

May 19, 2020

DEPUTATION FOR MAY 21 MEETING OF THE ATTAINABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE

To Sharon McCormick, Rob Potter, the Board, and the Committee of the Attainable Housing Corporation of Town of the Blue Mountains (TOBM),

Greetings. Thank you for continuing to meet in the face of this pandemic, and continuing the good work of the Committee of Attainable Housing. There is such a need for attainable housing in Town of the Blue Mountains. Covid-19 will not change this.

In 2019, Town of the Blue Mountains declared a climate crisis. This is an on-going issue affecting our town and the planet. Long after we have a vaccine for Covid-19, we will still be dealing with the effects of climate crisis—on our shorelines that are washing away, in our weather patterns, and our everyday lives.

We are members of CANN (Climate Action Now Network), a group of concerned citizens of TOBM. We have looked at the plans for the attainable housing on the town's website and have several thoughts.

We believe that every decision the council and committees make should be viewed through the lens of climate change. We urge you to consider making the plans for the Attainable Housing as green as present technology will allow.

The back of the building is south facing and perfect for solar energy panels.

The height of 5 stories is preferred—density is an important aspect of green building. Cutting down trees can be avoided if they are included in the design of the parking lot. The location is ideal for a taller building. Apartments will look out onto Highway 26, and in no way block the sun of other residences, or intrude into private space. A greener, less peaked roof will lower the height and the appearance of height. Many of the buildings in the town are already taller than what is being proposed.

Other sustainable choices can be made in roof design, building materials, and parking.

We urge you to hire a green architect or consultant and green builder before any more plans are made about design. This is a building that will last many years. It should be not be one more building that adds to the problem of climate warming.

We also urge you to select two women to your board of directors. At present there are 5 men and one woman, an imbalance that can be, and should be, corrected.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Diana Dolmer, and the members of CANN in Town of the Blue Mountains