

# north shore news

## EDITORIAL: Turn, turn, turn

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The Turning Point Recovery Society is back proposing a new men's addictions recovery house on the North Shore.

Except this time, we're hoping the debate takes a more civilized tone.

It's completely natural to have concerns about any significant change brought to one's neighbourhood. And, rightly or wrongly, the stigma associated with addiction means people will be that much more leery about that change if it is a recovery house.

But the histrionics and fear mongering we saw when this issue last went public in February were frankly an embarrassment for the entire North Shore.

More than protesting an unwelcome recovery house, those leading the effort sought to dehumanize those with addictions. Everybody knows someone who's struggled with addiction of one kind or another. Have any of them been made better by being treated with scorn?

We look forward to hearing our neighbours' concerns over the latest proposal for Burr Place.

We expect staff and the proponents to answer their questions. And we expect district council members to listen carefully before making any decisions, but none of that will be possible if the discussion is derailed by a small group who believe those who can shout the loudest are the most deserving to be heard.

Ultimately, we feel there are two types of people who are afflicted by addictions: Those who are getting treatment and those who are not.

Those not in treatment should be the focus of community concern.

*What are your thoughts? Send us a letter via email by clicking [here \(http://www.nsnews.com/opinion/send-us-a-letter\)](http://www.nsnews.com/opinion/send-us-a-letter) or post a comment below.*

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