

18. Re: Letter dated January 30, 1974 from Mr. Paul H. Russell
 Lower Mainland Society for Residences for the Physically Handicapped
 3658 West 5th Avenue, Vancouver
Residence for Handicapped Young Adults

Appearing on the Agenda for the February 18, 1974 meeting of Council is a letter from Mr. Paul H. Russell regarding his interest in finding a suitable residence for severely handicapped young adults. Following is a report from the Director of Planning on this matter.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

THAT the residence concept as described in Mr. Russell's letter and the Planning Department report be endorsed by Council; and

THAT the Planning Department be authorized to work with the Lower Mainland Society for Residences for the Physically Handicapped toward the location of a suitable site on the understanding that full taxes will be paid; and

THAT the Society will be expected to either purchase or lease the site at the going rate.

* * * * *

MR. M. J. SHELLEY,
 MUNICIPAL MANAGER.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT
 FEBRUARY 14, 1974

Dear Sir:

- 1.0 SUBJECT: Council will consider at its February 18, 1974 meeting a letter (dated 30 January 1974) from Mr. Paul H. Russell, President of the Lower Mainland Society for Residences for the Physically Handicapped concerning a residence for severely handicapped young adults that may potentially be located in Burnaby. This letter was forwarded by the Municipal Clerk to our Department for comment and that comment follows:

2.0 DISCUSSION:

After receipt of the letter, the Planning Department met with Mr. Russell to clarify some matters raised in the letter. From this meeting the following points have emerged.

- 2.1 The Society is attempting to fill a gap in facilities that they perceive in the Lower Mainland. Essentially they wish to provide a non-institutional type of residence for severely handicapped but otherwise healthy young adults over 19 years of age. They have pointed out that existing facilities and institutions in the region serve those less handicapped (Vancouver Handicapped Resource Centre, etc.), those who are sick or mentally handicapped, and those severely handicapped who are either Children (Sunnyhill facility in Vancouver) or Aged (Pearson Hospital, etc.).

- 2.2 The Society is desirous of a location near existing public recreation facilities such as a swimming pool and parks and near active commercial areas where the residents might be able to obtain employment or at least become involved in local activity. The Society essentially wishes a location that will facilitate the integration of the residents within the local community as much as possible. Because the proposed residents are basically healthy, a location adjacent to existing medical facilities is not required and because transportation will be provided by the Society, a location near transit routes is not crucial.

/2

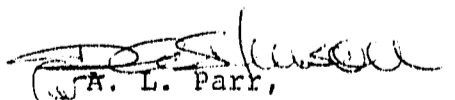
Page 2
Feb. 14, 1974

- 2.3 The configuration of the development is partially dependent upon its location. The Society at this point conceives a cluster-type residential layout with communal facilities (recreation, dining, workshop, etc.) located at the centre. A relatively flat site is also required. If public recreational facilities are located nearby the site size would be up to one acre. If recreational facilities must be provided (swimming pool, etc.) a site of 1 to 2 acres is necessary. The facility is conceived to accommodate no more than 24 residents, 1 live-in caretaker couple and a staff of attendants (at an overall attendant/patient ratio of approximately 1:1).
- 2.4 Mr. Russell in his letter has stated that "if you will allot a suitable parcel of land for this purpose we will build, maintain and operate such a residence in your community without cost to you". In reference to this, upon query three alternatives have been put forward by the Society. Ideally, the Society would like an outright grant of land at a suitable location. Alternately, and in order of preference they would undertake to lease a suitable site or to purchase a site. The Society has stated that it would also consider acquisition of private properties to form the proposed site.
- 2.5 Finally, in terms of financing, as stated in Mr. Russell's letter, the Society has raised \$30,000 and has obtained promise of funding support from the Provincial Government for operating expenses and a C.M.H.C. loan for construction if a suitable site is obtained. The Society is prepared to assume responsibility for required Municipal taxes.

3.0 RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended THAT the above outlined residence concept for severely handicapped young adults be endorsed and THAT the Planning Department be authorized to work with The Lower Mainland Society for Residences for the Physically Handicapped toward the location of a suitable site. It is further recommended THAT Council give the Planning Department direction as to the type of arrangement that would be acceptable for the transference of land from the Municipality to the Society (i.e. grant, lease, sale, etc.).

Respectfully submitted,


A. L. Parr,
DIRECTOR OF PLANNING.

LBB:bp