



City of Prince Albert

RPT 2024-284

TITLE: 717A MacArthur Drive Update

DATE: September 11, 2024

TO: Executive Committee

PUBLIC: X

INCAMERA:

RECOMMENDATION:

That RPT 2024-284 be received and filed as information.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Since receiving correspondence from the Prince Albert Bridge Ministry in May of 2024, which addressed a number of concerns over the condition of the church located at 717 Macarthur Drive, the building has since been sold to the Indian Metis Friendship Centre of Prince Albert who plan on renovating the building, and using it for an “indigenous youth cultural service hub”.

PROPOSED APPROACH AND RATIONALE:

The building located at 717 Macarthur Drive is comprised of 2 separate tenancies. 717B is operated by the Prince Albert Bridge Ministry and 717A has been vacant for the last several years. The Departments of Community Development & Fire and Emergency Services have been fielding several calls from community members relating to vandalism, break-ins, fires, illegal activity and general public safety concerns.

In May of 2024 the Prince Albert Bridge Ministry provided correspondence to Executive Committee (attached) detailing their concerns along with those of their insurance provider, All Insurance Ltd.

Since May, Administration from the City of Prince Albert, including the City Solicitor have been working closely with the Indian Metis Friendship Centre (IMFC) to implement a strategy to purchase the building, while also addressing a number of nuisance issues, and avoiding a potential \$600,000 demolition.

Since May, the IMFC has now acquired the building at a discounted price which has been negotiated through the City Solicitor's office and is in complete control of the building's future use. The City has collected all outstanding taxes from the former owner, along with all related bylaw charges.

The IMFC has provided an update letter (attached) detailing their vision for the property to be utilized as a "Indigenous Youth Cultural Hub", providing a much needed service to the Prince Albert Community.

Administration will continue to work with the IMFC to bring their vision to life including all required permits, and approvals.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

With the transition of ownership complete and adjustments concluded, the City has now collected all monies due for taxes incurred from the previous owner. Bylaw enforcement charges which total over \$6,640.73 have also been paid.

By facilitating this transaction, the City has also avoided a \$600K asbestos-implicated demolition fee.

PUBLIC NOTICE:

Public Notice pursuant to the Public Notice Bylaw No. 24 of 2015 is not required.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Indian Metis Friendship Centre Update Letter
2. Prince Albert Bridge Ministry Letter

Written by: Craig Guidinger, Director of Community Development

Approved by: City Manager