May 15, 2025

Dear Sir/Madam,

## Owners Rationale Statement-675 Central Avenue

We were recently notified by a Bylaw officer that our front fence was too high in accordance with Section 7.5.2 (b) of the Kelowna Bylaws.

We would like to request a variance to allow for the additional height. The fence is lower that our side fences and only partially obstructs sight through it, in other words it is not a solid structure, as the four pictures attached on the USB will illustrate.

The reason we are requesting a variance is due to the necessity of safety and security. We have taken the advice of the Police and have installed cameras and locks on the gates. Additionally, the inside lock on the garage is used, not just the automatic opening mechanism which was broken when broken into.

We are an older couple who have had a few difficult years during our renovation process that have caused serious safety concerns and delays. Since the construction of tent city on the "Rail Trail" we have suffered two break ins, one to the garage from which several expensive items were stolen (reported to the police) and one to the house which had serious potential consequences, File No 24-16947. The thieves stole as much copper wiring that they could find and severed the gas line in the kitchen resulting in gas leaking out. Both the police and Fortis were notified immediately. At that time two other homes had the same problem that we know of, as well as Fortis.

We have also had several incidences where homeless people/or drug abusers have entered the garden to look for items to steal. Once or twice we have confronted them and they have been aggressive.

After the break in at the house, the police conducted an investigation but we unable to link either the footprints or finger prints with any suspect. The Police were exceptional thorough at that time but did mention that the problem was one that was too large to handle at the current time. The Fortis representative explained that we were lucky there was not an explosion, which could have been catastrophic. Anyone living in Kelowna North is aware of these situations in which we live and face on a daily basis, which is sad as it is a beautiful area. Unlike other areas in Kelowna with the same height restrictions, we face the homeless and drug addicts on a daily basis, with numerous Housing and Drop -In Centres within a miles radius.

The Police also indicated that Kelowna is considered to be a "safe city" for homeless and addicted people to move to, not just from the province but also other parts of Canada. Although

we understand that people need to be given a chance it should not be at our own detriment, this is why we need to be able to make our home secure and safe, especially as the matter in Kelowna North seems to be of great concern at this present time. The current regulation height is very easy for people to climb over and not a sufficient deterrent for the area. This is probably why many new homes have higher fences in our area as shown by attached photographs.

If the Police and the City are unable or incapable of providing reasonable safety and security for tax paying residents then those residents should be entitled to relief from bylaws that do not adequately make allowances for the situation that we face at the current time.

Yours sincerely,

Robin and Desiree Brodhurst

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