



July 28, 2020

Bear Clan Patrol Fort Frances

To Mayor June Caul and respected Council.

Good day my name is James Eastman I am the Project Coordinator of Bear Clan Patrol Fort Frances.

Our Chapter has been in the Town of Fort Frances now going on to 4 years. we started our chapter in regards to the safety issue that was not being addressed at the time of our implementation which was the needle epidemic as well as many other issues ,homelessness, crime which was being done to businesses, residential, public and town properties and personal harm and safe rides/walks.

We continue doing community patrols via foot/mobile and the most hazardous activity of needle clean ups as well as many other harmful hazards to keep all Citizens and animals of the Town of Fort Frances safe the best way we can.

We have been and still continue to be self-maintaining by some donations made by people of the town , some businesses but more so from my own personal pocket. We are not funded by any outside entities which includes government,

Town of Fort Frances, Bear Clan Patrol INC which is located in Winnipeg Manitoba (we are affiliated by name and mission but not financially).

Our Office (Bear Den) is Located in the volunteer Bureau on 4th st West (old train station).

Other services we provide when we are able to financially is food hampers, tents, sleeping bags, clothes (for both summer and winter) in some cases when there is a domestic especially when children are involved or vulnerable person(s) we have put people in a hotel room setting for safety with follow ups on their situation and guidance to help them in the right direction for services they seek.

Recently Mayor June Caul has reached out to us via telephone and acknowledges how important and vital our services are and continued within the community.

As I expressed our concerns with not having any kind of support from the Town of Fort Frances during our time here in the community. Mayor Caul as well as other important delegates of the Town of Fort Frances took part in “the longest night of the year” event experienced first hand of some of the activities we do during a regular night of patrolling. Some of our members are First aid/CPR trained as well as Naloxone trained and equipped.

We battle through thick and thin financially to function to be able to continue our services and mission in the community. The safety of children, men, women, elders and animals are our drive to keep doing what we do at any cost, I know for myself I can no longer carry us financially as it has made my personal financial situation bad and hard to recover.

Having that extra help will not only keep the morale of the current Volunteers high but will also entice more members of the community to join our mission. The more volunteers we have the more areas we can cover on a patrol day and more days to patrol.

I was requested by Mayor Caul to write this letter regarding our needs to function and to sustain our way of existence and to be able to patrol more as requested by Mayor Caul.

The following is the list that helps us function as a group and what is needed to continue our services/mission..

- Our Current Office Space is \$350 per month (would be ideal to have an office space that's rent free or paid for)

- high-vis green vests

- work gloves (leather), rubber medical gloves, Kevlar Gloves for handling sharp objects.

- Flashlights, Spotlights, Batteries

- Rain Gear, Warm jackets (Freezer or work style coats for winter with high-vis strips)

- Gasoline for mobile patrols and needle clean up responses

- new magnetic sign-logos for our mobile units for proper identity when on mobile patrols as well as more sets

- more First aid supplies/kits

- assistance to be able to certify more members for First Aid/CPR and for recertification for current members

- new or used van for a mobile response/patrol/safe ride vehicle (as it stands I have gone through 2 new vehicles due to high mileage from patrols/needle call responses/safe rides.

In closing I hope this letter gives an overview of what we are about and offer. I know this letter seems a little short or long however you wish to see it, but from our mission there is a lot to us and what we stand for and most importantly the services we continue to offer to keep all walks of life including the animals of the community safe.

We hope to hear from you soon and thank you for taking the time to read this letter 😊

Thank you/Miigwetch

Yours truly

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized 'J' followed by a long horizontal line that ends in a small loop.

James Eastman

Project Coordinator Bear Clan Patrol Fort Frances