

January 26, 2024

Planning & Development Committee City of Burnaby 4949 Canada Way Burnaby, BC, V5G 1M2

Dear Mayor Hurley and Councilors,

Re: Delegation Request - Entre Nous Femmes Housing Society Rental Protection Fund Acquisition

We are losing existing affordable housing units at an alarming rate due to redevelopment and renovictions. We would be pleased to speak with the Planning & Development Committee about Entre Nous Femmes Housing Society's efforts to protect existing affordable housing units by securing a 47-unit multi-family building in the Metrotown area through the Rental Protection Fund. We want to speak to the Committee to seek City support in protecting affordability and improving the quality of life for renters through this acquisition.

Entre Nous Femmes Housing Society is a charitable non-profit organization started by three single mothers almost 40 years ago, looking to provide safe, affordable, secure housing for other single mothers like themselves. Today, we own and operate 409 affordable rental homes in eleven complexes for over 1000 women and gender-diverse groups, single-parent families, seniors, Indigenous and other equity-deserving groups in Metro Vancouver. Over the next five years, we intend to double the number of people we serve and the number of homes we manage through new developments and acquisitions. We currently have 300 units in development and plan to acquire another 200 units over the next three years.

We are applying to the Rental Protection Fund for a sizeable grant to facilitate the acquisition, complete significant capital renewal works, and support existing and future renters. If we do not acquire the aging building, there is a high risk of redevelopment and loss of affordable rents that are 50% to 60% below market. The City's support would greatly assist us in gaining approval from the Rental Protection Fund, completing capital renewal works, and maintaining affordable rents for low and moderate-income seniors, families and working individuals in Burnaby.

We would appreciate a chance to speak with the Planning & Development Committee on February 14 to share our plans for the building and Entre Nous Femmes Housing Society and explore potential opportunities for the City of Burnaby to support the project. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Entre Nous Femmes Housing Society

Lilian Chau, MCIP, RPP Chief Executive Officer

REGIONAL CITY CENTRE

