

Section G & I: Proposal Summary, and Project outline for TUP.

The current West Kelowna shelter program for individuals experiencing homelessness is Leased from and located in the United Church at 3672 Brown Road. This project is funded by BC Housing and operated by Turning Points Collaborative Society (TPCS), and houses up to 38 guests at a time. With the recent sale of the United Church, and notice to vacate given by August 16th, a new safe and appropriate alternative for the individuals who rely on this service is required.

The search for a new site began in summer of 2020 when the current shelter site was put up for sale. BC Housing Operations and Real Estate staff worked in consultation with the City of West Kelowna, ultimately identifying the City owned empty lot on 2313 Bartley road.

BC Housing is proposing to establish a temporary modular built shelter at 2313 Bartley Road for up to 38 individuals experiencing homelessness. This site will allow for the current guests of Brown Road United Church to remain sheltered, as well as other individuals experiencing homelessness in the community as space becomes available. There are no other funded shelter options for these citizens of West Kelowna, and without this modular shelter site, many will likely look to shelter out of doors. In addition to providing up to 40 individuals with shelter, the site would include its own kitchen to provide meals 3 times per day to guests, as well as offer amenity and meeting spaces where guests can privately meet with case workers, Interior Health staff, and community housing partners such as Piers and BC Housing staff.

Given the past challenges with identification of available sites, as well as the costs associated with struggling to identify and establish sites on a yearly basis, this proposal requests a Temporary Use Permit of up to 3 years. The buildings and area of use is documented in the included site plans, and the length of use will be limited to the length of time the Temporary Use Permit is granted. At such time the site is no longer required or in use, the buildings will be removed and the site will be returned to the condition in which it was received.

Turning Points Collaborative Society are a trusted BC Housing funded operator. They are an experienced and professional provider of homelessness related services including shelters, supportive housing, COVID response centres and outreach. They have operations throughout the North and Central Okanagan including Vernon, Kelowna and West Kelowna. Their leadership in communities is a strong one and they focus on building relationships with key stakeholders to ensure services and supports for the most vulnerable are in place but also so that the projects are successfully integrated into the neighbourhoods within which they are situated in.

It is understood that shelter projects such as this can bring concern to communities, and is recognized that a proactive approach to communication with the neighbourhood is necessary. TPCS and BC Housing have reached out to immediate neighbours to provide information about the site, the timeline for construction, and the safety and security measures that will be in place once operational. These commitments include 24/7 staffing, perimeter checks and clean up several times a day, as well as a direct contact to the site manager. Access control including cameras, FOB limited access, gating and fencing to the site will also be included. Limited site landscaping is planned to provide an element of privacy for both guests and community.



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Turning Points actively work to instill a culture of neighbourliness by maintaining open lines of communication with neighbours either through direct contact with management, or regular meetings with community stakeholders to address stigma, challenges, and opportunities. Through a continuum of care, TPCS provides opportunities for folks to break free from the cycle of homelessness and to thrive in their communities. Ultimately, the programs are designed to both enrich the lives of those they serve and support the communities they serve in.