



Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee  
c/o London City Hall  
300 Dufferin Ave,  
London, ON N6B 1Z2

23 February 2023

Dear Members of the Strategic Priorities and Policy Committee:

On behalf of the St. Joseph's Health Care Society, I would like to register our clear and strong support for the Health & Homelessness Whole of Community System Response. Three key factors stemming from the initiative undergird our support.

Firstly, the Response is rooted in a fundamental principle – namely, that housing is healthcare, and a fundamental human right. Housing is widely recognized as one of the key social determinants of health. And as study after study confirms, there is an interdependence between health outcomes, health system utilization and accessibility to housing. The Response acknowledges and embraces the vital need for a systems approach to the issue of homelessness.

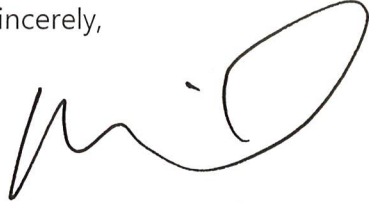
Secondly, the fact that over 200 individuals representing more than 70 organizations from across London were able to develop the model in less than 100 days demonstrates a very real sense that “we are all in this together” as a community. I had the honour of representing my organization at the third Summit and experienced first-hand the participant's bond around a common commitment to overcoming homelessness in our City.

Finally, and most importantly, the Response provides a legitimate possibility of hope for the most marginalized persons in our community who are in need of housing. This plan will save lives and provide access to much needed care. The Response demonstrates that the dignity of persons experiencing homelessness is something the City of London is committed to supporting and promoting.

**St. Joseph's Health Care Society**  
c/o St. Joseph's Health Care London, 268 Grosvenor Street, Room E4 - 113  
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There is no doubt that the path ahead will be filled with many challenges, but please be assured of our willingness to support the next phase of the development of system governance and Response implementation in any way that we can.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Corneil', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

Richard Corneil, CEO

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