

October 5, 2009

Members of the Affordable Housing Committee,

With City Council's adoption of Housing Opportunities Toronto –An Affordable Housing Action Plan 2010-2020 in August, the City has put in place a 10-year strategy to guide the activities of affordable housing partnerships in the public and private sectors.

Committee members well know that our partners are absolutely essential to the provision of affordable housing in Toronto. It is their hard work, dedication and professionalism that insure the creation of safe, affordable and well-maintained homes. However, this important work too often goes unnoticed by the City and the public.

For these reasons, I believe it is time for the City of Toronto to formally honour its housing partners on an annual basis, beginning in the spring of 2010. I propose that these annual awards will recognize outstanding achievement and innovation in each of the five target areas contained in Housing Opportunities Toronto:

- Increasing the amount of supportive housing
- Creating new affordable housing opportunities
- Repairing and revitalizing Toronto's rental housing stock
- Creating new affordable rental housing, and
- Helping people buy or retain their own homes

I therefore am seeking the Committee's approval for the following motion:

That City staff provide to the Affordable Housing Committee in early 2010 a report outlining a proposal for the annual Affordable Housing Award program; and

That the Affordable Housing Awards consist of one winner and one honourable mention in each of the five target areas contained in Housing Opportunities Toronto; and

That the Affordable Housing Awards be presented each spring.

