

From: Lisa Fraser [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, June 18, 2021 9:56 AM
To: Clerks <Clerks@burnaby.ca>; Mayor <Mayor@burnaby.ca>
Subject: Parent letter regarding Puddle Jumpers Daycare Application

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Dear Mayor Hurley and Council Members,

RE: Puddle Jumpers Pending Relocation to Burnaby North Baptist Church

3977 Albert St. Burnaby, BC

I write you this letter today as a parent impacted by the closure and pending relocation of Puddle Jumpers Daycare. Puddle Jumpers is a 24-year-old community staple in the North Burnaby Heights area where childcare options are limited and waitlists long. They create stability and reliability to those that have depended on them. This relocation is the only alternative for many of us. We need it to work.

Childcare is one of the most important decisions that you make as a parent. Puddle Jumpers is an extension of our family and provide our children with a home away from home. And our family needs help securing a new home.

Our oldest son had some learning challenges when he was younger, and we were asked to leave a previous facility. When I met with Shawna and her team, I was overwhelmed with a sense of relief that I had found the right place for my son. He has flourished under their care and developed friendships with both children and staff that lift him up as an individual. He still attends Puddle Jumpers and when I was pregnant with my second there was no doubt he would attend as well.

The news of the closure was devastating. Puddle Jumpers is being forced to change locations during a pandemic. Which in turn is causing approximately 40 children and respective parents to endure additional stress. I understand there are licensing requirements, but I am asking that you look outside the traditional requirements and seek alternatives. As parking is the most recent roadblock, could options be:

- staggered pickup times
- changing the street parking to a designated pick-up zone
- creating a student crossing guard program for safety

With your expertise we rely on you to push the boundaries and be creative. Please find a way! If the global pandemic has taught us anything it is that we can break away from tradition and create new and more efficient ways of doing business.

These children and their families need a place to feel safe and protected. Please support/approve the application to relocate to 3977 Albert St. Help these families find peace once again.

If you would like to reach out to us directly, please feel free @ [REDACTED]

Sincerely,

Lisa and Erick Klim