

Mayor and Council and others,

My name is Rainbow Eddie-Boe Przywara and I have been in Whistler for 8 years. I have been homeless on and off that whole time. Starting out with nothing, except a knapsack, a thin jacket, a pair of shorts and shoes and socks with no money at all. Then I met a friend who taught me how to collect empties and then Covid hit and have been concerned about collecting empties since then. I used to sleep in the underground parking lots, but not allowed to anymore. I have badly broken my arm and fractured my ACL which also makes collecting empties hard. When sleeping outside it is difficult to sleep well and I wake several times throughout the night. Being outside stuck in the rain and the snow, my feet were cold and not knowing my feet were wet, I woke up with my feet in a lot of pain. I went to the hospital and was diagnosed with frostbite on my feet and hands and am now in a wheelchair, and will take 4-5 months for my feet to get better. I am 42 years old on June 5th.

Whistler is such a beautiful place, but I think we can make a lot of changes to make it a better place to enjoy the mountains, the spirits, the sports, the activities, and the people. But I have to resort to pan-handling to make money and it is embarrassing. I had an inheritance when my father passed and we made a wrong turn and ended up in Whistler and I loved the village. So I had to keep coming back and I decided to stay here. I spent that money and I have now made so many friends here that I consider Whistler my home. If I were to leave and go to the city or Squamish I tend to get into bad things. In Whistler I will be safer.

I would like to hear about a shelter happening, and I would like to run it. And have support and people taking care of one another in this village that I call home with my friends. What about using vacant store fronts for a shelter? Beds and cots could be supplied to keep us warm and comfortable. The WCSS shelter has to be below 0 and really a shelter is needed year round with meals provided. My frost bite occurred on an evening when temperatures were above 0 and I had no warm place to go.

If you want to contact me, you can call me at [REDACTED] Let's get a shelter built in Whistler. It is needed. There are at least four folks living on the streets in Whistler right now and probably a lot more I don't know.

One for all and all for one.

Rainbow Eddie-Boe Przywara

No Fixed Address, Whistler BC

Eddie Przywara

Whistler

~~Don't use~~

No fixed address

Written in March or  
April - submitted  
July 30, 2024