

From: "Levitt, Karen" <karen.levitt@vancouver.ca>
To: "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"
Date: 8/11/2023 9:49:04 AM
Subject: 414 East 10th Avenue & 1363 East 12th Avenue Fires in Mount Pleasant Update

Dear Mayor and Council,

This email provides you an update on the situation involving 79 displaced tenants of the 414 East 10th Avenue and 1363 East 12th Avenue in Mount Pleasant, where fires occurred on July 27, 2023. You can use these contents of this email as messaging if you are approached by the media, and/or refer media questions to our media inbox at media@vancouver.ca.

- **Situation.** 79 people were displaced from fires at both locations.
- **Support services.** All 79 people are registered with Emergency Support Services (ESS), a short-term emergency support program managed by the Ministry of Emergency Management & Climate Readiness and delivered locally by municipalities. Extensions are approved by the EMCR on a weekly basis based on their policies. 74 people are being actively supported with accommodation, food and/or billeting assistance until next week. Thirty two people are high priority for supports from partnering agencies. Significant support has also been identified for Indigenous evacuees and children through the Aboriginal Friendship Centre.
- **Property retrieval.** Over this past week the City's ESS team worked with non-profit partners to escort tenants into their suites to retrieve their property. This work was supported by Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services and VPD staff. Given the large number of Spanish speaking tenants, Spanish-speaking translation services were onsite for these activities. We anticipate content retrieval to be completed by end of day today.
- **Social supports.** Staff continue to work with key stakeholders including BC Housing, Vancouver Coastal Health, and the Ministry of Social Development and Poverty Reduction to coordinate services for tenants accessing social assistance, including short-term accommodation, as well as food, clothing and connections to other needed services. Several local, non-profit organizations are also now involved in supporting the tenants, including Watari and the Mount Pleasant Neighbourhood House.
- **Housing.** It is not the City's responsibility to secure housing for the displaced tenants. BC Housing is involved in finding housing for some of the tenants. Lu'ma Native Housing Society has reached out to get basic information on Indigenous tenants, which has been provided to them. The City's ESS funding for hotel accomodation for those that need it has been extended again to August 16, 2023.
- **Building safety.** Due to the unsafe condition of the building, on July 31, 2023, the City's Chief Building Official (CBO) issued orders to the owner of the building addressing the safety and security of the building, requiring the building owner to undertake the following actions in order to maintain public safety:
 - restrict all access to the building unless permitted by the CBO,
 - provide 24-hour security to monitor all entrances/exits,

- install temporary fencing around the entire building, and
 - board up all exterior doors and windows on the ground floor.
- **Security services.** Under the order of the Chief Building Officer, the City will continue to provide contracted, 24-hour security guards at the site until end-day today (August 11th). These guards are serving to protect public safety, and it is outside their mandate to protect the contents of the building.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please let me know.

Thanks,

Karen

Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager (she/her)

karen.levitt@vancouver.ca

The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x̱məθkʷəy̱əm/Musqueam, Sḵwx̱wú7mesh/Squamish and səlilwətaʔ/Tsleil-Waututh nations