

To the Mayor and City Council,

I have been working three doors down from Michael for the six years now. What I have found from this experience is that Michael has created a wonderful hub for the neighborhood. When I heard he wanted to start a wine bar in our neighbourhood (and as my potential neighbour) I was thrilled! I think it'll be great for the haultain corners surrounding businesses, and it will give our little neighbourhood a much-needed facelift. The more funky and cool businesses in the hood the better.

On a personal level, I also live in the neighbourhood and I believe having a wine bar close to home will be fabulous!

If you have any questions or concerns please do not hesitate to call me at 744-4762

Warmly

Kim Wilson
Owner and Operator of Thrive Studio

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'K Wilson', written over a horizontal line.



March 16, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the business owner of Poppet Creative, an art studio for all ages in the Haultain Corners. We have been in operation for just over a year and are seeing a wonderful community growth in our neighbourhood and the businesses around us.

Michael has approached me and explained his plans for the corner building across from my studio and I completely support it. This community corner is begging for a neighbourhood hub. We often host classes late at night and I feel vulnerable being the only business open. An evening space would bring security to the neighbourhood and the businesses surrounding.

We have ample parking and are on a bus and bike route. The location is ideal for this concept.

I am also a resident of Oaklands and live just around the corner on Forbes St. Our family would love to see a new business open in the corners.

Sincerely,
Andrea Soos

1508 Haultain Street
Victoria BC V8R 2K2
info@poppetcreative.com



THE LOCAL GENERAL STORE

1440 Haultain Street

Victoria BC V8R 2J9

778 265 6225

To whom it may concern

As co-owners of The Local General Store in Haultain Corners since 2013, we wish to state in the strongest possible terms our support for the wine bar proposed for the corner of Haultain and Belmont, kitty-corner to our business.

Haultain Corners is a remarkable and unique community for many reasons. It is located in a wonderfully central part of Victoria and is on a well-used bike and bus transportation route. Many of our shoppers are car-less. It is home to a growing number of businesses, owned by people who care about the local community, and people overall. Most importantly, it is in the middle of a vibrant and involved residential area, blessed with many wonderful locals who shop here daily but also meet up with and chat with neighbours. Many of these residents have played an active role in beautifying the Corners with plant boxes, benches and bike racks.

This is the kind of neighbourhood that ideally should enrich every part of every city.

At present, when the local businesses here close their doors in the late afternoon or early evening, the Corners goes quiet and empty. While vandalism has diminished since more businesses like ours have opened, it is still vulnerable in the evenings. Case in point is the rock thrown through our main glass window one night last June.

There is nothing but positive we feel would come to the Haultain Corners with the presence of a vibrant evening wine bar. It would add more colour to the neighbourhood, would greatly benefit business profiles for folks like us with the increased walk-by traffic, and to restate, would serve to make a safer neighbourhood in the evening hours.

We urge the City of Victoria to approve such a business application.

Thank you

Alix and Chris Harvey

Shelley Motz
1448 Bay Street
Victoria, BC V8R 2A8
March 31, 2017



Mayor and City Council
City of Victoria
1 Centennial Square
Victoria, BC V8W 1P6

Dear Mayor and City Council:

I am a long-time resident and homeowner, and I am writing to express my full support for Michael Manhas's plan to open a small wine bar on Haultain Corners.

I know Michael as the proprietor of Koffi, a community-focused coffee shop in the Oaklands neighbourhood, where I live. When my partner and I purchased our home in 2006, the neighbourhood lacked a gathering place. When Michael and his former business partner Alan Pang announced plans to open Koffi, I was eager to see how the establishment would transform the neighbourhood. I have not been disappointed.

I believe the current economic viability and strong sense of community that exist today at Haultain Corners were nurtured, in large part, by the presence and success of Koffi. Since the establishment opened, we have seen more entrepreneurs invest in the Oaklands neighbourhood. Notable examples from Haultain Corners include the owners of The Local General Store and Thrive yoga studio.

Over the years, my family and I have seen Michael at work. I believe he is a positive force in the neighbourhood. He has created jobs and increased economic activity, provided a safe, welcoming place for people to gather, and regularly supports community events and not-for-profit initiatives. He displays a strong sense of corporate social responsibility and respect not only for his patrons but for those who live and work in the vicinity of Koffi.

I understand that there may be concerns about the impact a wine bar would have on the area's limited parking as well as noise levels. As a homeowner in the area that would be affected, I have no such concerns. I believe the wine bar would attract customers who are looking for a quiet night out. Many if not most would likely live in the vicinity and walk to the establishment or take the #22 bus, which stops in front of the proposed location for the wine bar. I trust that Micheal would work with the City and with concerned citizens to address any concerns and mitigate any risks.

Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss this proposal in more detail.

All the best,

Shelley

March 27, 2017



Dear Mayor and City Council,

We would like to express our support for a proposed wine bar at the Haultain and Belmont Corners. Michael Manhas has been a business owner at The Corners for nine years now and his coffee shop has had a significant and positive effect on our community. It provides a warm and welcoming space for community members to meet and socialize, and has truly become a keystone business in our neighbourhood. Michael has also been supportive of local community groups and initiatives such as block parties and other fundraising events.

As members of the Haultain/Belmont Beautification Project we are excited to hear about Michael's proposal for a wine bar. This new venture would help to create a vibrant people friendly atmosphere in the evenings, much like The Corners are during the daytime.

It is our belief that parking for the proposed wine bar would not be an issue in this neighbourhood. Not only is Haultain Street a major bike route for the city, but we are part of a very walkable neighbourhood and have good transit options along this thoroughfare. Parking would also be available on the street when other businesses close at the end of the day.

We believe that neighbourhoods such as Oaklands and Fernwood benefit from having integrated commercial and residential areas, including restaurants, grocery stores, coffee shops, and establishments such as wine bars, so that community members can walk to and support small local businesses close to home.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Kay Marshall (2549 Belmont Ave.)

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Kay Marshall".

Barb Donaldson (1423 Haultain St.)

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Barb Donaldson".

Lisa MacDonell (2543 Belmont Ave.)

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Lisa MacDonell".

Jim Kerr (1423 Haultain St.)

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jim Kerr".