

Mayor Morgan's statement to Ward 7's concerns "fear and misconceptions" are not mine, rather facts and reality!

As delineated by Councillor Rahman the RFP is already compromised:

-no rezoning for hubs 3-5

-number of beds open for December 2023

-secured funding amounts

My concern and understanding regarding the CMHA's bid for Hub 5 at 705 Fanshawe Road West are:

-CMHA is the agency responsible for Nicole's Choice which was established with the belief that if Nicole could have been housed, she wouldn't have died! However, the **reality** is that many women have overdosed at this facility as well as at least one death from a former resident of this facility. Addiction counsellors have extreme limitations to mitigate addiction and mental health issues. This facility is in a constant flux of drug and sex work problems as well as infestations of bed bugs and cockroaches.

CMHA cannot in good faith ensure that 705 Fanshawe will NOT inherit Nicole's Choice problems. Shelter alone does not address the complex behaviour and needs of these extremely unwell persons with addiction and mental health issues. To purport that this hub will have 24/7 support to resources is naïve given the RFP has already deviated from the initial proposal of implementation. Even if this weren't the case that does not ensure their clientele would focus beyond their need for the next fix to support their addiction. Many of the unhoused individuals have severe behaviour problems that do not allow them to access shelters; not that there are enough shelters either. The individuals accessing hubs have quite often been previously housed and don't have the skills to look after themselves. Specialized staff and security personnel that is allowed to enforce boundaries and restrictions are needed to ensure successful housing. This should not fluctuate due to budget constraints which is often the case. What is proposed has already been sidelined as outlined by Councillor Rahman at the September 25th meeting. This doesn't bode well for a successful hub at 705 Fanshawe Park Road West.

705 Fanshawe Road West is NOT the solution to homelessness the CMHA and Council would want us to believe. **It is imperative that this location is open to more scrutiny and consultation** given the abrupt notice to the public and *"the results included in the report, are not what we (Council) supported and consulted the public on". (Councillor Rahman)*

Margaret Lockwood

Ward 7