



# NOTES Caledonia Tiny Homes Village Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting

July 26, 2022, 5-6 p.m.

**BC Housing:** Amanda Parnham – PRESENT

**Business Community Representative:** HarbourCats - Christian Stewart – REGRETS

**Caledonia Tiny Homes Representative x 2:** Blu & Shane – REGRETS

**City of Victoria:** Bill Eisenhauer – REGRETS and/or Michael Hill - PRESENT

**North Park Neighbourhood Association:** Sarah Murray – PRESENT

**Not for Profit Representative:** Silver Threads - Tracy Ryan – PRESENT

**Not for Profit Representative – Alternate:** Greater Victoria Housing Society - Raymond Moss – REGRETS

**Our Place Society:** Julian Daly - REGRETS and/or Cathy Mingo & Sarrah Boyer - PRESENT

**Resident Representatives:** Adit Prasad – PRESENT, Charles Joerin – PRESENT, Jennie Greven – REGRETS

**Resident Representative – Alternate:** Margaret Bell – REGRETS, Penny Bond – REGRETS

**Security, Paladin Security:** Aaron Kolarcik – REGRETS and/or Ewan Chesterley & David Morrison – PRESENT

**Umbrella Society:** Jake Flood – REGRETS and/or Blake Andison - REGRETS

**Victoria Police Department:** Mark Jenkins – REGRETS and/or Jessica Moretto - REGRETS

**City of Victoria Councillor Liaison:** Councillor Sarah Potts – PRESENT

**Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness:** Janine Theobald & Steven Crombie

**Guest:** Shannon Perkins, Manager, Bylaw Services, City of Victoria

## Territorial Acknowledgement

- Janine acknowledged that we are working and living in the homelands of the Lekwungen peoples, reminded us of the importance of reconciliation and noted opportunities for education provided by the local Nation members.

## Approval/Introductions & Check-in

- Everybody introduced themselves
- Previous Notes have not been transcribed
- ACTION: May Meeting Notes will be sent out with July Notes

## Tiny Homes Operational Update

- Three people moved out of the site and three new people moved in.
  - It was noted the move outs were due to eviction
- Heat countermeasures like sprinklers and popsicles are being utilized.
- Nearly every resident wants to be part of the “clean team”, that cleans in and around the area.
- The people camping outside of the site were confirmed to be non-residents.
  - It was stated that a number of Tiny Town residents also want the campers to leave, and sometimes ask them to leave as well.
  - The site files reports to bylaw daily.



## NOTES Caledonia Tiny Homes Village Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting

- Bylaw noted the process for moving the campers away cannot be rushed, and they are working every day to get voluntary compliance.
- The recent protests around the area have been resolved, current campers are not a part of that.
  - One issue was the no visitors policy, and this was resolved by getting a rough draft for a policy from the protestors that is being sent through the upper management. This policy will be considered for other permanent Our Place operated housing sites, but not Tiny Town
  - The other issue was the foul balls flying into the site creating safety issues, and this issue has been forwarded to the city.
  - A solution that will be implemented is going to take the form of raised netting over the site.
  - This will also help protect the site from inclement weather to a degree.
- It was stressed that the residents want Tiny Homes to succeed.
- With the new people coming to the area to camp, more issues have been created, and bylaw has been ramping up their efforts.
  - Things are slowly moving in the right direction.
  - Bylaw and the site are collaborating to avoid involving law enforcement.
  - It was emphasized that none of the current camping is caused by the Tiny Home project.
  - Bylaw and peers with lived experience have been working together to increase empathy and reduce fear. This has had the effect of reducing violent and violent feeling incidents.
  - They have been working with the community to help cleanup efforts in appropriate ways.
- Bylaw is creating a reference sheet so that people know who to call and when to call regarding camping.
- Q. Has BC Housing had a chance to talk to those camping outside.
- A. Bylaw and outreach teams such as the Housing Action Response Team work with people who are sheltering outdoors to ensure they have applications in to BC Housing.
  - Most of the people camping have applied to BC Housing, and those who don't are getting help to apply
- Q. How do evictions from Tiny Town occur?
- A. Blanket policies and contract points get agreed upon by all who move in, and if these are repeatedly violated in ways that creates safety concerns for staff and residents an eviction or suspension of service may occur.
  - People who newly move in are paired with a worker and a peer from the community to go over the contract agreement until they understand it in its entirety. The new resident then gets welcomed into the peer community to foster belonging.
  - It was noted staff do all in their power to try to prevent and discourage unsafe behaviour and work towards finding prevention methods.
  - Our Place tries to follow up with those who had been evicted to try to prevent further homelessness.
- Paladin security works with staff to make the site safer and tries to assist to make sure unwanted incidents do not repeat.
- Q. Why do people camp in places they know to be illegal in the first place?
- A. The answers differ from person to person and there is no simple easy answer.

## NOTES Caledonia Tiny Homes Village Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting

- There was discussion regarding the request for an extension to March 31, 2023, of the Tiny Town Temporary Use Permit, currently expires September 30, 2022
  - It was noted temporary use permits cannot be extended indefinitely.
  - Councillor Potts made encouraged people to contact her with any questions they may have.
  - <https://tender.victoria.ca/webapps/ourcity/Prospero/Details.aspx?folderNumber=TUP00023>
- It was emphasized that members attending the meeting want to make sure housing attends to people's needs.

### **Roundtable Discussion – most of the discussion took place around operational updates**

- BC Housing – some of the new modular housing sites are scheduled to open in the late summer and fall of 2022 – Catherine Street in VicWest, Yates Street and Meares Street. This is a little behind schedule due to labour and supply chain shortages.
  - The Coordinated Access and Assessment team is working on placements

### **Review ACTION ITEMS**

- ACTION: May Meeting Notes will be sent out with July Notes

### **Next Meeting & One Word Check Out**

- September 20, 2022 – 5-6pm Zoom



**T.H.I.N.K. was offered as a One Word Check Out**

# NOTES Caledonia Tiny Homes Village Community Advisory Committee (CAC) Meeting

