

**Janzen, Heather**

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**From:** City Council  
**Subject:** FW: Email - Available to answer questions only - Ali Abukar - Saskatoon Open Door Society Inc - Proposed Temporary Emergency Shelter 210 Pacific Avenue - CK 4350-20  
**Attachments:** Letter to Council - SODS Sep-12-2024.pdf

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**From:** Web NoReply <web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 17, 2024 5:51 PM  
**To:** City Council <City.Council@Saskatoon.ca>  
**Subject:** Email - Available to answer questions only - Ali Abukar - Saskatoon Open Door Society Inc - Proposed Temporary Emergency Shelter 210 Pacific Avenue - CK 4350-20

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED] ---

Submitted on Tuesday, September 17, 2024 - 16:27

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

**I have read and understand the above statements.:** Yes

**I do not want my comments placed on a public agenda. They will be shared with members of Council through their online repository.:** No

**I only want my comments shared with the Mayor or my Ward Councillor.:** No

**Date:** Tuesday, September 17, 2024

**To:** His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**First Name:** Ali

**Last Name:** Abukar

**Phonetic spelling of first and/or last name:** [REDACTED]

**Phone Number :** [REDACTED]

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**I live outside of Saskatoon:** No

**Saskatoon Address and Ward:**

**Address:** [REDACTED] 1st Ave N

**Ward:** Ward 6

**Name of the organization or agency you are representing (if applicable):** Saskatoon Open Door Society Inc.

**What do you wish to do ?:** Available to answer questions only

**If speaking will you be attending in person or remotely:** Remotely

**Comments:**

This is related to the proposed location for the Temporary Emergency Shelter at 210 Pacific Avenue.

**Attachments:**

- [Letter to Council - SODS Sep-12-2024.pdf](#) 260.63 KB

**Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?:** No



**Saskatoon  
Open Door  
Society**

100-129 3rd Ave. N. Saskatoon, SK S7K 2H4

**P:**306-653-4464 **F:** 306-653-7159

September 12, 2024

Saskatoon City Council  
222-3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North  
Saskatoon, SK. S7K 0J5

Dear Members of Saskatoon City Council,

On behalf of Saskatoon Open Door Society, I am writing to express our concerns regarding the proposed new downtown temporary emergency homeless shelter near Saskatoon Open Door Society's licensed Childcare Center at 247 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue North. While I understand the critical need for resources and facilities to support individuals experiencing homelessness, I believe that situating this new temporary emergency shelter so close to our licensed childcare center will have significant negative social impacts on families and children attending our licensed childcare centre.

SODS Childcare Center provides a safe and nurturing environment for young children, many of whom come from vulnerable backgrounds. Our licensed childcare is located within less than 250 meters from 210 Pacific Ave from the back of the building where our childcare centre is located. The proximity of the proposed shelter to this center raises several concerns:

1. **Safety and Well-being of Children:** Young children are particularly sensitive to their environment. The presence of a shelter nearby could potentially expose them to situations and behaviors that are not appropriate for their developmental stage. Even with the best of intentions and protocols in place, the risk of encountering disruptive or unsettling behaviors cannot be entirely mitigated.
2. **Impact on Families:** Parents who choose our licensed childcare center often do so because of its reputation for providing a secure and stable environment for their children. The presence of a shelter nearby may lead to concerns about safety and may influence some families to seek alternative childcare options, potentially causing unnecessary stress and disruption.
3. **Social Dynamics:** The presence of a homeless shelter close to a childcare facility could also contribute to social stigmas and tensions between families and individuals experiencing homelessness. This could undermine the supportive atmosphere we strive to create for both vulnerable populations.

We fully acknowledge and appreciate the complex needs of people experiencing homelessness and the importance of providing them with the support they need. However, we urge this Council to consider alternative locations for the new shelter that do not intersect with areas dedicated to the care and development of young children. An ideal solution would balance the need for



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Society**

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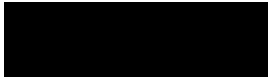
**P:**306-653-4464 **F:** 306-653-7159

supportive services with the need to maintain safe, stable environments for families and children.

We believe that with thoughtful planning and consideration, we can find a location for the new temporary emergency shelter that meets the needs of all community members, including those experiencing homelessness, while preserving the well-being of our youngest and most vulnerable residents.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I hope the Council will take these concerns into account and explore alternative options that will best serve the interests of all members of our community.

Sincerely,



Ali Abukar  
100-129 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue North  
Saskatoon, SK. S7K 2H4  
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306-653-4464



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