

Dear Members of London City Council,

I am writing to express my **strong support** for the extension of 519Pursuit's contract as a vital component of London's Whole of Community Response to homelessness.

Please add this submission to the CPSC report item number 4.2 Report Back: Basic Needs and Pathway Options Feasibility of Contract Extension - 519Pursuit Umbrella Relief Programs Inc. Additionally, if possible, please confirm receipt of my letter as well as confirmation that it will be included in the council agenda. Finally, I give permission for my letter to be included in the public agenda.

Over the past several years, 519Pursuit has established itself as a consistent, trusted presence for individuals facing homelessness and extreme poverty in our city. Through street-level outreach, the team provides essential support including food security, care packages, survival gear, and system navigation—meeting people where they are, often in encampments or in moments of urgent need.

What makes 519Pursuit uniquely impactful is not only what they provide, but *how they provide it*. Their approach is rooted in dignity, relationship-building, and trust. These relationships are often the first step in connecting individuals to broader systems of care, including housing, healthcare, and social services.

As part of the Whole of Community Response, *519Pursuit fills a critical gap*. They operate on the front lines, often reaching individuals who are not yet connected—or no longer connected—to formal systems of support. Without this consistent outreach presence, many of our most vulnerable community members risk being left behind, and the broader system loses an essential entry point for engagement.

In addition, *519Pursuit's model fosters long-term impact* by creating pathways for individuals to move from being supported to becoming contributors—many eventually volunteering and even working within outreach efforts themselves. This cycle of support and empowerment strengthens not only individual outcomes but the resilience of our community as a whole.

At a time when the need for coordinated, compassionate, and consistent outreach has never been greater, it is crucial that we continue to invest in organizations that are proven, trusted, and deeply embedded in the community. And 519Pursuit is just that - a trusted presence - one that could be *and should be* drawn upon to aid the City of London in achieving their short and long-term goals, particularly as they pertain to the Whole of Community Response. This is only possible if 519Pursuit can continue to carry out their meaningful, critical work with vulnerable people in our city.

For these reasons, I respectfully ***urge the City Council to approve a contract extension for 519Pursuit***, ensuring that this essential work continues uninterrupted. Supporting 519Pursuit is not only an investment in individuals experiencing homelessness—it is an investment in the health, safety, and well-being of our entire community.

Thank you for your time, leadership, and continued commitment to addressing homelessness in London.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Spinney