

February 25, 2021

Community and Protective Services Committee Members Via email: CPSC@london.ca Cc: jhelmer@london.ca; mcassidy@london.ca

Re: Request for Delegation Status

Dear Community and Protective Services Committee Members,

Mission Services of London (MSL) is requesting delegation status at a future Community and Protective Services Committee (CPSC) meeting. The purpose of this request is to provide City Council with a report regarding the following three topics.

1. Funding awarded to MSL by the City of London as administrator of the federal government's Homelessness Partnering Strategy/Reaching Home strategy

Beginning in 2014, funding allocated by the City as part of the federal government's Homelessness Partnering Strategy, now known as Reaching Home, led to an influential research project. The research findings informed and brought about a novel program called Prevention of Homelessness among Families (PHAF) offered by MSL at Rotholme Family Shelter. The investment made by the City enabled MSL to first research and develop PHAF, a Housing First program, and then to seek funding from other sources to ensure its sustainability. PHAF is comprised of three components; shelter diversion, housing selection, and housing stability.

2. Head leases MSL has with the City of London

Beginning in 2018, a novel head lease partnership between the City and MSL involving City-owned houses along a proposed BRT route has provided families with safe, affordable, and adequate housing.

3. Observations on Homelessness funding

We would like to provide very brief comments on our perspective of funding challenges and realities.

We look forward to sharing with and reporting to the CPSC and Council on how PHAF and the head lease partnership have resulted in London families avoiding emergency shelter, finding permanent housing, and securing it for the longterm.

Sincerely,

Executive Director

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