



**DELEGATION
2018 JUNE 11**

DATE: 27 May 2018

Mayor and Council, City of Burnaby

Dear Mayor and Council

I would like to request the opportunity to come before Mayor and Council to present the SAFERhome Standards Society.

The SAFERhome Standards Society is a nonprofit organization funded through the Ministry of Housing and BC Housing to show communities that they can build to the SAFERhome Standards today.

SAFERhome is a proactive home standard measure to promote solutions to the community that will directly assist our changing community market housing. Due to the lengthy process of code change, this program was designed to bring clarity, solutions and momentum that will promote and encourage code change.

Currently both Maple Ridge, Armstrong and The City of Vernon have taken a proactive stance and are sharing this housing solution directly with their communities now.

Please let me know the soonest date that I could come to your municipality. I have a 5 minute video presentation, and some handouts.

Sincerely

Gordon Porter
Executive Director
SAFERhome Standards Society
gporter@saferhomesociety.com

Copied to:
City Manager
Director Planning and Building

*Making homes look better,
work better and worth more!*

SAFERhome Standards Society
205 – 2006 West 10th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V6J 2B3
TEL: 604.733.2224 | FAX: 604.731.4003
EMAIL: info@SAFERhomeSociety.com
www.SAFERhomeSociety.com

Some of the reasons why we are delivering housing solutions.

- By 2032 according to Stats Canada, we will go from one in nine people being seniors to 48% of all Canadians being over 65 years old.
- Over the next 30 years the 85+ age group is projected to increase 3 fold (200% increase).
- Urban Futures research shows a net increase of 142% for a total of 836,483 people over the age of 65 in BC alone over the next 30 years.
- Seniors demand for owner occupied ground oriented dwellings will increase by 194% between 2005 and 2035.
- Seniors demand for owner occupied apartments will increase 156%.
- In 2005 Vancouver Coastal Health lost over 14,000 hospital days at a cost of between 5000 – 8000 dollars a day, to accommodating people in the health care system that could not access their homes after surgery. That translated into a \$50 million expense in Vancouver alone.
- Three billion dollars a year is being spent on hip replacement surgery for seniors nationally.
- Approximately 30% of all seniors who require a hip replacement from a falling accident die within 1 year of the accident. Over 50% never leave the health care system (\$\$\$), and never regain their independence.
- Seniors are at the highest risk of having an accident in the home; children under the age of 5 are second.
- Over 800 BC seniors died last year from falling accidents.
- CMHC findings show we need to build 50,000 homes every year for the next 20 years in Canada just to keep up with our seniors housing demands.
- 80% of children in Children's Hospital are there as a result of an injury in the home.
- 11% of all annual ambulance calls are due to falling accidents in the home.
- 90% of all accidents occur in the home.
- 50% of home injuries happen on stairs.
- 1000+ Canadians turned 65 today.

Every individual municipality in the province is involved in looking for or developing the criteria to adapt housing to the changing community need.

The visible minority is now being measured at 51% of the community...in fact, it is now the visible *majority*. Traditionally we segregate and label these housing products...this is seniors housing, this is accessible housing. As a direct byproduct “we label the people” who live in the environments

So what can you do to reach and maintain a long term sustainability position while working in the community’s best interest? How do you tap into the largest community pool of people out there? In other words how do we build one product that meets the needs of the **majority** of the public, rather than creating more segregated and negatively labeled housing?

The answer is simple; it’s called the **SAFERhome Standards** and it provides a normal market home that “looks better, works better and is worth more”. By adopting these standards and making these voluntary standards a “**policy**” of the municipality, you will make everyone aware of solid option, common sense, affordable housing solutions...

SAFERhome Standards offers the only “Measurable Universal Building Standard” -- a simple “tool kit” for implementing effective and affordable change, change that meets the needs of sustainable communities, consumers, and developers. Currently the SAFERhome Standards Society provides the only certification program in Canada that addresses the issues of human sustainability, and the application of Universal Design.

The SAFERhome Standards offers governments the opportunity to build the first truly sustainable community models options, ones that for the first time, includes the human element. In other words, SAFERhome offers the opportunity to build housing that works for a multitude of potential groups – i.e. you, me, seniors, youngsters and multi generational families and anyone with any form of special need or a desire to be more energy efficient.

The SAFERhome Certification Program has proven to have on-site construction cost of less than \$1100 per housing unit for single family, and less than \$600 for multi-family. The SAFERhome “tool kit” is a cost-effective and efficient means for consumers and developers to ensure housing meets the rapidly changing needs of our population.

The program is a simple 15-point design (available for download off our website) overlay for any new residential or commercial building plan. The standards do not involve any changes to existing building codes or bylaws. All of the SAFERhome criteria are just a simple clarification of the existing codes.

The program only needs the proactive support of local governments to encourage and promote the SAFERhome Standards be incorporated into all new housing.

We are asking for your support in implementing these standards as a policy in your municipality through Municipal Membership or Municipal Sponsorship.

Municipal Membership includes (\$1,300.00):

- All of the core benefits and privileges plus:
- One initial free two hour training session for staff;
- 25% discount on additional staff training and seminars;
- Logo recognition on SAFERhome Standards website;
- 25% discount on SAFERhome manuals.

2nd year benefits:

- all the above plus:
- 60% discount on SAFERhome Standards manuals.

For more information on institutional and charter membership, please contact us at

778-255-2207 or email: info@saferhomesociety.com.

SAFERhome Certified houses are a value added real estate investment that delivers measurable Universal housing solutions. More importantly the community is healthier and more inclusive both economically and emotionally with simple and commonsense safety designs in their home.

Thank you for your support