



KITIMAT

DISTRICT OF KITIMAT
270 City Centre
Kitimat, British Columbia
Canada V8C 2H7

Phone (250) 632-8900
Fax (250) 632-4995

File: 1.6.3.14 / 1.4.2.10

29 June 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

Re: Letter of Support, Tamitik Status of Women Housing Project

On behalf of the District of Kitimat, I am happy to provide a letter in support for Tamitik Status of Women's 2017 project that will provide space for their current programming and housing as well as provide additional affordable housing units. Tamitik Status of Women was one of the founding members of Kitimat's Housing Committee and through their work contribute much to the quality of life for residents of Kitimat and Kitamaat Village. In addition to operating an eight-bed transition house, TSW has recently been administering rental income subsidies provided by BC Housing. TSW is on the front line in addressing housing issues for residents of our community.

Kitimat has experienced firsthand the impact that large-scale industrial construction may have on local housing. During a recent last peak of industrial construction, the rental market was saturated and long-time residents struggled to find affordable and secure housing. There were very few options for women and children fleeing domestic violence. TSW was among the social service agencies who stepped up to meet the need.

Kitimat is now adjusting to a 'new' housing market tied to industrial activity. With the completion of the modernization of the aluminum smelter and delays in decisions to proceed with LNG projects, vacancy rates increased from 4.5% in 2015 to 36.3% in 2016, according to CMHC. Despite the higher vacancy rate, it can be challenging to find appropriate and secure housing for TSW clients. There is a pressing need for second-stage housing, and for more transition house capacity. TWS is working hand-in-hand with DOK's Community Planning & Development Department to find a suitable location to build this new multi-purpose building.

To quote the *Housing Action Plan (2015, p. 7)*: "From discussions with stakeholders and a review of available information, the greatest needs are residents without shelter, and those that need a safe and supportive environment in order to transition to independent living."

Recommendation #2: A Second-Stage housing option is needed where women and their children can live for 12-24 months while looking for longer-term housing. This would require the acquisition and renovation of an existing home, or a newly constructed home. The main partners would be the Tamitik Status of Women and BC Housing. **This facility is needed regardless of the level of growth in Kitimat.** The preparation of a business plan, along with an assessment of potential sites, could be an early step by Tamitik, potentially with Pre-Development Funding from CMHC or BC Housing.

Sincerely,

Philip Germuth,
Mayor



HAISLA NATION COUNCIL

PO Box 1101, Kitimaat Village, BC, V0T 2B0 | (250) 639-9361
Toll Free: 1-888-842-4752 | Fax: 250-632-2840 or 250-632-4794

Tuesday, November-21-17

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: Letter of Support for Tamitik Status of Women's Housing Project

Haisla Nation Council is pleased to provide a letter of support for the Tamitik Status of Women's (TSW's) application for the much needed Housing Project for the town/Municipality of Kitimat, BC.

Haisla Nation Council (HNC) recognizes the invaluable service and support TSW provides to our membership and therefore, we have been more than willing to partner and support their efforts and endeavors where possible. For the last 40 years, Haisla Nation Council has worked closely with TSW in various programs and areas, such as:

- Youth Mentorship via a Job Placement Program for our Haisla Students; an invaluable experience that provides our youth with exposure, opportunity and experience to achieve their goals, educationally and career wise.
- Where possible, we contribute financially to the TSW Free Store and Angel Tree programs
- Assign HNC employees and resource people to work with TSW on: Community Response Network (coordinated response to adult abuse and neglect); Violence Against Women in Relationships (preventing and responding to violence against women); Integrated Case Assessment Team (responds to high-risk domestic violence cases); Sexual Abuse Response Team

To better formalize this relationship and assure that we can sustain this support and continued partnership we are presently working towards a more formal Memorandum of Understanding between HNC and TSW that can be sustained for years to come.

HNC not only recognizes, but is truly appreciative of the much needed programs, support and outreach that are provided to our most vulnerable members and neighbours.

Upon reviewing the plans for this much needed facility that will address transition house beds, 10 units of permanent second stage housing for women and 20 units of affordable

housing, HNC is fully supportive of this initiative and will continue to advocate for the need and benefit of this for all of Kitimat, BC.

As the elected leaders on behalf of the Haisla Nation, we are more than willing to further discuss the need, the benefit and our support of this initiative with you. You can contact Deputy Chief, Brenda Duncan at brendaduncan@haisla.ca or via her cell at 250-639-5153 or her Assistant, Teena Grant at ctoc@haisla.ca at 250-639-9361 ext. 205.

Sincerely,



Brenda Duncan
Deputy Chief
Haisla Nation Council

Haisla Health Centre

Haisla PO Box 1041 Kitamaat Village, BC V0T 2B0
Telephone: (250) 632-3600 Fax: (250) 632-3686

June 26, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

The Haisla Health Centre is delighted to write this letter of support for the proposed housing project of ***Tamitik Status for Women (TSW)***. We are excited that *Tamitik Status for Women* is pursuing this critically needed housing project to our community, as TSW is known in our community as a sanctuary of last resort for women in dire need of safety and shelter under very urgent and perilous circumstances.

We recognize the importance of this project especially for our Haisla indigenous women, often with children, who have to run away from abusive relationship, and because we have a scarcity of housing needs on-reserve, there is nowhere to go for many of them except to make a desperate beeline to the ***Transition House*** under TSW.

The Haisla Health Centre has worked collaboratively with TSW over the years and, yes, we continue to stand with them in their commendable and charitable endeavours to help women in need. In the years to come, we can see a rise in demand for their services, especially if LNG comes to town, as the Kitimat area will become the destination of all manner of transient people in search of jobs and housing. The social needs of affordable housing would go up, women and children would be hugely impacted, and it is imperative that this TSW housing project goes forward ahead of the impending rush. We fully recommend and support TSW in their pursuit of the housing project.

With regards,



Eric Bottah, B.A., MPA, Dip. (Acct.)
Health Manager

August 1, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

Our firm has been the auditor for Tamitik Status of Women Association for over twenty years. Tamitik is an established organization that has shown significant growth during that time in the types of services provided and has remained financially stable throughout the process.

The Society has worked in achieving a high level of internal control over its financial activities. The accounting staff are capable in their responsibilities and fully co-operate with our firm. The Society follows proper fund accounting methods for allocating revenue and expenditures.

They employ several long-time staff members, including executive director, Linda Slanina. Their combined experience puts the organization in a good position to see the proposed housing project through to completion and manage operations successfully.

Please call if there are any questions.

Yours truly

CARLYLE SHEPHERD & CO.



Ernie Dusdal, CPA, CMA



Kitimat RCMP Victim Services

888 Lahakas Blvd
Kitimat, BC V8C 2H9
Telephone: (250) 639-2122 FAX: (250) 632-2326

To Whom It May Concern,

I have been asked to write in support of the Tamitik Status of Women Association Housing Project.

As a Victim Services support person and advocate, not exclusively but particularly to women, I have a long standing relationship with Tamitik Status of Women (TSW). For me TSW is the resource I refer women and children to more than any other in the Kitimat community. Their commitment and outreach to women from varying backgrounds and ethnicities gives me the confidence to send often vulnerable victims dealing with conflict and trauma to their welcoming arms.

Partner assault and abuse has been on the rise in Kitimat this past year with more than twice the referrals made to Victim Services this year by the police. It is a known fact that the majority of spousal violence is not reported to the police, consequently my office deals with only a portion of these victims. Therefore, it is imperative women in the community have a safe place to go where they are welcomed, their needs are met, they can bring their children and have the support to move forward in their lives in a positive and safe direction. Unfortunately while TSW has the capacity to keep women safe and provide for their needs for a time, it is limited... after all, the transitional house is simply that, transitional and along with that has limited capacity.

Housing in Kitimat can be expensive and does not always meet the needs of families, many women return to their partner for the reassurance that their needs and especially the needs of their children are met long term.

I fully support the Housing project TSW is engaged in as it is designed to fully support women and their families through the many hurdles that come with leaving an abusive spouse. The combining of all their services into one makes for a complete wraparound of services that will be particularly helpful to all who seek them, giving woman the chance to move forward and make a difference for themselves and their children.

Regards,
Leisl Kaberry
RCMP Victim Services Worker





June 27, 2016

To Whom This May Concern:

Re: Letter of Support for TSW Housing Project

Kitimat Community Services Society (KCSS) is pleased to write this letter of support for The Tamitik Status of Women Association's (TSW) proposed Housing Project. As a community based organization that has been focused on housing and employment for low-income households in the community, we have seen how the need for affordable housing continues to exist in our community.

KCSS has partnered with TSW on numerous projects over the past twenty years. The two agencies complement each other, we work well together and we look forward to many more joint projects.

The housing project being proposed by TSW provides the opportunity for KCSS to work closely through the provision of itinerant and outreach employment services for the tenants. Our Employment Resource staff can offer personal development workshops, employment consulting and coaching to bridge women into the work force. Additionally we have financial assistance to fund short term occupational certificates in various sectors when the women are ready to work.

TSW is a reliable and established organized that is highly aware and responsive to the specific needs of families within our community and is well matched to take on a project of this scale.

Their plans to consolidate program offices, transitions house, and housing to one location is ground breaking in our community as they will be able to better serve vulnerable community members and utilize funding dollars effectively.

We applaud TSW's effort and dedication to promoting a healthy community by planning for these much needed affordable and second stage units in our community.

We look forward to the progress of this Housing Project and the potential new and ongoing partnership opportunities.

Yours truly,

Denise Yagelnesky
Executive Director

June 12, 2017

Tamitik Status of Women
Linda Slanina
350 – 370 City Centre
Kitimat, BC V8C 1T6

Dear Linda:

Re: TSW Proposed Housing Project

On behalf of the Kitimat Chamber of Commerce, I write this letter of support for the Tamitik Status of Women's proposed Housing Project.

The proposed Housing Project would greatly increase the services provided to the residents of Kitimat and would significantly impact the social wellbeing of some of the more vulnerable members of our community.

The services provided in Kitimat by Tamitik Status of Women not only benefit the individuals you serve, but also the community as a whole. Stability for employees and their families has significant impact on our local businesses and their continued success.

As long time partners of TSW on a variety of community projects, we are looking forward to the progress of your proposed Housing Project and the potential for new partnership opportunities in the future.

Sincerely,



Trish Parsons
Executive Director



Kitimat Community Development Centre

Formerly Kitimat Child Development Centre

1515 Kingfisher Avenue, Kitimat, BC V8C 1S5

Phone: (250) 632-3144 Fax: (250) 632-3120 Website: www.kitimatcdc.ca

Early Years

Middle Years

Adult & Community Services

June 19th 2017

Letter of support for TAMITIK STATUS OF WOMEN PROJECT APPLICATION.

This letter is written on behalf of the Kitimat Community Development Centre (the Kitimat CDC) . It is with high respect and confidence we provide support to the Tamitik Status of Women in their project that includes housing and facilities for bringing all their services into one accessible place.

Tamitik Status of Women is a valued long term active member of the Kitimat Interagency Committee and for many services we are collaborative partners to meet needs in our community.

The identification of whom they would prioritize for housing is a long term identified need in our community. Increasing access and the ability for programs and services to collaborate by being in one facility is supported as the reduces barriers for those with needs to access services.

The Kitimat CDC is aware of how the current transition home is frequently over capacity and the need for second stage housing has been identified for our community for a number of years.

In addition to addressing barriers to service the concept in their application of exploring and possibly developing a social enterprise can be of value for those served.

Currently the Kitimat CDC and Tamitik Status of Women work closely on provision of housing support in our community. This includes facilitating wrap around services and provision of the B. C. Housing Homeless Prevention Program. The working together of two non-profits is an example of interagency collaboration /partnerships that is focussed on addressing needs in our community.

There is full support for the Tamitik Status of Women's project to be funded and successfully accomplished in meeting this need in our community.

Respectfully

Margaret Warcup
Executive Director.



Our organization is CARF accredited until December 2019 in the following Community Services: Behavioural Consultation Services (Autism Spectrum Disorder – Children and Adolescents), Child & Youth Services, Family Services, Rapid Rehousing and Homelessness Prevention Programs, Governance Standards

July 7, 2017

Dear Sir/ Madam,

In the capacity of one community agency stakeholder and at the request of Tamitik Status of Women (TSW), please accept this letter of support in principal of TSW's Community Social Housing project.

In principal, Northern Health is supportive of community stakeholder initiatives that aim to positively affect aspects of social determinants of health and to provide additional supports to more vulnerable and economically challenged members of society.

Northern Health works collaboratively with community stakeholders, including TSW, in assisting to support the health care needs of patients and clients and in transitioning individuals from in-patient care to community settings.

Respectfully,

Jonathan Cooper
Health Service Administrator, Kitimat General Hospital
Northern Health

JC:tm

Kitimat Interagency Committee

The Kitimat Interagency Committee provides an open, collaborative opportunity to communicate, problem solve and promote quality of life.

Letter of Support for Tamitik Status of Women Housing Application

June 22, 2017

Tamitik Status of Women is a valued long-time, active member of the Kitimat Interagency Committee. The Kitimat Interagency committee meets on a monthly basis (except the summer months) to facilitate communications between service providers and to identify community needs and how we can work together to address needs.

The identification of how to prioritize the need for housing has been identified many times over the years as an extraordinary need in our community. Additionally, the Interagency Committee is aware of how Dunmore Place, our current transition house is frequently over capacity. The need for second stage housing has also been identified as a great need for our community for a number of years. The Kitimat Interagency Committee is in full support of this application.

We fully support Tamitik Status of Women's application to successfully develop a housing resource and thus provide the ability to consolidate all their programs under one roof. This would benefit so many being served in Kitimat. By providing a one-stop-shop access in our community, it will remove multiple barriers for those seeking services. It is also an efficient way to provide services using funding to the fullest potential possible. We sincerely support the idea of a social enterprise being included to support services to assist those that are most vulnerable in our community.

Tamitik Status of Women collaborates with other community agencies for the provision of local resources and in this case, housing support in our community. This includes facilitating wrap around services and provision of the B.C. Housing Homeless Prevention Program. The working together of local non-profits is a great example of Interagency collaboration and partnerships focussed on addressing needs in our community.

Respectfully submitted,



Lori Ferreira
Vice-Chair



Office: 250-632-4831
P.O Box 199 V8C-2G7

Kitimat, B.C

Fax: 250-632-2322
Email: admin@joviatt.com

Letter of Support

Re: Tamitik Status of Women Non-Profit Housing.

This is letter to show our support for the Tamitik Status of Women's initiative to provide more housing for those who are vulnerable in our community. We commend the efforts of TSW to date and feel their project is much needed in Kitimat regardless of the current economic climate. Projects such as that proposed by TSW take many years to complete and we encourage BC Housing to assist them in expediting.

Yours truly,

Mark Minifie

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Minifie', is written over a thin horizontal line.

Co-ordinator & Land development
J.Oviatt & Daudet Creek Contracting Ltd.



245 – 3rd Street, Kitimat, B.C. V8C 2N8
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tmeier@101industries.com

June 22, 2017

Tamitik Status of Women
Linda Slanina
350-370 City Center
Kitimat, BC V8C 1T6

Dear Linda:

Re: TSW Proposed Housing Project

I would like to provide this letter as an indication of our support for the Tamitik Status of Women's proposed Housing Project.

We understand the Housing Project would be increase the services provided to the community and have a significant contributory impact to the more vulnerable members of the community.

We support the concept of providing low income and transition housing for vulnerable women and children and the opportunity for affordable housing for low income couples in a stable relationship.

We also support the concept of consolidating the service provider into one location to better serve the client's needs.

We wish you success in having this project move forward to enhance and serve the needs of the community.

Best regards,

Thom Meier
General Manager





P Y R A M I D
Office Supplies Inc.

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Kitimat, B.C. V8C 2N2
P: 250-632-5251 / F: 250-632-2472
E: heather@pyramidofficesuppliesinc.ca

June 22, 2017

Tamitik Status of Women
Linda Slanina
350-370 City Centre
Kitimat, BC V8C 1T6

Dear Linda:

On behalf of Pyramid Office Supplies, I write this letter in support of the Tamitik Status of Women's proposed Housing Project.

Kitimat needs affordable housing in our community. With the transition that our community has gone through in the past years, some housing and rent is out of reach for many. Our vulnerable citizens need this service and the housing project needs a reliable established organization to oversee it.

Tamitik Status of Women has a long history of helping at risk citizens in our community, and would be best suited for this project.

Sincerely,

Heather Masch
Owner