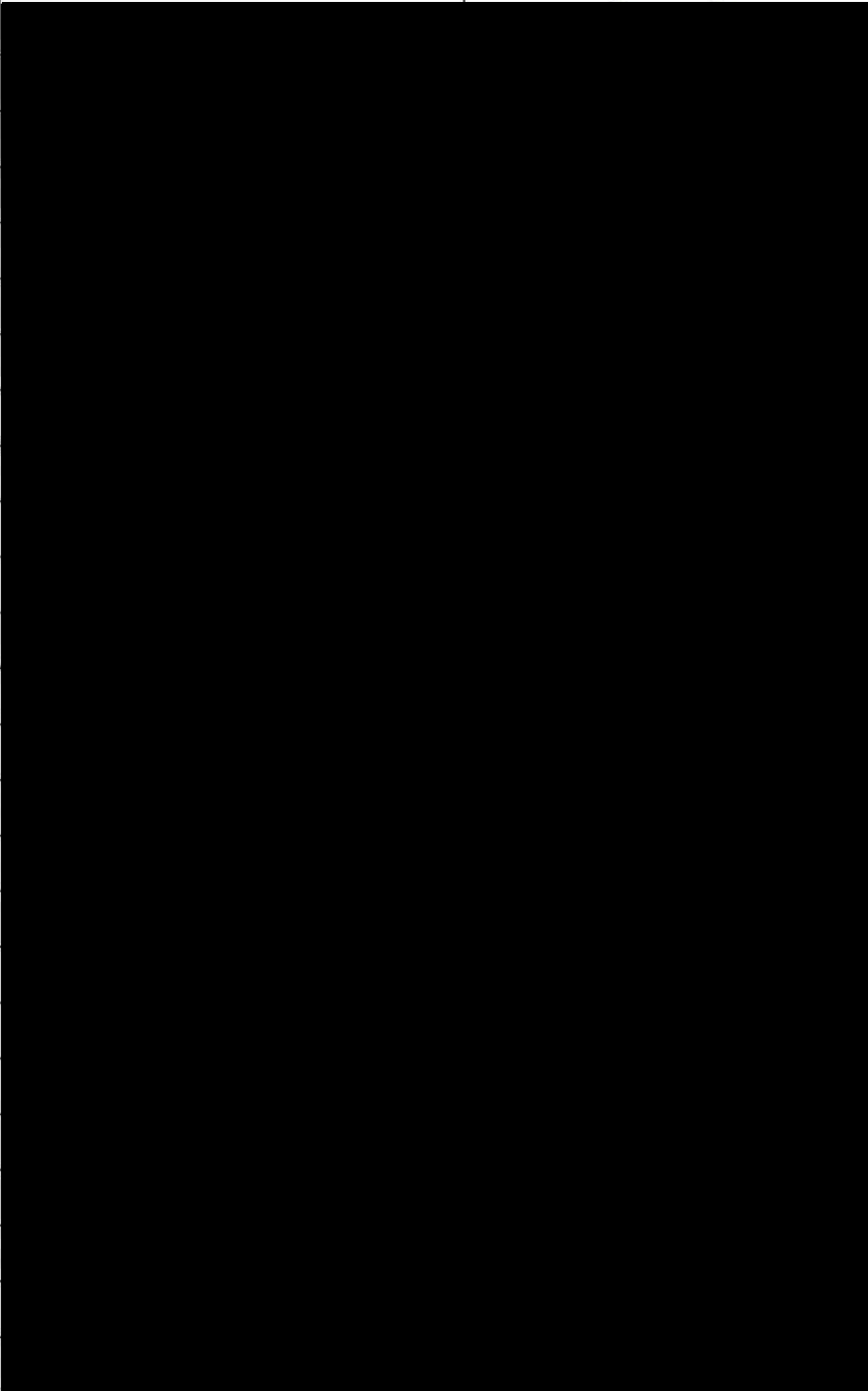


Dear Grand Forks Mayor and Council,

It is now public knowledge that Whispers of Hope Benevolence association has signed a lease on the building at 7229 5th Street, with the intention of opening and operating a Community Soup Kitchen serving hot meals to approximately 60 people per day.

As concerned citizens of Grand Forks, we, the undersigned, strongly believe that **Whispers of Hope** should **not** be allowed to operate at this location. Some of the many reasons behind our strong opposition appear on the following page. Our primary reason, however, is that we believe (based on past experience), that the proposed Community Soup Kitchen would almost certainly encourage marginalized individuals with drug addictions and criminal behaviours to congregate in the area, thus negatively impacting residents, businesses and community facilities located nearby.

PRINT NAME	ADDRESS	SIGNATURE
Darcy Skerrett		
mykaila REECE		
Greg Vanderzande		
Amber Vondiver		
Scott Sheppard		
Tim Chursinoff		
Sarah Bartley		
Beth PAULAN		
Tyler Honkin		
Joan & Bruce Bartlett		
Vince Baxter		
Lordco Auto Pa		
Deane Sheppard		
Curtis Sartin		
Turner Selin		
Jason Buchholz		
Burden Rozenbaum		
Jeremy Rozenbaum		
Dawney McCurdy		
Tracy Worrall		
DAVID MARK		
Deanna Brandt		
MARTIN THOMAS		
Courtney Redding		
Jesse Reddy		

As concerned citizens of Grand Forks, we strongly believe that Whispers of Hope should not be allowed to operate at this location for the following reasons:

- ☐ The soup kitchen would almost certainly encourage marginalized individuals with drug addictions and criminal backgrounds to congregate in the area.
- ☐ As a result, residents in the area are more likely to experience increased risks to their personal safety and their property.
- ☐ Also, business owners and employees are also more likely to experience increased risks to their personal safety and their property.
- ☐ Of great concern, are the children currently living next door, and the children living and playing in the area that would be put at greater risk.
- ☐ Residents and business owners are already under greater pressure due to the very real possibility of fall out from the BC Housing 2nd Street facility.
- ☐ Our Grand Forks police force and health service workers are already extremely overburdened by the high number of calls related to drugs, crime, and medical emergencies.
- ☐ There would likely be a sharp decline in tourism, as many tourists will be shocked by the stark visibility of a soup kitchen in the middle of town.
- ☐ The maximum capacity in the building would be 30, so there could be up to 30 or more people standing in line outside waiting to get in.
- ☐ There could be a greater likelihood of lawsuits against the City if tourists who have paid for a camping spot are threatened by individuals high on drugs, or exposed to dirty needles, or are victims of crime.
- ☐ It is quite possible that the Municipal Campground would be forced to close as word spreads of the problems in the area.
- ☐ The City would likely experience a reduced revenue stream as a result of residents moving away, businesses closing down, and tourists staying away.