

## Peachland Baptist Church



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## Media Release

**For Immediate Release**

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### **District of Peachland Makes the Right Decision for the Community**

The congregation of Peachland Baptist Church is having a collective sigh of relief following the February 10<sup>th</sup> announcement made by Peachland's Mayor Van Minsel.

While no formal correspondence or notice has come to the church confirming the decision, the statement made by the Mayor indicates that the District is no longer pursuing expropriation of church property to fulfil the vision for a massive new development complex on 13<sup>th</sup> street, which would include a fire hall.

For many years the town has pursued acquisition of the church's property, more recently with expropriation being raised as tool that the town might use to force the issue. Although the church has been clear it never wanted to move, because of the importance of a fire hall it has attempted to collaborate on a mutually agreeable solution, including a potential move of the church building to a different lot. Those plans were recently rejected by the town given the expense to relocate on terms that are mutually agreeable.

The recent announcement by the town brings certainty to the church after a protracted phase of destabilization while the town pressed forward in their plans to develop the property of the church.

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"We have always publicly supported the need for a new fire hall, and we applaud the decision of the town to return to a basic hall design that won't displace us. This is a great decision for us, but also for the whole community." - Pastor Lyle Wahl.