



CITY OF VANCOUVER

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: July 3, 2007
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VanRIMS No.: 06-6200-10
Meeting Date: July 24, 2007

TO: Vancouver City Council
FROM: Director of the Housing Centre
SUBJECT: Assignment of Lease: 1818 East Pender Street

RECOMMENDATION

THAT Council approve the assignment of the lease for 1818 East Pender Street (Lot E, Block E, District Lot 183, Group 1, New Westminster District, Plan LMP 18047, PID: 018-863-141) from United Native Nations, Local 111, East Vancouver Branch, to Lu'ma Native Housing Society, on terms and conditions to the satisfaction of the Director of Legal Services;

AND THAT no legal rights or obligations shall be created or arise until all the necessary legal documentation is fully executed on terms and conditions to the satisfaction of the Director of Legal Services.

GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The General Manager of Community Services RECOMMENDS approval of the foregoing.

COUNCIL POLICY

Council policy is to purchase sites for social housing development and to lease them to non-profit housing societies, with the social housing projects developed on the site to be administered by the senior level of government funding the projects.

PURPOSE

This report seeks Council approval for the assignment of the lease of 1818 East Pender Street, occupied by a 10-unit, non-market housing project for aboriginal youth, from United Native Nations Local 111 East Vancouver Branch (UNN), to Lu'ma Native Housing Society (Lu'ma).

BACKGROUND

On February 15, 1994, Council approved the purchase of 1818 East Pender Street at the request of UNN who had received a funding allocation from BC Housing to develop a 10-unit project for aboriginal youth aged 18 to 25.

On May 30, 1995, Council approved leasing 1818 East Pender Street to UNN for 60 years and at a prepaid land rent equal to 75% of the price the City paid for the site.

The project was occupied in September 1996.

DISCUSSION

UNN Local 111 East Vancouver Branch experienced financial difficulties and the project, the only social housing project operated by UNN, was placed in receivership at the request of BC Housing, with the intent to find a new aboriginal sponsor to operate the project. BC Housing has advised that they have selected Lu'ma Native Housing Society to take on the operation of the project, and have asked that the City assign the lease from UNN to Lu'ma. The project will continue to be operated for aboriginal youth.

Lu'ma is a well established aboriginal non-profit housing society. Lu'ma operates 10 non-market housing projects in Vancouver with a total of 234 units. Five of the projects are on sites leased from the City of Vancouver.

The lease of 1818 East Pender Street is currently in good standing, and it is recommended that Council approve an assignment of the lease from UNN to Lu'ma.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications.

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