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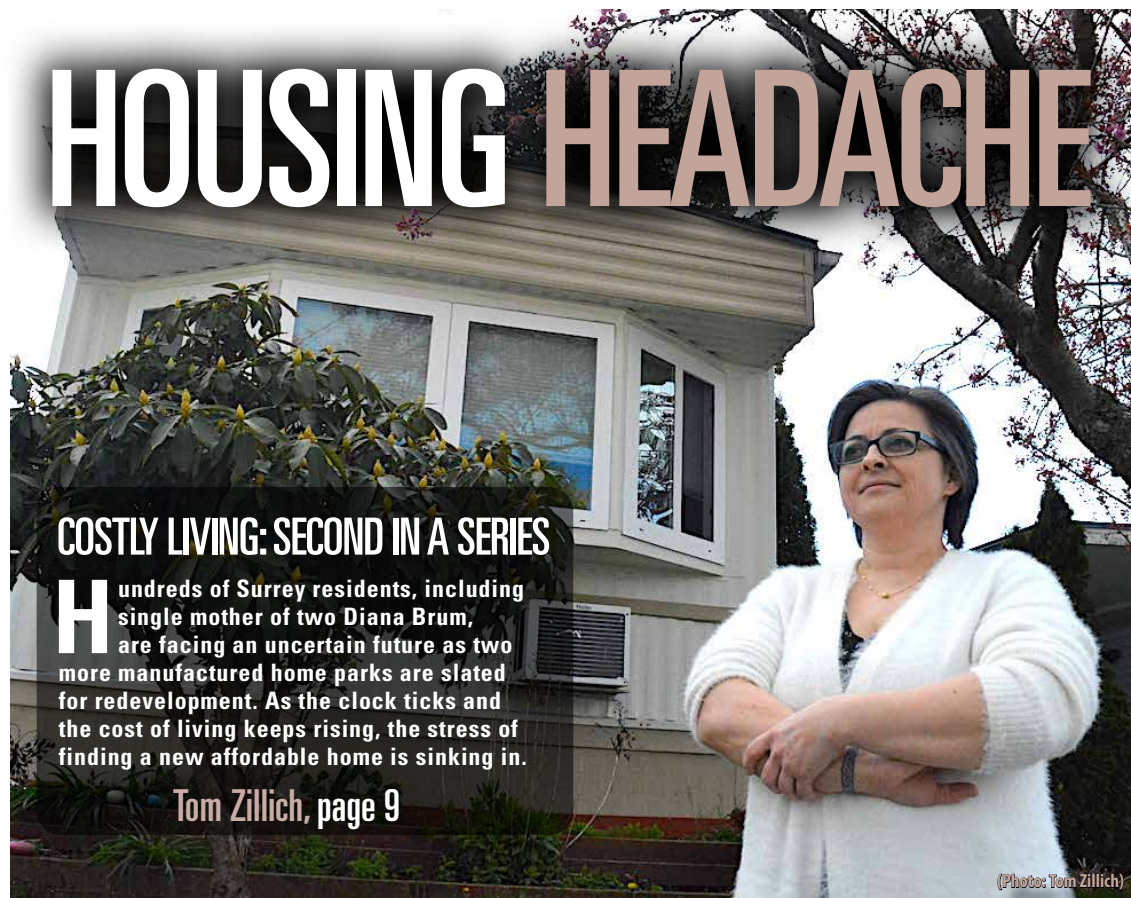
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## HOUSING HEADACHE

### COSTLY LIVING: SECOND IN A SERIES

**H**undreds of Surrey residents, including single mother of two Diana Brum, are facing an uncertain future as two more manufactured home parks are slated for redevelopment. As the clock ticks and the cost of living keeps rising, the stress of finding a new affordable home is sinking in.

Tom Zillich, page 9

(Photo: Tom Zillich)

## City council Councillor 'shocked' after mayor recalls vote

Motion related to McCallum's public mischief charge defeated

Tom Zytaruk  
[tom.zytaruk@surreynowleader.com](mailto:tom.zytaruk@surreynowleader.com)

Surrey Mayor Doug McCallum recalled a vote to defeat a motion that challenged his legitimacy to continue his duties while his criminal public mischief charge remains unresolved. This time, he won. McCallum is charged with one count of public mischief contrary to Section 140(2) of the Criminal Code, stemming from an encounter last September between himself and a group that was gathering petition signatures outside the South Point Save-On-Foods store in South Surrey for a referendum on the policing transition. The mayor claimed a car ran over his foot. His trial is set to begin on Oct. 31, two weeks after the election.

Continued on A6

	<p><b>THE ROCKET MAN</b>          A TRIBUTE TO <b>ELTON JOHN</b>          MASSEY THEATRE NEW WEST ★ BELL CENTRE SURREY          JUNE 23, 2022 Show: 7:30pm</p>		<p>OPENING ACT:  <b>THE PIANO MAN</b>          A TRIBUTE TO <b>BILLY JOEL</b>          MOON COIN productions          TICKETS &amp; INFO: <a href="http://iLoveEltonJohn.com">iLoveEltonJohn.com</a></p>
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# FOCUS

A feature that delves deep into the people and issues in our community. Send your story ideas to [edit@surreynowleader.com](mailto:edit@surreynowleader.com)

## Costly Living

# 'How are we going to find somewhere else?'

**SECOND IN SERIES:** Residents fear for future after two more Surrey manufactured home parks sold and slated for redevelopment

**Tom Zillich**  
[tom.zillich@surreynowleader.com](mailto:tom.zillich@surreynowleader.com)

Two more manufactured home parks in Surrey are sold and slated for redevelopment, triggering fear and stress among several hundred residents, some of whom say they can afford only that type of housing.

The Crispen Bays and Bear Creek Glen properties, located for decades in the 7800-block of King George Boulevard, were recently bought by a construction company, Dawson & Sawyer, which envisions a "high-density, transit-oriented community" on the property.

Residents of the two Newton parks were told of the "ownership change and redevelopment notice" in early April, and for some the news is still a shock.

"It's super affordable living here, and we don't want to leave, but we'll have to," said Diana Brum, a single mother of two who moved to the 192-home Crispen Bays park five years ago, after her marriage ended and their house sold in Cloverdale.

"I walk around this place and people are usually cheerful and smiling and happy, and now some of them, their heads are down," Brum added. "They're shuffling along, walking their dogs, because they're deep in thought and wondering what they're going to do."

"A lot of people here are pensioners, and quite a few have families, and this is what we can afford," Brum continued. "But with the economy the way it is, how are we going to find somewhere else that's so affordable? Definitely not in Surrey."

Brum bought her singlewide for

\$92,000, and her monthly pad rental is around \$1,000.

"It's about 800 square feet, with three bedrooms," Brum said of her mobile home. "The rooms for my two daughters don't have any closets, but we did some modifications and it works for us, there's room enough for the three of us. We enjoy living here."

Next door, Brum's parents also live at Crispen Bays, which attracted them with a clubhouse, pool and convenient location.

"We looked everywhere," Brum recalled. "My dad's in a motorized wheelchair and stairs are non-negotiable, so townhouses were out of the question. It took awhile but then I came upon manufactured homes."

"It's so nice here, and clean," she added. "There's a shed for gardening – my mom and my dad are big gardeners, veggie gardeners, so this was absolutely ideal, and we had cash from the sale of the house to buy this. It was fabulous."

Now, Dawson & Sawyer has offered to buy Brum's home for \$250,000 – a tidy profit on Brum's investment over five years, but still not ideal for her.

Meantime, owners of doublewide mobile homes at Crispen Bays, including Larry and Susan Foulds, are offered \$300,000, with options to rent a new condo at the Newton project site or in Fleetwood at current rates, or receive up to \$2,500 a month in rent "for the rest of your life, to assist with all future housing needs."

With the clock ticking on decisions, residents won't have to vacate their property for at least two years, probably longer.

The timeline isn't ideal for the Foulds, retirees who moved to



Susan and Larry Foulds at the Crispen Bays manufactured home park. (Photo: Tom Zillich)

Crispen Bays in 2018 with plans to live there for 20 years.

"They're telling us that the earliest they'd pay us out or get rid of us is 2024, and the latest is 2028. It all depends on building permits and their finances, all kinds of stuff," Larry Foulds said. "Right now we're not sure what we're going to do, which option we take, and when we'll be leaving. By 2028 we'll be in our late 70s. Hopefully we still have our health, but who knows, it might be moving into a seniors home at that point."

For nearly 35 years the couple lived in a house across King George Boulevard, on 134A Street, according to Susan.

"There's a real community here," she raved. "When we decided to downsize, I'd never driven in here over all those years. We were looking around and, wow, who knew all of this was here? But people know Crispen Bays, and it's been here since the 1970s. Some people have been here from the start. The people who owned this home before us, they were here since the beginning."

Now, the stress of finding a new affordable home is sinking in.

kids, because I want them to stay in their schools," she said.

In an April 5 letter to residents of Crispen Bays, a Dawson & Sawyer rep named Taylor outlines future plans for the site, and promises to work with tenants to minimize the impact of their transition out.

"The rezoning will supply large amounts of housing at some of the most affordable rates in the Lower Mainland," Taylor wrote. "The current density of this property is too low to support planned transit improvements. Building for sustainable and higher density communities along important transit corridors is supported by the goals and policies of the federal, provincial and municipal governments."

When she got the letter, Brum says her heart sank.

"I felt so sick, because I thought, 'Now what am I going to do?' It's just one more thing to worry about in this pandemic. I've cut so many things out of my budget, I'm not sure what else to cut out. The pets need to eat, we need to eat, and I'm stretching that out as much as I can. I'm buying less groceries and making them stretch further. We are all vegan right now, because meat is so expensive. Rice is cheap at the dollar store, pasta, you have to choose different things now."

"With one of those granny carriages, I now walk to the Superstore to get groceries, with gas prices the way they are," Brum continued. "I'm walking around a lot more to get things done, and that's another reason we like living in this area. Things are within walking distance, like banks and the stores. And if I drive I combine things and get a bunch of things done in a small area, closer to home."

**NEXT WEEK:** Part three looks at the toll of stinging gas prices and what is – and isn't – being done about it.

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