

Delegation Request

Delegation's Information:

Karen Kuwica, Newcastle Community Association, has requested an appearance before Council.

City: Nanaimo

Province: BC

Delegation Details:

The requested date is 2025-JUL-21

The requested meeting is:
Council

Bringing a presentation: No

Details of the Presentation: Newcastle Community Association Presentation to City Council re: 250 Terminal:

1. Development Permit Application has now been submitted by BC Housing for 50 units of supportive housing at 250 Terminal
2. When the new 3-year lease was signed between BC Housing & City of Nanaimo, BC Housing assured the city and the NCA that only "low acuity" clients would be housed at 250 Terminal. This appears not to be the case.
3. BC Housing's policy is that their supportive housing is "wet housing"; ie .homeless individuals with severe addiction disorders are allowed to continue with them
4. This has caused increasing tensions and conflicts at 250 Terminal between those who do not do drugs and those who do drugs.
5. The current approach of warehousing potential criminal elements with those attempting to work their way out of the homeless mire does not work. Both Vancouver and Victoria are looking for tools to keep criminals out of supportive housing. Tools include reducing the number of units, which the NCA has always recommended for 250 Terminal. Another is the implementation of houses for clean and sober living (ie"dry houses") which provide a substance-free environment for individuals in recovery from addiction.
6. We know that BC Housing will not reduce the number of units proposed for 250 Terminal.
7. BC government has now established a working group to address health and safety concerns in supportive housing.
8. We are therefore asking City Council to assist us in lobbying the Provincial government to include in BC Housing's mandate the designation of houses intended for clean and sober living (ie "dry houses") and specifically for 250 Terminal.