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Hi, Laura

We would like to explain our situation when it comes to requesting the variance.

We made an application for a building permit in the month of April 2019. We were quite naïve thinking that our building permit would get the job done. We did notice in the correspondence that there was mention of a variance and the time it took to process it. We really didn't think anything of it because we were all prepared to meet the requirements and expectations of the CSRD. It took several months before we received our building permit. As I recall, it was sent to us on July 24, 2019 but we were at the lake at the time and our junk mail does not always come through our phone email as we would like. We returned home after the long weekend in August to find an email in the junk mail notifying us of our approved building permit.

During the waiting period for the permit, we worked alongside the CSRD staff to make sure that our building materials were appropriate and by the end of August, everything started to come together. At this point, we were changing our minds with one builder and looking for someone local to take on this project. However, this contractor proved to be very unreliable so we were very fortunate to have a contractor in the area working on a home who had a few days to spare.

We had been at the lake two weeks prior to prep the area for the builder and this is when we set the pins in the ground to lay out where the six posts would sit. We measured to make sure that we had the 2 meters plus two feet for the hang over. As soon as we pinned the front of the boat shelter, we knew that we were at a weird angle. However, we left it there and asked the neighbours what they thought. They all commented on the odd angle that it appeared to be at. We knew they were right but we were torn about what to do. We had a builder coming to build it and we needed to get it done to put the boat away for winter. We took it upon ourselves to rearrange the pins by moving the backend closer to the garage but the front still needed to run parallel with our retaining wall in order for the structure to appear correct and have decent curb appeal. This was becoming very stressful and we wanted to move forward. We then decided to leave the front pin where it was because there was a main water line on the neighbouring property and no one would ever be able to build even remotely close to us. At this moment, we made a bad decision to leave the pins in these spots with total disregard for the rules and regulations of the CSRD.

We did try our very best to adhere but fall had arrived and we really wanted this project to be completed as we had been at this project for already six months and we were tired of the long drawn out process.

We would sincerely like to apologize for disrespecting the rules. This was not our intent to be rude however, it does appear so.

We are very proud that we built a beautiful shelter that our neighbours love as well.

Sincerely,

Andy and Michelle Sierens