Upper Lynn Elementary

May 4, 2017

To North Vancouver District Council,

This letter is in support of Nasrin Rahmatian's application to increase her license for before and after school care. The Jelly Bean Academy is located in her home at 1356 Frederick Road, North Vancouver. Ms. Rahmatian’s daycare services students that attend Upper Lynn School.

Upper Lynn School has an enrolment of 78 new Kindergarten students for the fall of 2017. Many parents ask me for help in finding a daycare that will drop off and pick up at the school. Daycare placements are very difficult to find in the Upper Lynn area.

Some of the children that attend Upper Lynn have siblings that will now need before and after school care. It would be beneficial to the parents of our students to have this service provided by the Jelly Bean Academy.

I hope that North Vancouver District Council will vote in favour of the variance to allow an increase to the Jelly Bean Academy for before and after school care.

Yours sincerely,

[Name redacted]
Joan Martins
Principal
Upper Lynn Elementary School

SUBMITTED AT THE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
MAY 29, 2017
District of North Vancouver  
355 West Queens Road  
North Vancouver, B.C.  
V7N 4N5

Re:  Jelly Bean Academy Expanded Facility at 1356 Frederick Road, North Vancouver

Dear Sirs and Mesdames,

Both my husband and I live and work in North Vancouver with two daughters, and are in support of Nasrin’s expansion of the Jelly Bean Academy. What this means to us is that our daughters, [redacted] can both attend Jelly Bean Academy together for the upcoming school year. This letter outlines why the support of the District of North Vancouver for this expansion is vitally important to us.

Our eldest daughter, [redacted], has been attending Jelly Bean Academy since September 2015. Prior to that, we had been juggling other daycares outside of Lynn Valley for our daughters, including two years where I was stuck crossing highway traffic for 30 to 60 minutes regularly. We had [redacted] on Nasrin’s waitlist for almost 2 years. When I received the call from Nasrin that [redacted] was accepted to attend Jelly Bean Academy, virtually walking distance to our home and my work, we were ecstatic.

Once [redacted] started attending, we realized that we truly had won the ‘before/after school care lottery’. Beyond our good fortune to obtain such services locally in Lynn Valley, where there is such a shortage, we realized how amazing a Centre Nasrin runs. Nasrin provides a fun, stimulating and caring environment for our daughter. She cares for the children as her own. Nasrin keeps the kids busy with activities, crafts and provides a space for continued learning. We put our second daughter, [redacted], on Nasrin’s waitlist right away, of course. [redacted] starts kindergarten at Upper Lynn Elementary in September 2017, and we hope that she will be able to attend and join her sister in this enjoyable, loving environment.

As working professionals in North Vancouver, it is very important to us that our children are in a safe and nurturing atmosphere within our community, while we are at work. We are truly relying on Jelly Bean Academy expansion to facilitate siblings attending. If this expansion does not move forward, it will mean juggling my work schedule to adjust to additional commuting – returning to that experience gives me stress and anxiety. I appreciate our good fortune to raise our daughters in this wonderful, family oriented community. It would be both a delight and relief to us to have our daughters together at Jelly Bean Academy. Accordingly, we hope the District of North Vancouver supports this expansion.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this letter and how this decision impacts our lives.

Sincerely,

Dal Sangha

David von der Porten

Dal Sangha and David von der Porten
24 April 2017

Ms. Nasrin Rahmatian
Proprietor
Jelly Bean Academy Montessori Preschool and Before and After School Care
1356 Frederick Road
North Vancouver, BC
V7K 1J4

Ms. Rahmatian:

We are writing you as parents to [redacted] - prospective students - who we hope to have attend your Jelly Bean early childhood education program. We fully support your expansion application to the District of North Vancouver, and are copying them in anticipation that our mayor and council will recognize the need for expanded access to quality childcare in the community.

We are appreciative of the fact that you have provided early childhood education-certified, licensed preschool and before-and-after school options to residents of the Lynn Valley area for over twenty-five years. Our friends and colleagues, Mr. Shane Hopkins and Dr. Sara Stafford, have their son, [redacted] attending Jelly Bean and have always spoken highly of your program. We also have significant anecdotal evidence of the excellent programming you provide to students on a year-round basis.

As you are aware, Nasrin, childcare services on the North Shore are limited in availability and relatively costly. While we are fortunate to have both of our children attending Lonsdale Creek Daycare Society’s Margaret Heights, we are aware of many families who have been waitlisted for several years at our daycare as well as at other facilities in the district. Moreover, this is to say nothing of the nearly prohibitive costs when a family finally gets news that their child/children have been offered a spot in a program in North Vancouver. We strongly believe that the District of North Vancouver should support all reasonable efforts to increase accessibility to licensed childcare options for citizens within our community.

Thank you for providing quality, affordable, certified, licensed care to the children of families living in the District of North Vancouver and for investing the
time and capital in your application for Jelly Bean's expansion. If we can be of any assistance regarding your application, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Mr. Rudy and Dr. Tara Sedlak
cc: Mayor Richard Walton and the District of North Vancouver Council
May 3, 2017

District of North Vancouver
355 West Queens Road
North Vancouver, B.C.
V7N 4N5

In support of Jelly Bean Academy Expanded Facility - 1356 Frederick Road, North Vancouver

To Whom It May Concern,

Since both my wife and I work full-time, we are in urgent need of a professional/safe before and after school for our daughter [Redacted] who starts the Kindergarten at Ross Road Elementary in September 2017. With the fact that Nasrin has provided one of the best cares to many of the kids live in North Vancouver District for so many years and she has an outstanding reputation and great care, we would like to register our daughter to her care facility if the expansion gets approved and we have the chance.

We have been in Nasrin’s waitlist for more than a year and we are looking forward to have the opportunity to register our daughter in her great facility as soon as the expansion-permission is approved by the District.

As full-time working parents, it is very important to us that our children are in a safe and nurturing atmosphere within our community, while we are at work. We are truly relying on Jelly Bean Academy expansion to accept our daughter Sophia for September 2017 start date.

I appreciate our good fortune to raise our daughter in this wonderful, family oriented community.

We genuinely hope the District of North Vancouver supports this expansion. Thank you for taking the time to consider this letter and your understanding.

Sincerely,

Abtin Vakillinia

Elmira Shayesteh
May 8th, 2017

District of North Vancouver
355 West Queens Road
North Vancouver
BC V7N 4N5

Dear Sir/Madam,

Ref: Expansion of Jelly Bean Academy, Before and After School Care, 1356 Frederick Road

We are writing to express our support for the proposed expansion of Jelly Bean Academy. As working parents with no family living in the local area, it is important for us to have access to quality before and after school care for our children. Our daughter has been fortunate enough to attend Jelly Bean Academy for the past year and we are now looking for a space for our son who will be starting school in September.

The lack of availability of before and after school care in the Lynn Valley area means many parents, ourselves included, are scrambling for placements for their children. This is a very stressful time for working parents as in many cases two incomes are mandatory to be able to afford to live in this increasingly expensive neighbourhood.

We have nothing but good things to say about the quality of care Nasrin (the owner and proprietor of Jelly Bean Academy) has provided for our daughter. The program is excellent with a good balance of intellectual, creative and physical activities. Nasrin herself has a wonderful rapport with the children, making them feel valued and cared for every day. As a result, we are eager for our son to benefit from attending Jelly Bean Academy as well, a place we know and trust.

We feel that it is important to keep siblings together as it not only makes life easier for us (shortening the pick up and drop off windows means we have more time to spend with our children) but also allows the children to continue to develop their relationship outside of the home. In addition, Jelly Bean Academy is situated close enough to our home to allow us to walk to pick them up. As our children attend Upper Lynn it is too far for us to walk to school every day, so it is an added bonus to be able to walk to collect them from after school care at the end of the day.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any further questions or would like more information

Yours sincerely,

Michelle Wilson

Erik Wilson
Dear Mayor Walton and Members of Council,

We are writing to express our overwhelming support for the expansion of Jelly Bean Academy Before and After School Care program. Our daughter has been attending Jelly Bean since 2015, and we are extremely hopeful that our son may also begin at Jelly Bean when he starts Kindergarten in September 2017.

Finding before and after school care programs servicing our catchment school in Lynn Valley has been incredibly stressful for our family. My husband and I both work in fulltime jobs, and this has only been possible because of our ability to access quality, reliable daycare services.

As it stands, there will be no spaces available for our son at Jelly Bean Academy in the Fall. Furthermore, we do not have any before and after school care options for our son despite adding his name to numerous before and after school program waitlists in 2014. We've received confirmation that no spots are available for him in any of the programs servicing our school. Not having access to before and after school care will have serious implications for our family.

Jelly Bean is a wonderful, positive and supportive before and after school care program where our daughter is thriving. We sincerely hope that our son will be able to join her at Jelly Bean Academy. By approving the extra spaces within Jelly Bean Academy, you will be contributing to the much needed space for before and afterschool care in Lynn Valley. For our family, it would enable our children to be together and allow our family to continue to function successfully with two working parents.

We would be happy to meet or provide further information. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Tara Black and Glenn Stark
May 29, 2017

Mayor Richard Walton and District of North Vancouver Councillors
355 West Queens Road
North Vancouver, BC
V7N 4N5

Mayor & Councillors:

We are writing in support of the expansion of Jelly Bean Academy Before and After School Care, run by Nasrin Rahmatian.

Our daughter is one of 79 children who will be starting Kindergarten this September at Upper Lynn Elementary School. That’s 79 children in one Kindergarten cohort at one school. Our community is growing by leaps and bounds, and the infrastructure to support it is working hard to catch up.

In our hunt for before and after school care for our daughter - and eventually her little sister - we have been able to find limited options, both licensed and unlicensed. There are perhaps 50 spots serving our school of 600 children, and the vast majority of those are locked in for years.

Nasrin has the track record, credentials and community support to expand her operations in order to meet the ballooning need. We recognize there is an impact to the surrounding community with more parents coming and going, but Jelly Bean is also across from an active campus including Lynn Valley Elementary, Sandpiper Preschool, Lynn Valley Community Recreation Centre, and several sports and playing fields. It is a community that has the capacity for some light traffic. Additionally, one of the reasons Nasrin is expanding is to accommodate siblings entering the school system, and therefore the number of families will not increase too dramatically.

All of you are or have been working parents, and you understand the incredible balancing act required to commit to career, volunteerism, civic duty and raising a family. Our family has benefited from some outstanding early childhood care in our community which has allowed us to pursue active careers and invest back in North Vancouver. Additionally, reliable care has freed up Allison to dedicate time to the North Vancouver Recreation and Culture Commission as well as the North Vancouver District Public Library Board. A lack of reliable, trustworthy child care can be paralyzing for a family and a community, significantly reducing the opportunities for citizens to earn and give back.

We were so thrilled to learn that a centre with glowing reviews and an impeccable track record such as Jelly Bean Academy had a potential space for our daughter, should this expansion be approved. It’s like winning the lottery to know that your one and only potential option is also one of the best providers in the neighbourhood. The expansion of a proven provider with a 25 year track record seems like a clear choice for our community to address the child care crunch we face.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Allison and Louis Rzen

cc: Cristina Rucci
May 9 2017

His Worship Mayor Richard Walton
District Hall
355 West Queens Road
North Vancouver, BC
V7N 4N5

Dear Mayor Walton,

We are writing today to express our support to Nasrin Rahmatian in expanding the before and after school care at Jelly Bean Academy.

Our son, [redacted] has been attending the before and after school care at Jelly Bean Academy for the past two years. We are hoping that our daughter [redacted] will have the same opportunity to join the same program when she enters Kindergarten in September. It is imperative for our family to have both our children at the same facility for their own sake and for the smooth functioning of our family.

We like the caring nature of Ms. Rahmatian, her varied program, and the proximity of the daycare to our house. We can easily walk to the daycare before catching a bus or it makes for a very easy drop-off by car within our neighbourhood.

It is becoming increasingly difficult, nearly impossible, to find a space in a well-run daycare. We hope that you, along with Council, will give a reasonable look at Ms. Rahmatian’s request to expand her before and after school care at Jelly Bean Academy – it is needed and well worth it. We can’t express enough how important it is to our family to find quality care, at a location in our own neighbourhood, for both of our children... together.

Sincerely,

Jean-Francois and Rozlyn Lord
May 5, 2017

Mayor Richard Walton, Mayor, & Councilors
District of North Vancouver
355 West Queens Road
North Vancouver, BC V7N 4N5

Dear Mayor Walton & Councilors

Re: Application to increase capacity at Jelly Bean Academy Before and After School Care Program, 1356 Frederick Road, North Vancouver, BC. V7K 1J4

We are writing in support of Nasrin Rahmatian’s application to increase the capacity for Jelly Bean Academy’s before- and after-school program from 10 to 17 children. Nasrin is early childhood education-certified and runs a licensed preschool and before-and-after school child care program, and has 28 years of experience running a child care facility, since 1989. We ask the Council to approve her application based on her substantial child care experience, her love for and ability to help educate the children in all of her programs, her efforts to comply with all of the District’s bylaws at her own time and expense, and her ongoing efforts to minimize any inconvenience for her neighbours.

Our son, Ethan, has attended Nasrin’s program. He is now at Upper Lynn Elementary. Throughout this time Nasrin has demonstrated her genuine love for children and a great respect for her neighbours and the community. She treats the children like her own family, and provides a safe and educational space. Nasrin helps the children in her before-and-after school program do arts and crafts projects, provides blocks and other non-electronic toys that stimulate creativity and collaboration, and gives them a place to work and study collaboratively. She regularly helps our son review his list of weekly spelling words and gives him time to complete his piano theory while he’s there. Ethan is very happy in her home, and we have recommended Nasrin to many friends who are looking for a reputable, experienced, certified and licenced child care provider.

Nasrin is very mindful of her neighbours and always reminds the parents of children in her program to respect their space and privacy. We believe that her 28 years of experience means she has demonstrated that she is able to operate her facility with minimal impact on the neighbourhood, and has the proven skills necessary to ensure that the increase in the size of the program will not present any issues for other residents. The expansion is limited to the before-and-after-school program, and does not increase the number of children in the preschool program. The intention of the expansion is to accommodate the siblings of children already within...
the program so the increase in traffic and inconvenience to the neighbours would be minimal. Frederick Road is also a lined road running adjacent to Lynn Valley Elementary, so the use of her home for child care is in keeping with the character of the neighbourhood.

Many parents already walk their children to and from her home, and in nicer weather parents may also bike there with older children instead of drive. As an additional benefit, increasing the capacity of the before-and-after school program would mean Nasrin could take more children to school in a single trip. We believe this would be more efficient and environmentally friendly than each of those additional children being driven to school individually by their parents.

Finally, we wish to express our great appreciation of Nasrin, who is presently applying to the District at her own expense to increase her capacity to accommodate the families already enrolled in her programs, as well as new families in need of quality before-and-after school care in a safe and nurturing environment. This application is being made not to increase profitability, but to serve a genuine need and to enable siblings to attend the same before-and-after school care program together. We believe this should weigh strongly in favour of approving her application.

We encourage the District of North Vancouver Council to vote in favour of her application.

Respectfully

Sara Stafford & Shane Hopkins-Utter

cc. Cristina Rucci, Planner, District of North Vancouver
    Nasrin Rahmatian
I support Jelly Bean Academy before & after school expansion application.

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Hi there,

I received your notice about the public hearing coming up on June 20th regarding increasing child care capacity at 1356 Frederick Road. I can’t make it to the meeting but just wanted to submit my thoughts.

I am very happy for this increase to be granted. I live at [redacted] so probably have the largest shared property line with them and have never had any problems in the 12 years we have lived next door. They are extremely respectful of the neighbours and have a wonderful way with the children. Their space is lovely and very conducive to caring for children.

Thank you for considering my input.

Brenda Martin
Dear Municipal Clerk

Re: Public Hearing Tuesday, June 20, 2017, at 7:00 pm

I have enclosed written submission for the Public Hearings tomorrow.

Gordon

Gordon Brown
Municipal Clerk  
District of North Vancouver  
355 West Queen Road  
North Vancouver, BC V7N 4N5  

Re: Child Care Facility, Business License Application, 1356 Frederick Road  

Dear Sirs:  

I oppose the change which would effectively double the number of children.  

I have resided in this house since [redacted]. We have good relationship with our neighbours and want to see them prosper.  

Ten years ago, I suffered a stroke that caused me to lose my ability to speak, read and write. Over time, with hard work I can now speak, read and write with difficulty. Like any person who learns a new language, my brain is exhausted after language exercises or conversation. The way in which I recover is to take a nap. I require one to four hours for my nap in the afternoon and sometimes need additional time in the morning.  

The distance between my bedroom and the playing children is about 60 feet. When the weather is nice, I frequently wake up after 3:30 pm when the children are present after school. Even with my windows closed, I am concerned that additional children will increase the volume of their cries of “Watch me, watch me” even louder than before. A party of seventeen people talking a backyard is annoying. Seventeen kids shouting at the top of their lungs 60 feet away is deafening. The permit, if granted, will allow seventeen children between 7:30 am to 5:30 pm five days week. I received a letter from the applicants stating that they do not work on weekends or holidays. Yet I sometimes hear loud children’s voices on weekends and holidays.  

Since this hearing has brought up the issue of noisy children in their backyard. I feel that I should state that I find the current noise level to already be unacceptable. I would rather propose a reduction for the number of children in the backyard to five instead of increasing it to seventeen.  

If the volume of their noise were to be reduced or if their outdoor activities were to be relocated to another venue, such as Lynn Valley Community centre, then I would wholeheartedly support the increase. My sleep is essential for me to be able to function; an increase in the noise may force me to consider moving to a house in a quieter area.  

Thank you for providing the opportunity to give feedback. My language skills prevent me from speaking at the hearing on Tuesday. I had help to write this letter.  

Gordon Brown  

North Vancouver, BC [redacted]
The attached was received before the closing of the public hearing and is forwarded for your information.

Louise Simkin
Administrative, Information & Privacy Coordinator
604-990-2413
To: District of North Vancouver  
Re: Increase to Child Care Facility Licence at 1356 Frederick Road  
Date: June 20, 2017

We live in the neighbouring area of the above address. We are very opposed to increasing the capacity of this licence. The address of the child care facility already generates a lot of activity for a residential area:

- There is increased traffic from cars dropping off and picking up children throughout the day.
- There is a large school bus used to transport the children.
- A North Shore taxi cab also operates from this address entailing changing drivers and shifts.
- In nice weather, the children play outside in the home’s large backyard and there’s a great deal of noise from the children yelling, which is excessive and will only increase if there are more children.

This is a residential street, not a commercial street. We already have a community centre and preschool at the corner of Frederick and Mountain. We feel this licence expansion will contribute to increased commercial activity and traffic on our street and will increase the disturbance of living nearby a business that involves significant non-residential activity.

Yours truly,

Nearby residents