

**DISTRICT OF NORTH VANCOUVER
PUBLIC MEETING**

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Minutes of the Public Meeting of the Council for the District of North Vancouver held at 6:02 p.m. on Monday, February 6, 2012 in the Council Chamber of the District Hall, 355 West Queens Road, North Vancouver, British Columbia.

Present: Acting Mayor R. Hicks
Councillor R. Bassam
Councillor M. Little
Councillor D. MacKay-Dunn
Councillor L. Muri
Councillor A. Nixon

Absent: Mayor R. Walton

Staff: Mr. D. Stuart, Chief Administrative Officer
Mr. B. Bydwell, General Manager – Planning, Properties & Permits
Ms. N. Deveaux, General Manager – Finance & Technology
Mr. J. Gordon, Manager – Administrative Services
Ms. S. Haid, Manager – Sustainable Community Development
Ms. C. Rucci, Social Planner
Ms. S. Berardo, Confidential Council Clerk

1. Opening of the Meeting by the Mayor

Acting Mayor Hicks welcomed members of the public and staff to the meeting and reviewed the process for the meeting.

2. Presentation by Staff

Ms. Cristina Rucci, Social Planner, advised that the application is to increase the number of children from twelve to twenty (12 under 36 months and 8 over 36 months). The applicant would like open a child care centre call Genius Childhood Development Centre in a rented home located at 1720 Hope Road.

Ms. Rucci advised that one neighbour has expressed concerns regarding increased traffic, the possible change of character in the neighbourhood, and decreased property values this business may bring. Letters of support from current clients as well as neighbours have also been received. Twenty-five out of thirty-one neighbours signed a letter prepared by the applicant which outlines their support for a business license application.

3. Representation from Members of the Public

3.1 Mr. Corrie Kost, 2800 Block Colwood Drive:

- Expressed apprehension on the close proximity of the child care business to surrounding neighbours;
- Expressed concern regarding increased noise; and,
- Commented on the small lot size and highlighted the small play area in the back yard.

4. Representation from Applicant

4.1. Ms. Roksana Harand Fashih, 1700 Block Hope Road:

- Comment that she has been operating a family childcare for up to 7 children in the City of North Vancouver called Bright Families Childcare but would like to expand her business;
- Noted that a maximum of three staff will be employed, all with their Early Childhood Education Certificate;
- Indicated that staff do not drive to work;
- Noted that the childcare facility will be located on the main floor and the upper floor of the home that she is renting;
- Commented that Genius Childhood Development Centre is in a very accessible area of the District;
- Mentioned that parking is accessed by a back lane which will minimize the impact of traffic on the street and is generally safer for the children being dropped off and picked up;
- Noted that five side-by-side marked and paved parking spots can be created in the back yard;
- Indicated that the intent is to use the front yard as the outdoor play area which is large and flat; and,
- Thanked all neighbours supporting this application.

5. Council Discussion:

Council queried whether the applicant is permitted to operate a business in a rented home? Staff advised that under the Child Care Facilities Business Bylaw 6724, this operation is allowed as long as the owner agrees with the necessary renovations needed to the house in order to comply with the BC Building Code's assembly occupancy requirements and Vancouver Coastal Health requirements. Ms. Rucci indicated that the following changes are minor and include:

- An installation of a fence in the front yard; and,
- A small kitchenette created within the childcare space.

Councillor MURI left the meeting at 6:12 p.m. and returned at 6:14 p.m.

Council expressed concern with the lot size, specifically allowing that many cars to park on the rear of the property.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Confidential Council Clerk