

November 2, 2021

Attention: All Members of Brampton City Council

Kerry's Place Autism Services (Kerry's Place) is in full support of the recommendations outlined in the in the staff report concerning the Supportive Housing Policy Review presented at the November 1, 2021 Planning and Development Committee Meeting. The City's Official Plan and 2040 Vision both aim at the development of new housing stock in collaboration with the non-profit sector to meet the needs of the diverse community in Brampton. Please accept this letter as official correspondence from Kerry's Place that supports the recommendations of the staff report in this matter. From the Kerry's Place perspective, the proposed amendments would better enable non-profit housing developers to achieve their goals and further the City of Brampton's 2040 Vision.

Kerry's Place is a non-profit organization that provides support for persons with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). The work we do includes helping persons with ASD find and maintain homes and build positive relationships with the people in their communities. For decades Kerry's Place has managed and operated supportive housing in the City of Brampton. The persons in our group homes are in most respects average - with similar lifestyles and goals as any citizen. The only significant difference from any average Bramptonian is a diagnosis of a developmental disability (DD). Being born with a DD may impact a person's physical or social development which may result in a need for additional assistance to participate in the activities of daily life. Person's with ASD are otherwise equal and included members of the Brampton Mosaic. Adopting the recommendations of this staff report will bring the city in line with neighboring Peel municipalities and the National Housing Strategy, which views housing as a human right to all Canadians.

Kerry's Place can confirm that the demand for supported housing in Brampton is overwhelming. We cannot develop new homes fast enough to meet the demand. The most recent project to develop a home for just 6 persons was begun in 2019 and has yet to be completed as of the writing of this letter. It has taken more than 2 years to develop a single project for 6 persons. Significant support from City Council in any future projects is desperately needed for the Brampton community to realize the 2040 vision. The recommended amendments to the Brampton's supportive housing policies and group home registration by-laws will stream line the process and offer a chance to provide safe and adequate housing for the Brampton citizens we support through Kerry's Place.

Regards,

Susan Vandavelde-Coke, CEO

Kerry's Place Autism Services