
City of Kelowna

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 1, 2001
FILE: 5040-20
TO: City Manager
FROM: Community Planning Manager
RE: Housing Referral for Mental Health Clients
REPORT PREPARED BY: Theresa Eichler

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT Council authorize the attached letter to be sent by the Mayor on behalf of City Council to the Director of Mental Health Services for the Okanagan Similkameen Health Region to recommend that a properly-managed, centralized, permanently-funded housing referral service be provided for people with mental illnesses or disabilities.

PURPOSE:

As a result of letters of support received on behalf of a mental health client, who is providing housing referral services to various agencies for other mental health clients, it is recommended that City Council send a letter to the Director of Mental Health Services for the Health Region advising that a centralized housing referral service be provided.

REPORT

Letters of support were received by the City from a Forensic Liaison Worker and the Central Okanagan Mental Health Advocate, regarding the services of Gerry Mann. These letters were referred to the City's Community Housing Needs Committee for consideration. As a result, Council representatives of the Committee brought the matter to Council. Consistent with the direction of the Committee, Council felt that a letter from the City should go to the Health Region advising of the need for a centralized, properly managed and funded housing referral service for people with mental illnesses or disabilities. The draft letter is attached to this report and explains how a number of agencies have been referring their clients to Mr. Mann, with little or no compensation for his services or expenses.

Theresa Eichler, MCIP
Community Planning Manager

Approved for Inclusion

R.L. (Ron) Mattiussi, ACP, MCIP
Director of Planning & Development Services

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Attachments to Report on Housing Referral for Mental Health Clients:

Draft letter to Director of Mental Health Services for the Okanagan Similkameen Health Region from the Mayor.

Paper Attachments:

Letters of Support for Gerry Mann from the Forensic Liaison Worker and the Central Okanagan Mental Health Advocate