



Strategic Planning Opportunities Working Group (SORWG)

Re: City of London Capital and Innovation Grants and the Neighbourhood Decision Making Program

Dear Committee,

Meals on Wheels London wants to express its gratitude for the support of the City of London as a partner and funder for its programming. Our organization has operated in London for 55 years and provides meals and transportation services to vulnerable low-income seniors and people with disabilities across the City of London. As a partner who knows the value of community investment we wanted to send this letter of support for this program.

Our organization wants to advocate to keep this program because:

- a. This funding leads to new and innovative programs that service the unique needs of Londoners. Meals on Wheels London started with just 6 clients and a few thousand dollars and has grown to serve thousands within our community.
- b. The City of London is a growing City that is requiring more and more service. Investments like this ensure organizations who are providing service can seek the support of the city they serve.
- c. We recognize that the city does provide multi-year grant funding to organizations. However, this program purpose is for capital investments which will service growth and innovative ideas that meet needs of Londoners as they arise each year. The multi-year grants only allow application once per council cycle.

Our organization knows that these are difficult times for our community. We see this in the individuals we are serving. We understand the need for savings but do not feel it should come at the cost of those providing essential services to Londoners.

Thank you and welcome any questions,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Chad Callander', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

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