dispensary, a Medical Cannabis Dispensary Applicant at 3198 Quadra St.

Access to medical cannabis is a constitutional right in our country. From what I understand, The Green Gallery Dispensary will be following very strict regulations and measures to ensure that clients who need alternative care will receive it safely. Alternative medication is becoming more and more common, with more and more positive results.

The proposed application will adhere to all local bylaws and having the added security measures will be a net benefit to *our neighbourhood*.

Should you require more information, please contact me.

Yours truly,



DANIELLE NUTGENS



September 29, 2017

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

RE: CANNABIS REZONING APPLICATION

Dear City Council,

I am compelled to write you today to express my strong support for the Green Gallery Dispensary, a Medical Cannabis Dispensary Applicant at 3198 Quadra St.

Access to medical cannabis is a constitutional right in our country. From what I understand, The Green Gallery Dispensary will be following very strict regulations and measures to ensure that clients who need alternative care will receive it safely. Alternative medication is becoming more and more common, with more and more positive results.

The proposed application will adhere to all local bylaws and having the added security measures will be a net benefit to *our neighbourhood*.

Should you require more information, please contact me.

Yours truly,



Ferryn Mulholland



September 18, 2017

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

RE: CANNABIS REZONING APPLICATION

Dear City Council,

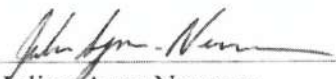
I am compelled to write you today to express my strong support for the Green Gallery Dispensary, a Medical Cannabis Dispensary Applicant at 3198 Quadra St.

Access to medical cannabis is a constitutional right in our country. From what I understand, The Green Gallery Dispensary will be following very strict regulations and measures to ensure that clients who need alternative care will receive it safely. There are so many ailments that can be treated with medicinal cannabis, with little to no negative side effects, unlike many traditional prescription drugs.

The proposed application will adhere to all local bylaws and having the added security measures will be a net benefit to our neighbourhood.

Should you require more information, please contact me.

Yours truly,


Julian Agar-Newman



September 18, 2017

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

RE: CANNABIS REZONING APPLICATION

Dear City Council,


I am compelled to write you today to express my strong support for the Green Gallery Dispensary, a Medical Cannabis Dispensary applicant at 3198 Quadra St.

Access to medical cannabis is a constitutional right in our country. From what I understand, The Green Gallery Dispensary will be following very strict regulations and measures to ensure that clients who need alternative care will receive it safely. There are so many ailments that can be treated with medicinal cannabis, with little to no negative side effects, unlike many traditional prescription drugs.

The proposed application will adhere to all local bylaws and having the added security measures will be a net benefit to our neighbourhood.

Should you require more information, please contact me.

Yours truly,



Jesse Lidstone



September 18, 2017

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

RE: Green Gallery Dispensary

Dear City Council,

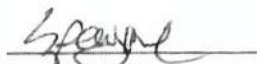
I am writing in support of the rezoning application submitted by the Green Gallery Dispensary to become a licensed cannabis retailer, in the City of Victoria.

In July of 2018, the federal government will legalize the sale of cannabis. The City of Victoria already has regulations and bylaws in place that ensure that clients who require cannabis can obtain it.

I believe that the Green Gallery Dispensary will be a successful business and community partner for the city.

Should you require more information, please contact me.

Yours truly,


Stephen Payne



October 23, 2017

Mayor Lisa Helps, City of Victoria
1 Centennial Square
Victoria, BC
V8W 1P6

MAYOR'S OFFICE
OCT 26 2017
VICTORIA, B.C.

RE: CANNABIS REZONING APPLICATION FOR 3198 QUADRA ST.

Dear Mayor Helps,

We are writing to inform you and your council that, as the building owners, we fully support the application on behalf of Deb Baker and GS Pharmaceuticals to operate a licensed cannabis storefront at 3198 Quadra St. Our decision to support this application does not come without much research and discussion, however, in light of the rules and regulations that the City of Victoria has established, we are confident that this new business will thrive in our neighbourhood.

We have consulted our customers, neighbours and tenants and have received positive feedback for the rezoning application as submitted by Deb and GS Pharmaceuticals. We have also obtained, and are enclosing, a number of letters from the majority of our residential tenants who are expressing positive support for the application of a cannabis dispensary at 3198 Quadra St.

After over 31 years of business at the corner of Quadra and Tolmie, it is with mixed emotions that we write this letter. Many memories, friends and our family have helped us work for 31 years together, and now we are looking forward to retiring and moving on to other opportunities. We hope to receive news from your council about the status of this application in the near future.

Yours truly,



Sudershan Virk



Surinder Virk



Bachittar Basi



Amar Basi

