



February 17, 2023

Mayor Josh Morgan and Members of City Council
City of London
300 Dufferin Avenue
London ON N6A 4L9

Dear Mayor Morgan and Councillors:

Re: Support of the Health and Homelessness Whole of Community System Response

On behalf of our team at the London InterCommunity Health Centre, I would like to offer our enthusiastic support for the proposed system model. It was a pleasure to be part of such a comprehensive, cross-sectoral process that engaged individuals and organizations across our community.

Through the summit process, we have built a coalition for change; we have a shared understanding of the challenge that is before us, and a deep commitment to doing things differently, together. The coalition spans health and social services, institutional healthcare, education, emergency services, business and economic development, land and housing development, City of London staff, and staff with other levels of government. This afternoon, with your endorsement of the system model, we hope you will join the coalition.

We feel strongly that the proposed system model is a vision for transformational change in our community. It is ambitious, and it is necessary. To be successful, we need a Whole of London approach that breaks down silos and barriers, strengthens relationships, and acknowledges that we are committing to a mission that is larger than any organization, sector, or level of government can accomplish on its own. City Council endorsement of the system model, and the allocation of London Community Network funding, will demonstrate unity and strength in meeting this crisis through transformative change. It also signals that we are ready to speak with one voice to other levels of government about what we need to bring about the change we so desperately need.

Your vote marks the end of the beginning of this journey. With your endorsement, we look forward to moving to the next critical phase of this work – system governance and implementation - and tackling that work with the same collaborative approach and sense of urgency that we have brought to date.

We can do this. We must do this. Let us lead the way in addressing the needs of our unsheltered neighbours, and serving as an inspiration for other communities across Ontario.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Courtice', is written over a light grey circular stamp.

Scott Courtice
Executive Director

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