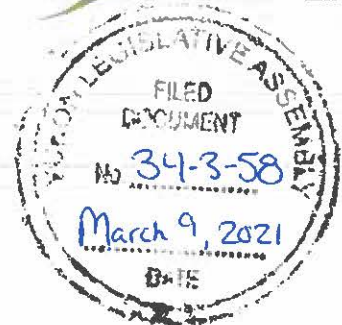




October 29, 2020

Wade Istchenko
MLA Kluane
Yukon Legislative Assembly
Box 2703
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 2C6



Re: Gathering Space for St. Elias Seniors

Dear Mr. Istchenko:

Thank you for your October 16, 2020 letter outlining concerns in relation to the St. Elias Seniors' Society's use of a common area portion of the Yukon Housing Seniors' 9-plex at 141 Martin Street in Haines Junction as a gathering space. Yukon Housing Corporation (YHC) is actively working on a solution to this important matter.

The lower common room space was being used by the St. Elias Seniors' Society under an informal arrangement made with a past YHC Community Manager. However, the building was designed for residential use only. The lower floor common room area was not designed or intended for larger gatherings, office space and use by non-residents. In the interests of the health and safety of resident seniors, YHC consulted with the Public Safety Branch within the Government of Yukon. They recommended that YHC review the building code in relation to this space to determine what revisions may be required for a new occupancy classification to allow gatherings, to build in office space and allow for other uses by non-residents. I am pleased to advise you that this code review is now complete.

YHC is now finalizing the plans for required revisions to allow for safe egress of larger gatherings, construction of an office space and appropriate bathrooms for the intended use. Once these renovations are complete, the space will be safe for use by the St. Elias Seniors. This work is expected to be completed by the end of November, 2020.

I hope this information comes as good news. If the St. Elias Seniors' Society has additional questions or inquiries, please advise them to contact Darren Stahl, Director of Capital Development and Maintenance for Yukon Housing Corporation at 867-667-3439 or Darren.Stahl@gov.yk.ca.

Mahsi,



Pauline Frost
Minister responsible for Yukon Housing Corporation