



February 21, 2014

Calgary Members of Council
The City of Calgary
Aldermanic Offices (8001)
P.O. Box 2100, Station "M"
Calgary, Alberta T2P 2M5

Your Worship and Members of Council:

Re: Community Affordable Housing Strategy

The Calgary Homeless Foundation strongly supports the development of a Community Affordable Housing Strategy led by the affordable housing team in the Office of Land Servicing and Housing. We participated in the Community Capacity Research Project and support the identified vision and gaps.

We see a great opportunity for The City to lead a collaborative process which will include various stakeholders from the not-for-profit community as well as the private sector.

We look forward to working with The City on aligning the Affordable Housing Strategy with other key community plans, including the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness (which will be updated with revised goals by the summer of this year) and the Calgary Poverty Reduction Initiative Strategy (approved by Council in May 2013).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martina Jileckova".

Martina Jileckova
VP Housing



February 21, 2014

Members
Priorities and Finance Committee
City of Calgary
P.O. Box 2100 Station M
Calgary, Alberta
T2P 2M5

Re: City of Calgary – Community Affordable Housing Strategy

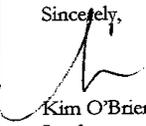
Dear Committee Members,

We at the Calgary Action Committee on Housing and Homelessness (CACHH) would like to express our full support for the development of a comprehensive Calgary Affordable Housing Strategy. The CACHH provides a common voice that brings together the wisdom of professionals in our communities who are working to ensure a better life for our most vulnerable neighbours. We help to coordinate the efforts of all stakeholders to prevent and end homelessness in Calgary. Affordable Housing is a top priority for CACHH.

We appreciate the consultations with our group that have led up to the recommendation of an affordable housing strategy. We are thankful that consideration is being given for this pressing need.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me. As the lead for CACHH's Affordable Housing Working Group I would be happy to provide additional detail on why we feel that a Community Affordable Housing Strategy will benefit The City of Calgary and the health of the social fabric in our complete community.

Sincerely,


Kim O'Brien
Lead,
CACHH Affordable Housing Working Group

Executive Director
Horizon Housing Society
400, 105 - 12th Avenue SE Calgary, Alberta T2G 1A1
t: 403.297.1705 f: 403.297.1403
kimo@horizonhousing.ab.ca

Ending
Homelessness
in Calgary
through
Community
Empowerment

- CACHH
Vision

c/o 308, 925 7 Ave SW
Calgary, AB
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320 – 5th Avenue SE
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Charitable Reg. #: 108227927 RR0001

February 20, 2014

Members of Priorities and Finance Committee
City of Calgary
P.O. Box 2100, Station M
Calgary, Alberta
T2P 2M5

RE: City of Calgary - Community Affordable Housing Strategy

Dear Members of Council,

As an organization committed to serving and advocating for women in our community who are vulnerable, the YWCA of Calgary supports the development of a comprehensive, community affordable housing strategy.

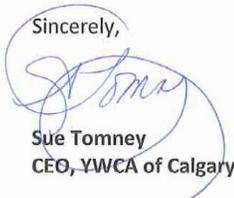
The YWCA provides a variety of emergency shelter and housing services for women experiencing family violence, homelessness, isolation and poverty. In 2013, 1,224 women and 328 children spent at least one night under a YWCA of Calgary roof.

The length of time women stayed in the YWCA Sheriff King Home emergency shelter and the YWCA Mary Dover House supportive housing program in 2013 increased significantly over prior years due, primarily, to their inability to secure other accommodations. Daily, we support women to find safe, affordable and appropriate housing in Calgary's ever-tightening rental market.

We know that the availability of housing for people at all income levels will be essential to the YWCA achieving its vision of "women thriving in a safe and equitable community." We cannot achieve this alone and hope Council supports this strategy development request.

Just as we supported the development of the laudable Calgary Poverty Reduction Strategy, we look forward to working alongside elected officials, City administration, non-profit and industry partners in the articulation and realization of a housing continuum to meet the needs of all Calgarians. We are grateful for continued funding support from the City of Calgary – Family and Community Support Services which helps to enable our services.

Sincerely,



Sue Tomney
CEO, YWCA of Calgary

INTERVENE

EMPOWER

LEAD



400 -05 - 12 Avenue SE Calgary, AB T2G 1A1
T: 403.297.1745 F: 403.297.1403 www.horizonhousing.ab.ca

February 24, 2014

Members of the Priorities and Finance Committee
City of Calgary
P.O. Box 2100 Station M
Calgary, Alberta T2P 2M5

RE: City of Calgary – Community Affordable Housing Strategy

Dear Committee Members,

Horizon Housing Society recognizes the importance of the City of Calgary's leadership in addressing the issues of homelessness and affordable housing. As Calgary experiences constricted vacancy rates and rents increase to record highs, it is more important than ever to ensure affordable housing options exist within our city.

As a leader in the affordable housing sector, Horizon Housing Society fully supports the development of a comprehensive affordable housing strategy.

Horizon Housing Society has been providing affordable, integrated and supported homes for people in need. The Society currently owns and operates 581 units of affordable housing in Calgary. Our properties range from individual group homes to multi-family apartment properties. We span a variety of locations throughout the city and promote a mixed-use concept for our residences. We serve tenants with a variety of special needs including mental health challenges, physical disability, families and seniors living below the poverty line and the working poor. This type of housing helps reduce the stigma attached to a particular group and promotes community integration, independent living and acceptance while enhancing our tenants' quality of life.

Please feel free to contact me directly at 403-297-1705 or via email at kimo@horizonhousing.ab.ca should you have any questions or if you would like to receive further information regarding the Society.

Sincerely,

Kim O'Brien
Executive Director
Horizon Housing Society

HORIZON HOUSING SOCIETY Providing homes for people in need.