## MayorandCouncillors

the Public Hearing meeting of Monday, July 18, 2016.

Richmond City Council held on

Schedule 34 to the Minutes of

From: Sent:

To:

Karen Mori <karen@karenmori.com>

Monday, 18 July 2016 12:16 MayorandCouncillors

Subject:

Zoning amendment Bylaw ZT-735335

Dear Mayor & Councillors,

To Public Hearing

I have lived in Steveston since 1999. My husband was born and raised in Richmond. We bought our first home right by the Onni property and lived on Ewen Avenue until 2012 when we moved to the Westwind area. We have 3 school age children and we lucky enough to find after school care with Generations Daycare in January this year. I have my own accounting practice and my husband is a professional as well. It is vital that we have child care that provides a healthy environment and I can't say enough good things about Mike and Agnes and their services they provide. I was so shocked and sickened when we were told that the daycare would either have to move or shut down. This really might force us to relocate out of the community we love. But our kids are our first priority and them getting bused across town because there is no child care close to where we live is ludicrous. Our kids not only go to the afterschool program, but are in different sporting activities in Richmond. If we have to drive further to go pick them up, we may have to make the decision to not have them participate. The new space in the Onni building will be wonderful for the after school program. Every day the kids with Generations meet at the front of the school and then get to go play in the playground at Homma Elementary before heading to the centre. This would continue after the daycare moves. There are more than 40 children at the daycare now and never once have there been an issue with parking because we all come at different times to pick our kids up. The space that the kids will have at this new centre will allow for more programs and the kids will have the opportunity to learn about the maritime nature of Steveston and hopefully grow to love that aspect of the community and fight to preserve it in its uniqueness when they grow up.

I know that many people are against any rezoning changes because they are mad at Onni. I do understand that as I did live in that direct neighbourhood for 10 years. However, as a city and a community we have to think of the services that need to be available and childcare is so important. Not just for my kids, but for all the future working families that already live here and those who move to our area.

Thanks for your time.

Sincerely,

Karen Mori CPA, CGA

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