



Nanaimo Old City Association
25 Machleary St
Nanaimo, BC V9R 2G3
iank@shaw.ca

August 10, 2017

Dear Mayor and Council;

Re: Agenda Item 9.a - Demolition of Old Nanaimo Hospital Building (Malaspina Gardens Property)
August 14, 2017 Council Meeting

The Nanaimo Old City Association (NOCA) is writing to formally present the “Report on the Outcomes of the Community Workshop on the Future of the Malaspina Gardens Site.” NOCA respectfully requests that this report be forwarded to the Departments of Planning & Design, Culture & Heritage, and Community Development for consideration for any future development.

This property is currently owned by Chartwell Retirement Residences (388 Machleary Street). It is our understanding that Chartwell has recently submitted an application for a demolition permit.

In spring of 2017, NOCA held two workshops about the future of the Malaspina Gardens Seniors Home site. These workshops looked at the history, heritage values and possible future redevelopment issues for the site. On May 15th, approximately 60 participants worked through many issues with a facilitator and completed a survey workbook on their opinions of issues and opportunities. Mayor and Council are encouraged to review the Executive Summary for an overview of the report (p 3). Based on the feedback received at the May 15th meeting, the community is open to redevelopment so long as it is respectful of the neighbourhood and its history.

Chartwell has suggested they would be interested in arranging conservation of parts of the building through their demolition contractor and would consider retaining the following to be passed on to a new owner to incorporate into future redevelopment of the site (e.g. in future landscaping):


- Metal cornice/pediment detail on top of roof facing on Kennedy Street.
- Metal doorway pediment over old main entrance on Kennedy Street. (to be confirmed)
- Gateposts and stairway in front of old main entrance on Kennedy Street.
- Cornerstone near front entrance.

NOCA also requests that Mayor and Council strongly encourage Chartwell and the future property owner to work with NOCA and engage with local residents regarding the development of the site.

Respectfully,



Ian Knipe
President
Nanaimo Old City Association



Matt Baillie
Vice President
Nanaimo Old City Association

attach

cc: Chris Sholberg, Culture and Heritage Planner