

Regular Meeting Addendum

Date: October 26, 2023
Time: 10:30 am
Location: Gabriola Arts & Heritage Centre
476 South Road, Gabriola Island, BC

Pages

7. APPLICATIONS AND REFERRALS

11:35 AM - 11:45 AM

7.1 GB-TUP-2023.3 (Moore) - 1115 Jeanette Ave. - Staff Report

7.1.1 *Letter of Intent dated October 24, 2023 from A. Moore*

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Letter of Intent

Dear Trustees,

I am writing this letter of intent to present you with a background of our history on Gabriola, a clear explanation of why we've chosen to apply for the Temporary Use Permit and how important it is to our near future plans.

Nina and I moved to Gabriola in the summer of 2005. I enrolled in three courses at the Island School of Building Arts scheduled to start in September of that year and shortly after our move Nina found work in Nanaimo as a graphic designer. After my courses ended I started to work for a local builder here on the island and we quickly became part of the community. Within the year we had made the decision to buy our first and, still, only home: a cabin on Jeanette Avenue.

Nina found a strong group of peers within the Gabriola art community and I within the building community. Over the years Nina successfully steered her career from graphic design to silversmithing and jewellery. In 2010 she opened Paprika, a jewellery gallery and studio that showcased her work and that of other local artists, as well as provided employment. I continued my building career with woodworking, cabinetry and eventually general contracting enabling the employment of many other island-based trade workers.

During this time of building our careers and friendships within this incredible community, Nina and I transformed our 400 sqf cabin into an 1800 sqf home for our family of 4. We poured our hearts, our energies, our time, our skills and our money into building and creating a home for ourselves and for our children here among our friends and peers on Gabriola. I am extremely proud of the connections we've made and what we have accomplished here in the last 2 decades.

1115 Jeanette Avenue was always meant to be our family home and it always will be, but life paths change. About a year ago Nina and I decided to make a big change in our lives. We set our sights abroad and started making plans for a move to Spain. This past year has been one of the most challenging in our lives. Opening a business overseas, applying for immigration Visas, registering kids for schools in a different country, readying a house for rental, applying for a Temporary Use Permit, and preparing for a large move have been overwhelming to say the least.

Making the decision to move was not taken lightly, nor was the decision to apply for the Temporary Use Permit. Our move to Spain will be, above all else, an adventure. Nina and I want to open our children's eyes to the greater world and all its differences. With this adventure, like all adventures, comes the unknown. It is very unclear as to what our near future will look like. Our future there is anything but secure and because of that we do not want to sell our home. Our immigration status there is uncertain and what our finances will look like are unknown. Due to these uncertainties and the potential for financial, medical, or any unforeseen emergency, we need to be able to return home. As well, I have work commitments that necessitate temporary returns home for me. Renting our home on a long-term basis would make any return next to impossible. In fact, as I write this, due to immigration difficulties the four of us have had to unexpectedly return to Canada after having spent 1 month in Spain. Having chosen not to rent out our home on an annual basis has given us a home to return to. I do not know what we would have done otherwise.

In addition to the necessity of having to return home, we want to return home. We want to stay engaged with the community that we've invested half of our lives with and commune with the lifelong friends we've made over the years. Please, truly and seriously consider granting a TUP for us, our children and our future.

Thank you and sincerely,

Adrian Moore, Nina Turczyn, Hanna Moore and Oscar Moore