



May 9, 2023

Toronto City Council

Sent via email - councilmeeting@toronto.ca

RE: MM6.10 Initiating a Mayor's Roundtable to Develop a Response Plan to Reduce and End Homelessness – by Councillor Pasternak, seconded by Councillor Saxe

Dear Deputy Mayor and Members of Council,

We are pleased today to write today, on behalf of both the Toronto Alliance to End Homelessness (TAEH) and the Toronto Shelter Network (TSN), in strong support of the motion by Councillor Pasternak to have City Council request the incoming Mayor of Toronto to strike a Mayor's Roundtable to develop a Response Plan to Reduce and End Homelessness and that the City Manager engage with expert representatives from TAEH and TSN membership as well as other City experts to operationalize the roundtable.

The TAEH and our partners, making up most of the supportive housing and homelessness service providers in the city, work collectively towards homelessness being rare, brief, and non-recurring in Toronto. We also serve as your non-Indigenous Community Advisory Board for housing and homelessness issues.

TSN represents more than 35 organizations that collectively deliver Toronto's 24-hour homelessness services, including traditional shelters, respite centres, 24-hour drop-ins, transitional housing and the COVID-19 shelter hotels. We enhance the collective capacity of homelessness service providers in Toronto through knowledge sharing and learning, collaborative planning, research and advocacy, and champion access to housing with dignity for people experiencing homelessness.

TAEH and TSN are working closely and collaboratively with staff from Shelter, Support and Housing Administration and the Housing Secretariat in a recently formed *Shelter and Housing*

Advisory Committee. This committee uses a shared strategic approach to current and emerging issues to address the needs of the housing and homelessness service system.

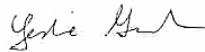
The proposed new Mayor's Roundtable is distinguished from the Advisory Committee as its goal is to create a multi-year plan to make homelessness rare, brief, and non-recurring. This is Toronto City Council's own adopted vision. The plan resulting from a Mayor's Roundtable will include clear targets and timelines, new potential funding opportunities, and effective metrics for measuring investments for people experiencing homelessness in Toronto.

We encourage City Council to adopt the recommendations put forward by Councillors Pasternak and Saxe and pave the way for the new Mayor to act quickly with this new Mayor's Roundtable. Both of our organizations are at the ready to make this Roundtable and its Response Plan to Reduce and End Homelessness a success.

Yours truly,



Kira Heineck,
Executive Director
Toronto Alliance to End Homelessness



Leslie Gash,
Executive Director
Toronto Shelter Network

TAEH Steering Committee

Canadian Mental Health Association -Toronto • John Howard Society – Toronto • Community Living Toronto • Loft Community Services • COTA • Madison Community Services • Covenant House Toronto • The Access Point • Dixon Hall Neighbourhood Services • Toronto Developmental Services Alliance • Fife House • Fred Victor Centre • Wellesley Institute • Homes First Society • WoodGreen Community Services • Houselink & Mainstay Community Housing

Toronto Shelter Network Board of Director Organizations

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