PRESS RELEASE – FROM FREEDOM’S DOOR – JUNE, 2024

Freedom’s Door is an addictions recovery home in Kelowna which has provided long term, abstinence based recovery programs, for over 21 years. Tom Smithwick, a Society Director advises, “We always have a long waiting list and therefore have expansion plans to help reduce homelessness, poverty and addiction issues in our community. We currently assist 99 people who struggle with addiction and or mental health issues. Over the past two decades we have proved that healing from addictions is possible. We help men to return to a life of sobriety, a return to work and a reunion with family and friends. We greatly appreciate the assistance of donors who allow this successful work to continue in our community.”

On June 18th our City Council gave unanimous approval to our Development Permit application to build 4 town homes in the rear yard of our homes on Belaire Avenue. It is our desire to immediately commence construction to achieve 16 new bedrooms for men who have completed the first 90 Day Program and who are now in our Next Steps Life Skills Program. This is transitional housing.

We are in a fundraising effort to pay for this new, affordable housing. The Rotary Club of Kelowna has generously agreed to provide a cheque in the amount of $50,000 to assist us in this effort.

Attached is a photograph of the ceremonial cheque delivery. The parties in the photo are from left to right:

Robin Smith, Co-Chair of Pro Am Committee, Collin Grayford, COF, Traine Construction, Major donor to Pro Am Tournament, Tom Smithwick, Director of Freedom’s Door and John Walker, President of Rotary Club of Kelowna.

The Kelowna Rotary Club held it’s Annual Pro Am Golf Tournament in April and chose the Freedom’s Door Belaire Town Homes Project as the major benefactor of this tournament. Traine Construction and Development were pleased to be the Title Sponsor for the tournament along with many other donor/sponsors. Their goal is to assist Freedom’s Door in their efforts to eradicate homelessness, addiction and mental health issue from the streets of Kelowna.

Please see attached photo and brochure.