

Wiser

APRIL 2025

WELLNESS HOUSE: Project Update

Territorial Acknowledgement

Marylin Olsen-Page

Knowledge Keeper and
Tseycum Nation Member

Objective: Provide an update on the design, the vision for Wellness House, and provide an updated schedule.

01 PROJECT VISION

02 DESIGN UPDATE

03 WELLNESS HOUSE TEAM

04 PROJECT SCHEDULE

05 QUESTIONS

AGENDA

Project Vision

Aboriginal Coalition to End
Homelessness

Fran Hunt-Jinnouchi
Executive Director

Wade Hunt
Director of Housing Operations

Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness (ACEH)

Board of Directors

Comprised of representatives from Vancouver Island's three tribal regions: Coast Salish, Nuu-Chah-Nulth, and Kwakwaka'wakw, as well as Métis Nation BC.

Awards

- Housing Provider of the Year, BC Non-Profit Housing Association (2022)
- Award of Excellence, Victoria Real Estate Board (2021)
- Community Safety and Crime Prevention Award, Public Safety and Solicitor General (2022)



ACEH – Wellness House Project Team



Fran Hunt-Jinnouchi

Executive Director



Wade Hunt

Director of Housing Operations

Dual Model of Housing Care

Cultural Supports

- Elders, medicine keepers
- Ceremony, language, cultural activities
- Indigenous medicine, traditional foods

Decolonized Harm Reduction

- Land-based Healing
- Family Reunification Program
- Indigenous Alcohol Harm Reduction Program



Dual Model of Housing Care

Land-based Culture/Language/Healing

Art by Doug LaFortune

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Wellness House Vision

- Personal wellness journeys, family reunification, and cultural connections
- Continuity of care and housing for Indigenous individuals on a path towards wellness
- 7 streams of wrap around services with the goal to transition individuals into independent market housing with no time restrictions
- Indigenous and Community-led, with the guidance from the ACEH Elders & Knowledge Keepers Advisory Council



Photo credits: ACEH Annual Reports

Program Model Development

- Co-designed and researched by Dr. Meaghan Brown, Senior Manager of Health & Wellness and Fran Hunt-Jinnouchi
- Informed by the expressed voices and experience of the Indigenous street family/community



Relationship Commitments

Objective: Be a good neighbour to the community

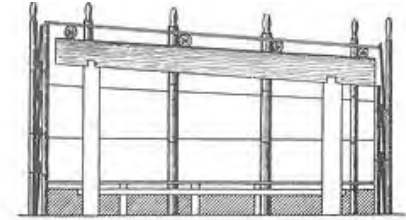
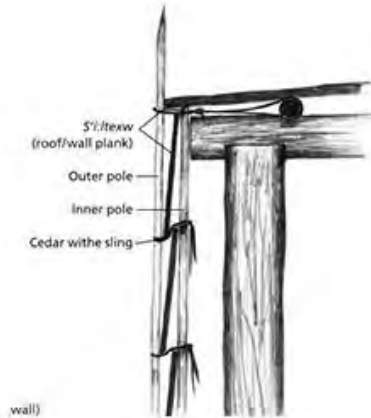


Design Update

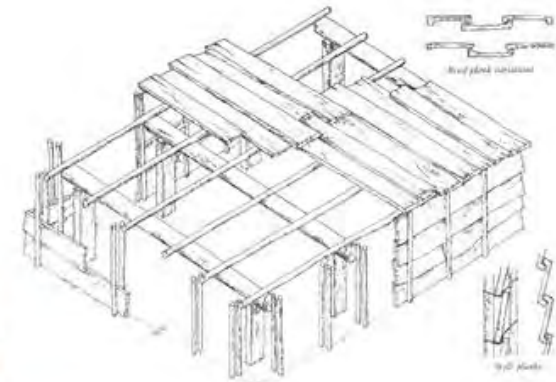
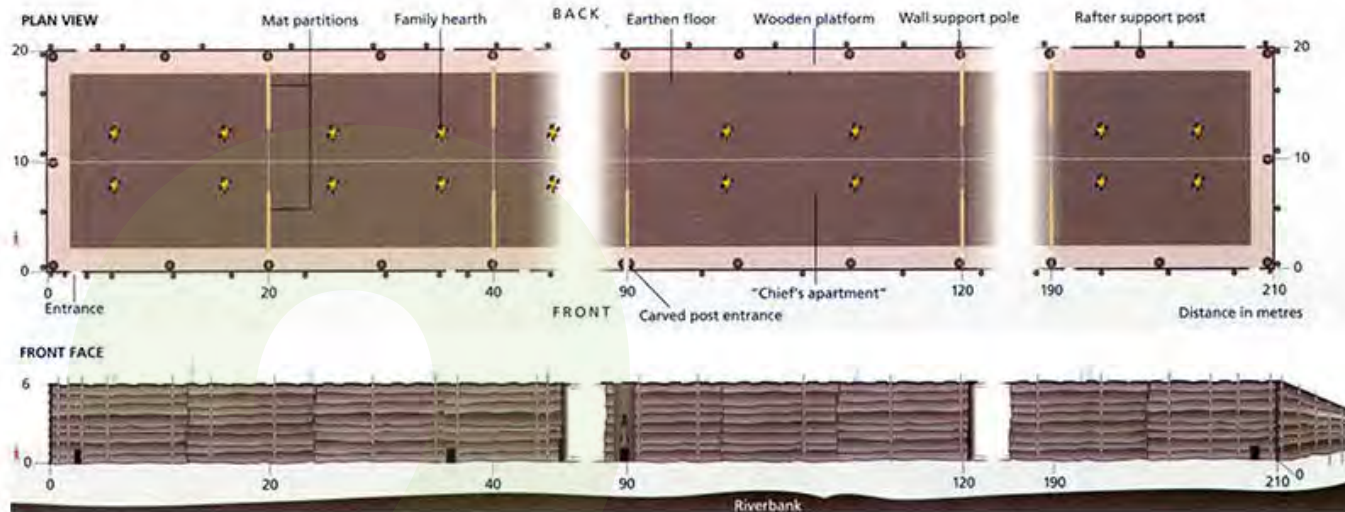
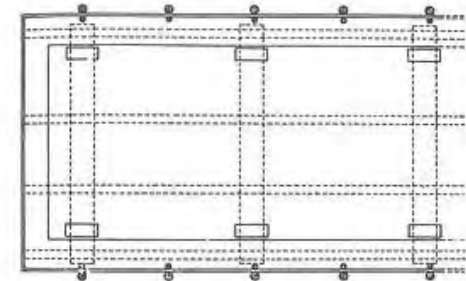
Alfred Waugh

President, Founder & Principal
Formline Architecture + Urbanism

Design: Coast Salish Culture



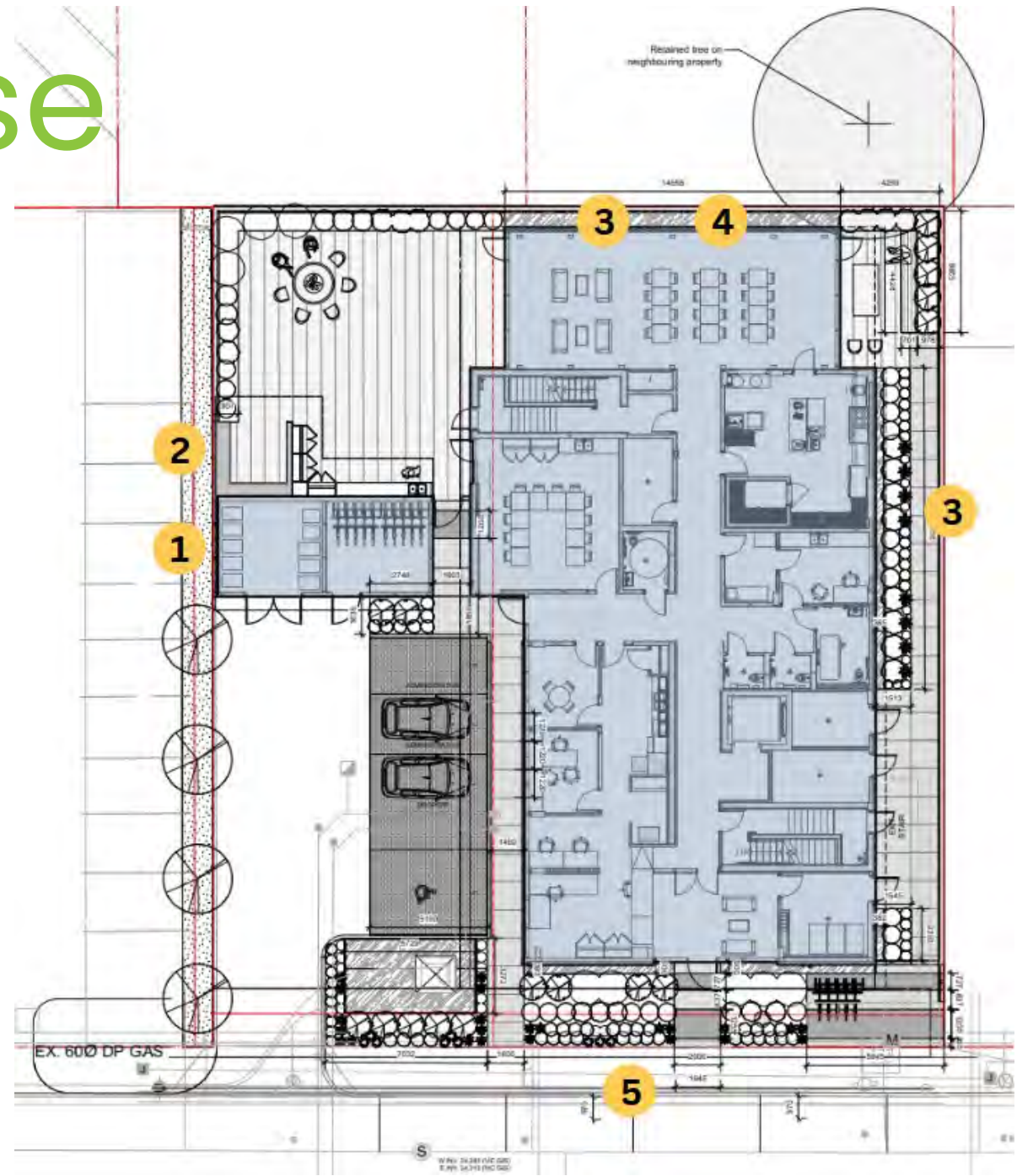
Section



Design Response

Based on feedback received at previous community meetings

- 1 Recycling/garbage area moved
- 2 Smoking and social area moved further from neighbours at north and east
- 3 Setbacks at north and east increased
- 4 North wall of the Ceremonial Room is fire rated
- 5 Landscape improvements



Project Design Overview

- 5 storeys
- Traditional construction with pre-fabricated elements
- Coast Salish, Metis, Nuu-Chah-Nulth, and Kwakwaka'wakw artwork
- Design inspired by Coast Salish culture
- Iterative design that reflects feedback from neighbours and partners

Rendering subject to change



Project Design Overview

- Outdoor programming opportunities
- Outdoor learning and gathering
- Gardening
- Connection with Nature



Rendering subject to change

Ceremonial Room

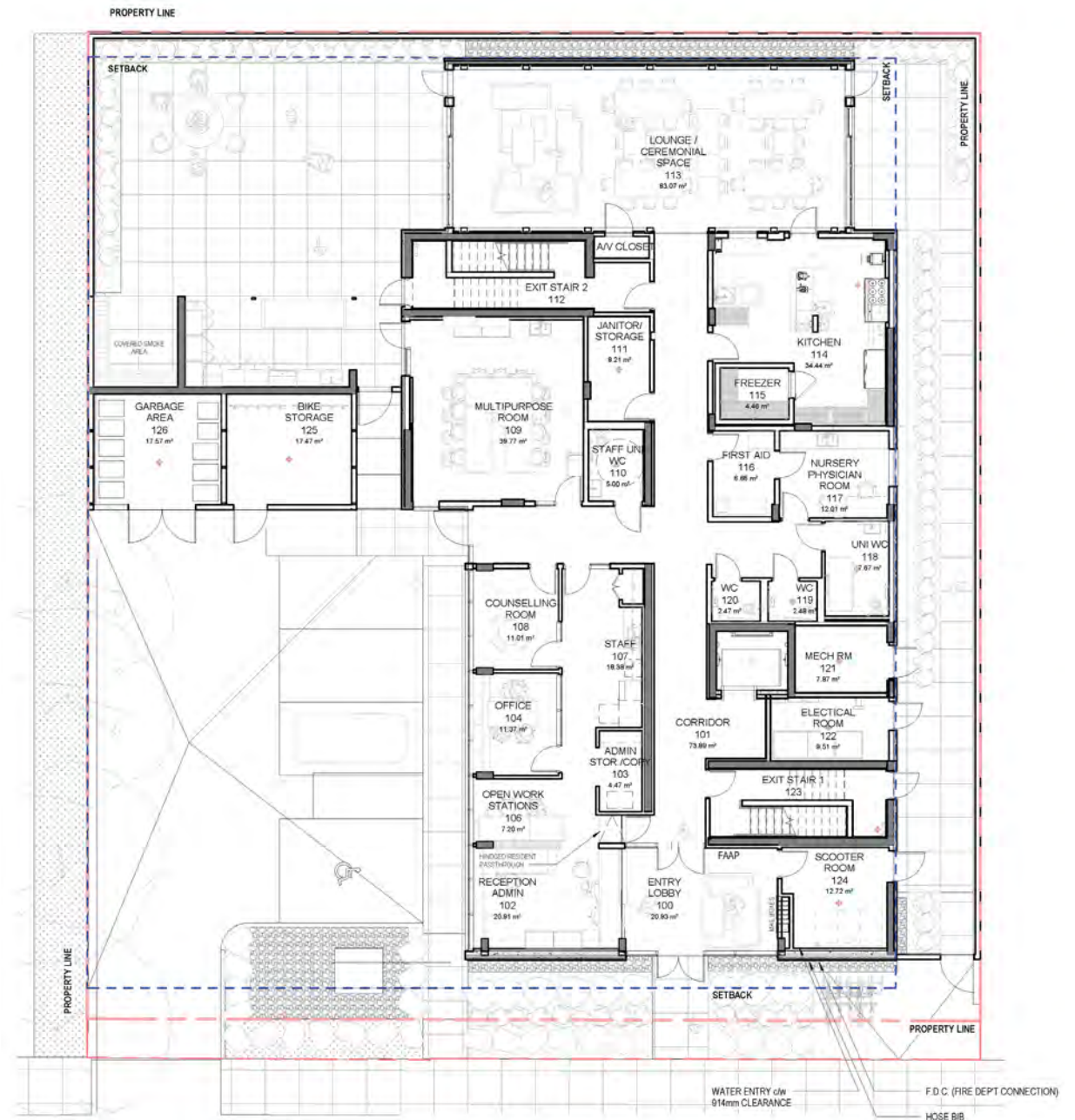
- Glulam beams
- Indoor/outdoor connectivity
- Ceremony
- Cultural programming



Rendering subject to change

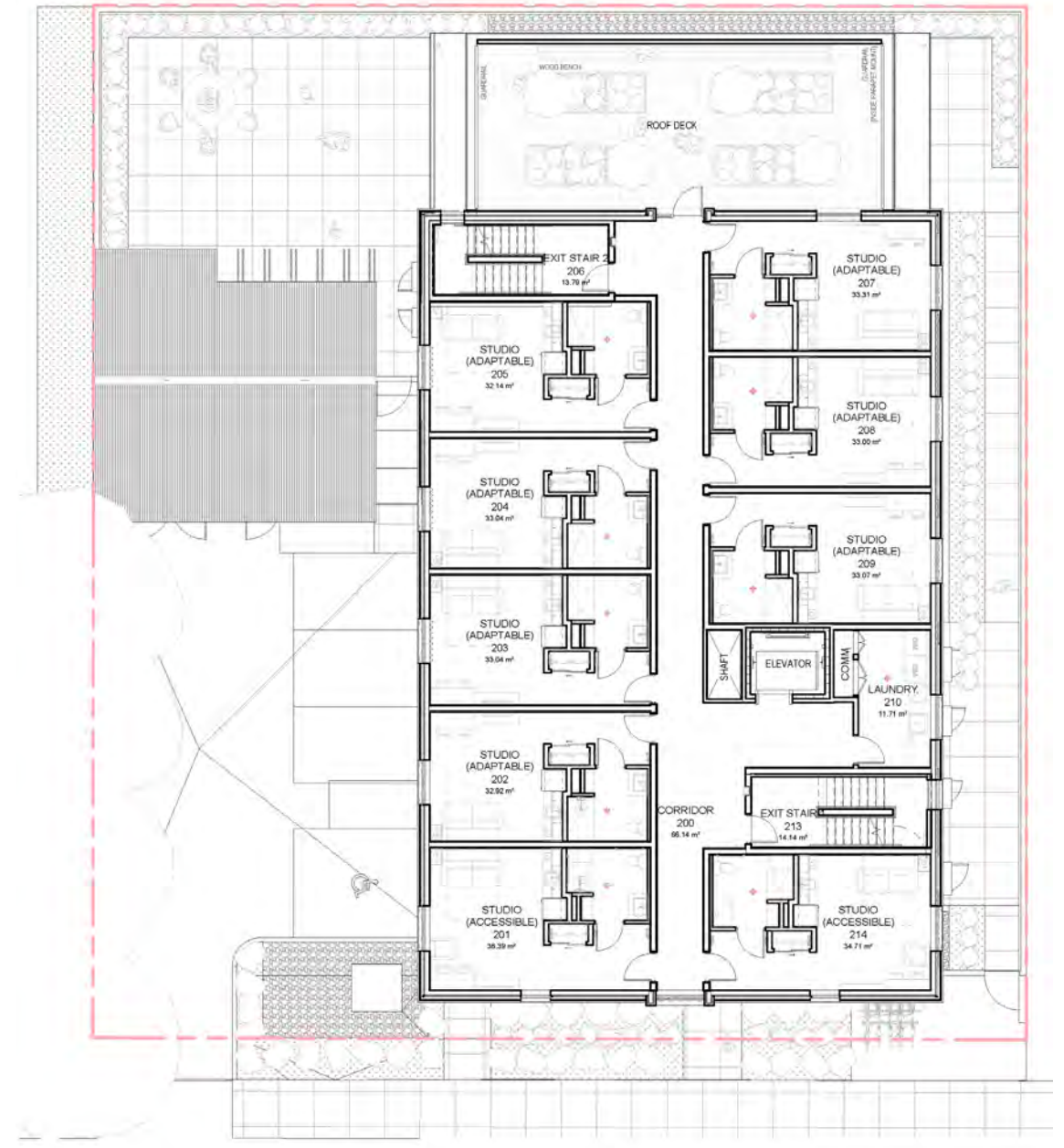
Ground floor

- Nursery/Physician room
- Staff offices and workspaces
- Reception area
- Scooter and bike parking
- Lounge/Ceremonial room
- Commercial kitchen
- Multipurpose room
- Washrooms
- Courtyard
- Meditation garden



Levels 2-5

- 33 studio units
- 1 two-bedroom unit
- 7 accessible units
- 27 adaptable units
- Shared laundry on each floor
- North facing patio on 2nd level



South elevation: *from Mason Street*



Rendering subject to change

North elevation: *from Balmoral Road*



Rendering subject to change
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Wellness House Team

Albert Lopez

Director of Community Housing,
Wiser Projects

BC Housing

- **Jennifer Fox** - Regional Director of Operations, Vancouver Island Region
- **Leo Latge** - Development Manager, Regional Development, Vancouver Island



BC HOUSING

Aboriginal Coalition to End Homelessness



Fran Hunt-Jinnouchi

Executive Director



Wade Hunt

Director of Housing Operations

Formline Architecture + Urbanism

- Indigenous House, University of Toronto
- Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre, University of British Columbia
- First Peoples House, University of Victoria
- New Central Library, Saskatoon
- Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre, Squamish Nation



Alfred Waugh, President, Founder & Principal

Architect AIBC, SAA, OAA, FRAIC, LEED AP



Daniel Szymanski, Project Manager

Intern Architect AIBC, M.Arch, B.A.

Wiser Projects

- PROFESSIONAL PLANNERS, VANCOUVER ISLAND BASED
- WOMEN-LED, B-CORP
- NON-PROFIT DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING
- PUBLIC, PRIVATE, INDIGENOUS & MUNICIPAL PARTNERS
- We help non-profits navigate the complex system of housing and community planning
- We strongly believe transparent knowledge and resource sharing, capacity building within and across sectors, and deep engagement and consultation are all critical to a project's success
- Our mission is to service the full development spectrum, from **vision to reality**

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Project Schedule

Albert Lopez

Director of Community Housing,
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Questions

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