

# DECLARATION FOR PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Presenter: Nathalie Anderson

# Declaration for Planning and Development

- Genesis Lodge is a designated Heritage building, built around 1850, and is amongst the oldest homes in the city. It was once owned by John Vodden, president of the Brampton Fall Fair from 1855-1857, and for whom Vodden Street was named.
- It is a Greek Revival and Edwardian style home; the Greek Revival façade being a rare find in Brampton. It has been thought that the rear of the home was possibly once the front, facing Nelson Street and overlooking the Etobicoke River.
- Genesis Lodge has a longstanding history within the community and has been proven to change lives by offering stable housing and supportive rehabilitative programs which keep individuals off the streets and out of hospitals routinely.
- We work closely with the Region Of Peel housing Services to provide supportive housing primarily to adult males experiencing mental health and homelessness. Many of our referrals are from the ROP, Peel Outreach, Wilkinson Road Shelter, Safe Beds, Trillium Health Partners and other hospitals within the Peel area.

# Declaration for Planning and Development

- Over the many years of being a sustainable business, Genesis Lodge has created jobs for young professionals, enabling them to get a foothold in becoming established social workers, case managers, nurses, skilled trade workers, in addition to the many well-seasoned health care aides and personal support workers we employ, all of which have proven to be a self sustaining career.
- Genesis Lodge maintains an exceptional business front appearance, abiding by the recommended By-laws, Fire Safety Requirements, and Property Standards.
- With the passing of time and the age of our building, there has been only so much we have been able to do with the continuing maintenance of the Façade and property itself.
- The Community Improvement Program, and the Improvement Façade Program would enable us to make the necessary improvements.
- We were assured when we first approached the City, that we were eligible for this program and have spent the last year (+) submitting all documents, estimates, etc., as required. We were informed that our application would be submitted to Council as part of an Agenda for October.

# Declaration for Planning and Development

- Currently, the map for the Revitalization Project extends east of Main Street just shy of where Genesis Lodge is located, by approximately 30 feet, excluding us from the designated area of boundary.
- When looking at the boundaries we find that Brampton Community Living, our neighbors on the opposite side of Main Street, are included and therefore eligible to take advantage of the CIP Program.
- A Heritage home with historical significance, we respectfully request that the Council consider extending the boundaries to the East, to include our facility, considering the service we provide for a specific population within Brampton of which are unable to function independently so as to have a life of stability, dignity, and value.

# Declaration for Planning and Development

- Through our work, we have seen homelessness, and mental health issues coupled with addictions, on the rise in the downtown core of Brampton. We are a recognized resource for individuals experiencing mental health crises requiring supportive housing.
- We have been able to put an end to that revolving door for many of our clients, getting them off the streets, entering hospital as a result of decline. Helping our clients to become stable, live independently or return home to their families is our focus. And just as important, to provide them a sense of “home and self worth”.

# Declaration for Planning and Development

- Genesis Lodge, a home that has cared for over 200 clients within the mental health and homeless population for almost 40 years.
- Our goal is to continue to offer stable housing and rehabilitation as the needs of the community increase and change.
- The possibility of increasing our staffing levels by creating more opportunities to hire career driven new students is a current initiative also being developed.
- We will continue to reach out to community partners, such as shelters and community-based agencies geared to supporting clients within the judicial system.
- By working with these services, we will ensure the ongoing awareness that Genesis Lodge is a supportive/structured environment ready to assist the citizens of Brampton who face the challenges of mental health and homelessness and addiction.

# Declaration for Planning and Development

- The aim of the CIP program, is to enhance public spaces, support business growth, and improve the quality and appearance of our city. Genesis Lodge has also proven to have a share in this effort, and strives to continue to do on a daily basis.
- We kindly ask that our request for an Amendment of the current boundaries set forth in the CIP initiative be considered, and that they be moved further East to include our facility.

Thank you.



□ Program Boundary

■ Eligible Laneways