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#34 - 22374 Lougheed Highway, Maple Ridge B.C. V2X 2T5
Phone 604-467-2420

Letter of Concern

April 27, 2023

RE: Open drug use in Downtown Maple Ridge

Businesses in Downtown Maple Ridge are expressing their concerns in facing ongoing issues, often daily, with respect to open drug use. This happens right in front of businesses, at customers access points, on the sidewalks or within business washrooms that are open to the public.

Often resulting in the following:

- Business owners and/or the community dealing with passed out individuals and overdoses. Having to witness and call security / 911 often.
- Loss of staff, customers, and revenue due to safety concerns in visiting business. Additional losses due to time spent dealing with street activity.
- Increased security, maintenance (cleaning) costs.
- Closeness or contact with open drug use can cause physical harm to anyone passing by and responders.
- Drug paraphernalia left behind.

Patrols are often asked "where can we go?" when asking street population engaging in drug use or camping to move away from businesses.

The Downtown Maple Ridge Business Improvement Association understands the need to address and care for individuals and provide treatment at the same time and asks for assistance in seeking resolution for the benefit of individuals and our business community.

Please reach out if we can discuss, offer further explanation or help address in any way.

Sincerely,

Flori Chaykowski, Executive Director
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