



## **Identifying a Need**

Homelessness is a reality in Abbotsford. The lack of shower facilities affects hygiene and can cause health issues. This creates a barrier to finding employment and transition out of the homelessness, because self-esteem and mental health are severely impacted.

## **Finding a solution**

We believe that the Refresh Mobile Showers Project will greatly benefit the homeless people in the City of Abbotsford because everyone in a community benefits when its members are healthy. We strongly believe that the shower trailer will provide the opportunity for us to connect with people who are homeless and living out of tents or cars. Our aim is to provide free showers to those who are part of the homeless population. Dignity and respect for all people is our value.

## **What we are doing**

The Refresh Mobile Showers Initiative has widespread support in the community. In just 5 months we have raised over \$35,000. This money has been used to order the shower trailer. We are expecting delivery of the unit in February. It is our intention to start operating in March 2019.

The trailer has two compartments with each one having its own private entrance for people to access the free showers. A 250 gallon onboard fresh water tank will provide the water for up to 16 people. An On-demand propane fired water-heater will supply the warm water. The grey-water will flow into the 350 gallon holding tank under the unit. Our trailer will be heated by a propane furnace. The trailer can also be used at Extreme Cold Weather Shelters in the winter months. Heating elements in the tanks will keep the water from freezing in the winter.

## **Partners**

Would you like to support us in this service to our community? Steve Jobs, the co-founder of Apples, Inc, once said that "Great things in business are never done by one person. They're done by a team of people." We are looking to build a team – consisting of like-minded individuals and churches who will partner with us in making this service a reality in our community. Your support is very important for our success whether that be through volunteering your time, financial support for on-going costs or through your prayers.

## **Contact info:**

Email us at [refresh@kingroad.ca](mailto:refresh@kingroad.ca)

May 30, 2018

To whom it may concern,  
King Road Mennonite Brethren Church,  
32068 King Road, Abbotsford, BC,  
Canada V2T 5Z5

Dear Sir/Madam,

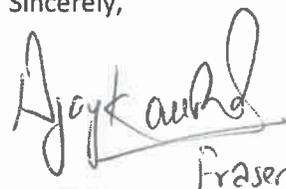
Subject: Letter of Support

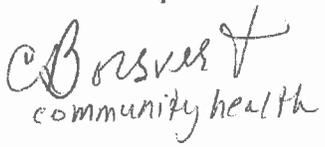
This letter is in support of collaboration offered by King Road Mennonite Brethren Church to partner with a working group tasked with planning and launching the 'Community Hub Centre' in Abbotsford. The community hub centre will serve homeless population in Abbotsford who also experience multiple health related challenges, including concerns regarding their medical, as well as mental health and substance use needs. The working group involves delegates from the City of Abbotsford, Abbotsford Police Department, Fraser Health Public Health, Fraser Health Mental Health and Substance Use, Ravens Moon Society, Lookout Society, BC Housing, Positive Living Fraser Valley, Mar Mar Pharmacy and some other community partners.

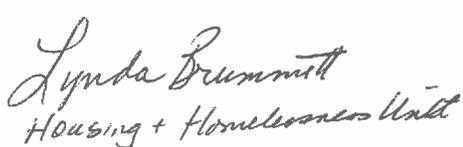
The working group is grateful to King Road Mennonite Brethren Church, in particular to Henry Penner and Leonard Klassen, for their vision and support for being able to provide a mobile shower unit that can be utilized in conjunction with other health services offered from the community hub centre. This is a much needed service for the homeless population in Abbotsford who seem to reside amongst three different geographical clusters in the city. It is felt that a mobile shower unit will go a long way in addressing the basic hygiene needs of this population group who otherwise lack access to such facilities within their transient lifestyle. With a resource like this in place, the working group is encouraged to explore how other assessment, medical, food and supply services can be connected to this population group in a one stop shop fashion, while people take benefit of utilizing the mobile shower unit. The mobile nature of the unit will enable to reach out to a larger population base amongst all three clusters.

The working group expresses sincere gratitude for receiving this kind and a very thoughtful offer from King Road Mennonite Brethren Church which will make a tangible and measurable difference to the quality of life amongst the homeless population in Abbotsford.

Sincerely,

  
Fraser Health

  
community health

  
Housing + Homelessness Unit

Signatories

  
#34  
ABBOTSFORD POLICE DEPT.