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To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL" <CCDTMACDL@vancouver.ca>

Date: 7/10/2016 11:01:37 PM

Subject: 58 E Hastings Encampment

Greetings Mayor and Council

I am writing to update you on the encampment at 58 E Hastings. The group continues to occupy the site. They have approximately 10 tents as well as a cooking tent. VFRS has visited and toured the site several times. At this point they are cooperating and our fire staff have not identified any safety issues. The encampment is quite different than the Occupy Vancouver and Oppenheimer in the way it is organized. The site is only accessed by one gate. The organizers are controlling who enters so as to maintain the security of the site. It appears that they are committed to staying on site and making their statement for 100 percent social housing on the site and additional social housing throughout the lower mainland. They appear to be coordinating with a protest in Burnaby. In the days ahead we will engage with the organizers to further understand their objectives and attempt to negotiate an end to the encampment.

We are currently reviewing the license agreement between the City and PHS which allows PHS to use the site to determine our ability to address what occurs on the site.

The fire chief will be visiting the site in the morning and issuing a Fire Chief's order to ensure safety on the site. Additionally we will begin offering support to protesters for housing and social supports. We will be engaging directly with VCH and BC Housing to request their support.

I will keep you updated as the situation evolves.

Best

Sadhu

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