

I would like to echo the statements that were made by my fiancé David Penner. The Law Courts Inn is a beautiful venue and one of the rare gems in downtown Vancouver. Most weddings downtown Vancouver happen in hotels and the Law Courts provides people with a lovely alternative. The Law Courts Inn is also one of the last affordable wedding venues in downtown Vancouver and it would be a shame to lose such a beautiful place. We both live and work in downtown Vancouver and want to get married in a venue that is nearby and not a hotel or a small restaurant. I of course have to share the same concerns around COVID-19 and the availability of commercial space for citizens. As a health care worker, working in acute care, I have been impacted by the pandemic and am wanting to follow all public safety guidelines. The Law Courts Inn also provides people with a large enough space to socially distance and once again isn't in a hotel. In planning during uncertain times it was very important to have a venue that could meet the Health Ministers guidelines.

At the very least, I also just don't understand why a respected organization that serves the community wouldn't be provided with more time. They have secured contracts for next year and I would think the government would allow them to honour those. This year has already been difficult for many and to now take away jobs and close a beautiful venue for office space seems short sighted and just plain wrong. I would also encourage you to reconsider your decision and look for other more suitable office space.

Sincerely,

Kamal Manhas