

March 9, 2021

To Region Councillors and the Regional Clerk,

Our organization would like to add our support to Reena's request for Rent Supplements for the Lou Fruitman Reena Residence and the development of a fair and equitable process to deliver rent supplements to individuals qualifying for healthcare supports in the years ahead.

Vita Community Living Services of Toronto Inc. provides specialized services to help and support adults with developmental disabilities, dual diagnosis, and chronic mental illness to live life to fullest. We deliver client-focused services and innovative practices that optimize personal growth and independence, and contribute to advancing the sector we work within.

Although our organization does not currently build or own not-for-profit housing facilities, we do rely on for-profit rental property operators willing to have our clients rent from them.

The individuals we support require rent supplements to bridge the gap between \$497/month ODSP and the average market rent in York Region.

These rent supplements ensure that those in need who qualify for healthcare supports, also have the ability to keep a roof over their head.

We look forward to the passage of this resolution and working with the York Region staff team that will be charged to set up a fair and equitable process to deliver rent supplements to individuals qualifying for healthcare and or social supports in the years ahead.

We hope this resolution will pass, and that the result will be a clear mandate to staff to execute, enabling York Region to join other Municipal and Regional jurisdictions in the Province who have already recognized the shared responsibility of providing "deeply affordable" housing to individuals who through no fault of their own are living on a monthly shelter allowance, and provided a clear mandate to staff to execute.

Thank you,



Adam Smith
Executive Director
Vita Community Living Services of Toronto Inc.