



~ Care At Its Best ~

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Aug 12/19

July 19, 2019

Mr. Eddie Nickerson, Warden
Municipality of Barrington
Box 100
Barrington, N.S, B0W 1E0

Dear Mr. Nickerson,

I am writing to you, Barrington Municipal Council, on behalf of the Board of Directors of Bay Side Home to request the Municipality of Barrington's support in principle for an expansion of Bay Side Home. We see first-hand the good work that is done to maintain a great long-term care facility in our community. The home's history dates from 1887 to its current footprint with a 62-bed capacity after the expansion in 2011, at a cost of over fourteen million dollars. Over the past eight years, Bay Side Home has enjoyed the satisfaction of not only bringing 195 seniors back home, providing them with "Care at its Best" but most importantly offering the opportunity for the residents to live their best life in familiar surroundings. Through the substantial number of careers provided for skilled workers in a variety of occupations and the procurement of supplies required for operation of the home, it is worth noting that Bay Side Home is a substantial contributor to the local economy.

On a regular basis families and residents are expressing to board members, the homes administration and local politicians, the concerns of having a loved one that can no longer be cared for at home. The magnitude of the situation becomes apparent when the realization is made that their loved one is not only going to be leaving the home they have known, but is also going to be removed from the area, culture and people that have been a familiar part of their lives. The experiences are varied; caregiver breakdown is often a reality for those whose aging support system is caring for them at home while awaiting placement at Bay Side, separation from family who will be unable to visit regularly when they are placed in a long term care facility or hospital up to 100km away; most unfortunate are those who pass away waiting to move back "home" to the community. The need is significant at present – the prediction is that the situation will become more serious as the projected wave of baby boomers has not yet reached the expected peak. These additional hardships could be significantly minimized or avoided for residents of Barrington Municipality and Town of Clarks Harbour with the addition of more beds to Bay Side Home.

The initial process of surveying the land, completing a valuation report of the current footprint, engaging the services of an additional staff to support the process and investigating the requirements and initial steps required for the undertaking of a project of this scope have been initiated. Another important part of this first step is establishing the in principle support of the community for an expansion of Bay Side Home, your written expression of support for the proposed expansion of Bay Side Home is requested. The current goal is to compile these expressions no later than August 30th, 2019 in order that we may move forward with the process. If you require further information, would like to meet with the Bay Side Home Board of Directors or require more time to establish your organizations support, please contact me at your earliest convenience and arrangements can be facilitated.

Sincerely,

James (Jamie) Symonds BIS, ALMIT
Chair, Bay Side Home Board of Directors
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