

Paula Kusack

Subject: FW: Pacific Nazarene Housing Society Development

From: Chelsea Forrester <S. 22(1)>
Sent: March 26, 2025 12:46 PM
To: WebInfo <webinfo@langleycity.ca>
Subject: Pacific Nazarene Housing Society Development

Dear Mayor Pachel,

Do Mayor and Council Truly Care About Langley's Well-Being?

This is not a rhetorical question—it's a sincere, pressing one. As a resident deeply concerned about the rapid pace of development in Langley, particularly the proposed Pacific Nazarene Housing Society Development / Rental Mixed-Use Project at 49th Avenue and 200th Street, I feel compelled to ask:

Do you genuinely care about the well-being of the people who live here?

A quick internet search can tell you what "community well-being" means, but more importantly—it's something we live and experience every day. It's not just a buzzword. It's the foundation of a thriving, resilient, and safe community.

What does community well-being actually mean?

It means:

- People have what they need—affordable housing, health care, clean environments, education, and nutritious food.
- People feel connected—a sense of belonging, shared purpose, and real support.
- People are safe—free from violence, discrimination, and chronic instability.
- People have agency—they can shape their futures and influence the systems around them.

How does it show up?

- Strong community bonds—neighbors who look out for each other.
- Thriving local businesses—where money stays in the community.
- Celebration of culture—where arts, language, and identity are honored.
- Green spaces—places to walk, breathe, gather, and feel restored.
- Mental wellness—support systems where it's okay to feel and to heal.
- Education that uplifts—not just standardized, but empowering and relevant.
- Safety and trust—not fear, not avoidance.
- Space for joy, rest, and creativity—because living well means more than just getting by.

We are doing some of these things.

Here's what's *not* okay in Langley right now:

- Cleaning up vomit, feces, needles, and sleeping or overdosing people from ballfields and parks *before* our kids can play.
- Watching community programs sell out in seconds due to overwhelming demand and limited resources.

- Competing for spaces in youth sports because we don't have enough coaches or support.
- Avoiding downtown Langley because of visible crime, garbage, and open drug use.
- Bracing for these issues to intensify with the coming SkyTrain stations.
- The inability to find a family doctor or access basic health care.
- A lack of support for kids who are already struggling—and those who go unnoticed—in our schools.
- Schools that are bursting at the seams, with no real plan to accommodate more students.
- Tent encampments in green spaces because we haven't solved housing or mental health crises.
- Rising crime and a growing sense of unease.
- The persistent feeling that the voices of residents and taxpayers are ignored by those elected to represent us.

If we're not taking care of the people who are already here, how can we justify bringing more in?

We need a pause. A plan. A commitment to **community well-being** *before* we approve another major development. I am **opposed** to the Pacific Nazarene Housing Society Development / Rental Mixed-Use Project at 49th and 200th Street, because right now, it feels like growth is being prioritized over people.

Mayor and Council, I am asking you to truly listen. To lead with care. And to prove that you are invested not just in Langley's expansion—but in its soul.

Respectfully,

Chelsea Forrester
Homeowner and resident of the City of Langley