

October 21, 2020

To the Fort Frances Mayor and Town Council,

Perhaps the most earnest statement to begin this letter is to say that we have a lot in common. Each of you wouldn't voluntarily opt to spend so many hours here in this room if you didn't really believe that this community – made up of both endearing geography and neighbourly citizens – is moving towards reaching its greatest potential.

We certainly wouldn't be investing our resources here if we didn't think the same. We would be buying real estate in another community. Our demolition of the derelict building which formerly housed the famed Dough & Deli Shoppe at 814 Scott Street was the first step in our redemptive development philosophy.

You see, we're a small development company with plenty of optimism who saw a glaring need for the community and acted upon it. It's no surprise that very need is listed as the first objective on the Town's Official Plan:

1. To provide for a variety of housing types to meet the demands of the present and future inhabitants of the Town

As your group is well aware, achieving that objective cannot happen unless people are willing (and hopefully eager) to see beyond life as it is today. The 18-unit apartment building that will be erected at 814 Scott Street will help the Town make that objective a reality. Our mission is to honour the past, which so many of the town's inhabitants played vital roles in, while taking risks to build something new. That pairs rather nicely with some additional objectives of the Town's Official Plan including:

- adapting to change, attractive development that encourages investment, viability of the Downtown Business Area

You as the Town Council have already made landmark improvements under the Community Improvement Plan and we are proud that our residential building project is home to the Downtown Core and Waterfront Project Area, where we believe the best is yet to come.

As kindly suggested by the Town's Building Inspector, we are writing this letter as a first step in applying for funding under the Financial Incentive Program to offset Town application costs. Please inform us how to proceed further.

George Friesen for New Fort Development