

**From:** Abe Oudshoorn  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 22, 2019 9:22 AM  
**To:** SPPC <sppc@london.ca>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Meeting Aug 26, Item 2.2

Good morning, I hope it is not too late for added public comment on consent item 2.2 of the upcoming SPPC meeting.

I wanted to speak to the KPMG report on housing. I have significant concern that while this report provides some advice regarding financial management, it fundamentally lacks the vision required to change an affordable housing system that is falling behind. Londoners are seeking a change in the current trajectory that is seeing more people on the social housing waitlist and longer stays in emergency shelter. This requires strategic vision and the proper policy environment.

I disagree with two recommendations in the report:

1) *The recommendation to maintain LMCH policies with no change.* Facing a growing capital expense backlog, LMCH has been exploring novel ways to both renew stock while increasing their units. They need the policy flexibility to allow this to happen. Keeping things the same and just rolling together their back office with the housing division changes nothing in the big picture and we will find ourselves just getting further and further behind with social housing expenses.

2) *The recommendation to dissolve the HDC.* New affordable housing is desperately needed to address the housing crisis. The current model is working to bring new units online, but not at a pace that is meeting the demand. Therefore, the HDC already has the policy tools at its disposal to do things differently, such as launching projects through the purchasing of land and servicing of sites prior to a partner being identified. Yes, this means increased financial risk to the City, but it also means faster progress on new developments. Dissolving the HDC will mean the loss of these opportunities and while it might lead to savings on a staff position or two, it does nothing to address the overall crisis.

Thank you for your consideration of this issue.

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Abe Oudshoorn, RN, PhD  
Assistant Professor  
Arthur Labatt Family School of Nursing  
Room 2304, FIMS & Nursing Building  
Western University  
London, ON, N6A 5B9