

July 20, 2019

Mayor and Council
City of Surrey
13450 104 Ave
Surrey, BC V3T 1V8

Via email: clerks@surrey.ca

**RE: Surrey Official Community Plan Bylaw, 2013, No. 18020 Amendment to CD
14706 104 Avenue**

Dear Mayor and Council,

I want to share our strong support for amending the Surrey Official Community plan at 14706 104 avenue to allow for the development of 60 units of supportive housing, operated by Lookout Housing and Health Society.

I had the good fortune of growing up in Surrey, and spend some time in my childhood living in a BC Housing operated affordable housing development. I understand firsthand, as well as through professional experience, that making housing and supports accessible to everyone in a community means that communities develop to be strong, inclusive, and healthy.

My mother and sister continue to live in Surrey, and often talk about their experiences of homelessness in our City that reflect what the best available data tells us, that the number of individuals experiencing homelessness have increased 49% between the period of 2014 and 2017. While the City, Province, and Community Partners should be commended for the efforts in reducing homelessness in recent years, this remains an emergency situation.

I have enjoyed seeing North Surrey develop into a vibrant community, with new businesses in recent years and vibrant residential communities, that have developed alongside modular supportive housing. This shows that these two civic priorities do not have to be mutually exclusive, and reflects Lookout's high quality service delivery and their commitment to be good neighbors.

I would strongly encourage Mayor and Council to help ensure that this important project will be approved for our residents and to approve the rezoning application as has been requested. Supporting this proposal is not only a way to change lives for the better, it is simply **the right thing to do.**

Sincerely,

NAME