



June 7, 2019

Community and Protective Services Committee  
City Clerk's Office  
City of London  
300 Dufferin Ave  
London, ON, N6A 4L9  
Email: cpssc@london.ca

**RE: Submission by Neighbourhood Legal Services**

The London Homeless Coalition exists to advise, shape, and coordinate community responses to homelessness in the London area. Our membership consists of organizations, people with lived experience, academics, and engaged citizens. Part of our work is to advocate for government policies to support preventing and ending homelessness in our community.

We are familiar with the June 3 request by Neighbourhood Legal Services for delegation status to discuss impacts of social assistance changes. We share their concerns about provincial downloading of costs that put services at risk. We highlight for example that public libraries serve as a safe and welcoming space for people experiencing homelessness to access services such as computers. We also highlight that people experiencing homelessness have greater need for some public services such as healthcare. Therefore, should downloading lead to service reductions, we fear that those experiencing homelessness could be disproportionately impacted.

To the particular points made by Neighbourhood Legal, we offer our agreement. These are concerns about reduced social assistance increases, the potential change to the ODSP definition of disability, and the elimination of the transition child benefit.

The purpose of this letter is two-fold: 1) To support the request for delegation status; and 2) To support the requested resolution for the City of London to call upon the provincial government to avoid or reverse decisions on the definition of disability and the elimination of the transition child benefit.

Thank you for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Abe Oudshoorn", is written above a horizontal line.

Abe Oudshoorn

Chair, London Homeless Coalition