



The Tri-Cities Housing Coalition

ONE EVENING OF YOUR TIME WILL ...

make an ongoing difference to the lives of single mothers and their children at risk of homelessness in the Tri-Cities

How?

YWCA Vancouver is proposing to build Como Lake Gardens, 30 units of supportive housing for single mothers and their children, at 528 Como Lake Ave in Coquitlam (see location map over). The site is owned by the City and will be leased for 60 years at no cost to the YWCA. The project is modeled after the YWCA's other successful housing projects in Metro Vancouver and has been in the planning stage for over 1 ½ years, including 2 public consultation sessions. Application for the necessary site rezoning goes to public hearing on Wednesday, December 10th, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at Coquitlam City Hall. Council will then vote to approve or reject the project at the following Council meeting based on what they have heard at the hearing. A group of citizens represented by the Burquitlam Community Association has been aggressively expressing their opposition to the project – their arguments simply boil down to not wanting it “in their backyard”. For Como Lake Gardens to rise upon this site, Coquitlam Council must know of your support.

Who will this project serve?

Child poverty is 4 times higher in single parent families than two-parent families. Single mothers comprise 1/3 of BC welfare recipients – they have the highest poverty rates, have the most difficulty finding housing, are the least likely to own housing and the most likely to go hungry. Como Lake Gardens will serve single mothers in need with dependent children, and provide the support to assist them to achieve economic independence. The average length of stay will likely be less than 5 years, with priority given to women and children in Coquitlam and the Tri-Cities.

What can you do?

1. Phone and then e-mail Coquitlam councillors (see contact information over) and let them know you unequivocally support the YWCA's Como Lake Gardens project.
2. Attend the public hearing on **Wednesday, December 10th at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers**, 3000 Guildford Way, Coquitlam. The City Clerk's office will compile a speakers' list for the hearing – you can register by phone at 604-927-3010. Everyone will be permitted to speak at the hearing but those who have registered in advance will be given first opportunity.

Presentations on the Como Lake Gardens project by the YWCA's project staff are available in advance of the public hearing for groups large and small. To learn more, contact Sandy Burpee at sburpee@shaw.ca or 604-461-2926.



Como Lake Gardens

Contact Council

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Location Map

Como Lake Gardens
528 Como Lake Ave, Coquitlam

