

**(No Subject)**

From: **Lorraine Fay**  
Sent: Tue 7/17/12 6:34 PM  
To:

Good Morning Mayor Fontana, Counsel Member and Committee Members. My granddaughter Destiny always tells me to sip it and lock it, but the time has come where I can no longer do that.

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to speak to a matter very near and dear to me.

Under the *Housing Services Act, 2011* (HSA), municipal service managers - such as the City of London - are responsible for funding and administering social housing

Section 43 of the HSA, requires service managers to establish occupancy standards for geared-to-income tenants. Regulations allow a service manager to set a rule that a household that no longer meets the standards would lose their eligibility for subsidy. If such a rule is made, there must also be a procedure included to enable over housed tenants to transfer to a more appropriately-sized unit.

Occupancy standards would also include exceptions for specific circumstances. Under the regulations, a service manager's occupancy standard would be required to allow extra bedrooms if one is needed due to disability or a medical need, or for a post-secondary students who normally return to the unit when not in school. Service managers could add other exceptions

The HSA is available at [http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws\\_statutes\\_11h06\\_e.htm](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/statutes/english/elaws_statutes_11h06_e.htm)

The regulation can be viewed at [http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/regs/english/elaws\\_regs\\_110367\\_e.htm](http://www.e-laws.gov.on.ca/html/regs/english/elaws_regs_110367_e.htm)

Housing providers covered by the HSA are expected to manage their projects in compliance with local rules.

A review of continued eligibility must be completed once every 12 month period. It is through the annual review the eligibility officer will consider any change in income or members of the household. This will determine eligibility for the unit occupied. If this is the case than how is it that a single person is still occupying 2&3 bedrooms years after their children have moved on?

**MY MESSAGE TO THE RESIDENTS OF LONDON**

I am very unsettled there are Londoners abusing the very system put into place that helped them through their own times of need. To know there are individuals occupying 2 & 3 bedroom units as a single person. How does this happen? There are so many men women and children in shelters and on a waiting list some are waiting 2 to 3 years for the 2 and 3 bedrooms. This is not only abuse of the system on the resident's part but neglect on the part of the London Housing Corp.

When signing your lease agreement, under the HSA you are required to report any changes of income or the number of members living in the said unit. I am stunned! If I know of one person, times that by the number of

residents in London. I took my own little survey randomly talking with the citizens of London and I was astounded that so many people are aware of the abuse and many have family members suffering as a result. How many people are occupying units no longer suited to their need? Do they not know they can call London Housing and request a one bedroom due to changes in their circumstances? No one will be left out in the cold, other than the women and children waiting for the unit you occupy, the unit you call home.

We are constantly screaming for more money, more affordable housing units. Let's get back to the basics and go back to the root of the problem first. Audit the files to determine those who are over housed and act according to the HSA to provide a unit based on current need. Move a single person to a one bedroom and that will open up a family unit. I bring this to your attention as my concerns have fallen on deaf ears. I am wondering if we need a central data base available access to all service providers's for example, ODSP, OW, and CPP. When a persons income changes, when their children move out, this must be reported to their financial service provider, so how is it the changes have not been reported to housing???? The individual is expected to report change of income and provide proof so how is this missed???? There has been welcomed change to the city of London and I believe our next step is with housing. The ball has been dropped and it costing our community more than money.

Three bedrooms are designed for families and it is not a single person dwelling. All children need is a place to call home where they can do their homework, eat family dinners, have friends, go to school, not to say what Mom needs. The security of knowing her children are safe and have a roof over their head. The families need those who are abusing the system to step up. London Housing needs to take a serious look at those individuals who are over housed. A single mother, a single father deserve the support that was designed to help FAMILIES obtain a unit based on the number of people who will be occupying the unit. There is nothing London Housing can tell me to justify a single person occupying a three bedroom. Please I call for your support to support those in need. It is a matter of change, monitoring the system and implementing in depth reviews of client files. We are so focused on creating more affordable housing, I think we need to go into files 25 to 30 years old. This may allow for us to have a clearer vision in terms of what we need. Who knows we may determine those long terms residence must be nearing 50 plus. Maybe it will be 50 plus housing we need. Let's free up the family units.

We are very fortunate in the City of London in terms of Housing support. However in my humble opinion we need to revamp a broken system in terms of over housed units.

I will leave my concerns in your competent hands. The City of London is our home what a wonderful opportunity the Committee has provided to Londoners to voice their concerns and hopefully add value to the decision making of the Committee.

If you are looking for someone to go through the many files, Call me, I am looking for work

I thank you for your time