TORONTO

# STAFF REPORT
# INFORMATION ONLY

## Response to Affordable Housing Committee Motions Regarding 2350 Finch Avenue West

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| **Date:** | July 9, 2008 |
| **To:** | Toronto City Council |
| **From:** | Sue Corke, Deputy City Manager |
| **Wards:** | **7 York West** |
| **Reference Number:** | |

## SUMMARY

The Affordable Housing Committee (AHC), at its meeting of June 16, 2008, requested Deputy City Manager Sue Corke report to City Council on the legal implications of two motions regarding the affordable housing at 2350 Finch Avenue W.

The motions were passed in conjunction with the report "Securing the City's Interest in Affordable Homes at 2350 Finch Avenue West". The motions requested that every effort be made to market the remaining units of the building to the Ghanaian community, single-mother-led families and seniors and that an Advisory Panel established by Ghana Amansie provide rental and management advice to TCHC to make the development sensitive to the housing and cultural needs of the Ghanian community.

This report states that there are no direct legal implications arising from these two motions.

### Financial Impact

There are no financial impacts from this report.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial impact information.

## DECISION HISTORY

The June 16, 2008 meeting of the Affordable Housing Committee and the June 26th meeting of the Executive Committee approved the staff report "Securing the City's

Interest in Affordable Homes at 2350 Finch Avenue West". The report recommends that funding from the Capital Revolving Fund and Development Charges Reserve Fund be provided to complete construction and cover initial vacancy losses. It also recommends that the City exercise whatever legal remedies are necessary to assign the land lease and funding agreements entered into by the City with Ghana Amansie in order to transfer the building to Toronto Community Housing Corporation.
(http://www.tornto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/ah/bgrd/backgroundfile-13640.pdf)

In conjunction with the staff report, the Committee passed two motions which were referred to Sue Corke, Deputy City Manager to report to the Executive Committee meeting of June 26, 2008 or to the City Council meeting to be held July 15, 2008 with regard to whether there were any legal implications to these matters.

The motions are as follows:

That the Affordable Housing Committee recommend to City Council that should the City be forced to move in a legal direction, the property management at 2350 Finch Avenue West be requested to make every effort to market the remaining units to groups in need of affordable housing, including the Ghanaian community, single-mother-led families and seniors.

That the Affordable Housing Committee requests that Toronto Community Housing Corporation work with an Advisory Panel established by the "Ghana Amansie Non-Profit Homes" to provide rental and management advice to TCHC for 2350 Finch Avenue W. to ensure the building is sensitive to the housing and cultural needs of the Ghanian community.

## ISSUE BACKGROUND

The two motions relate to the marketing of the remaining affordable homes to members of the Ghanaian community, single-mother-led families and seniors, and the possible future involvement of Ghana Amansie, notwithstanding the fact that the group may not be operating the building.

Since the adoption of the staff report by the Affordable Housing and Executive Committee, the Affordable Housing Office has met with the Board of Ghana Amansie Non-Profit Canadian Homes. The Board understands the importance of the City's action in securing the building with the transfer to Toronto Community Housing.

## COMMENTS

There are no legal implications arising from the two motions as it relates to marketing of the remaining homes or the establishment of a voluntary advisory committee.

The request to market remaining units to the Ghanaian community, single-mother-led families and seniors already falls within the mandate of the Canada-Ontario Affordable Housing Program from which this development is funded. Some members of these groups have already been accepted as residents and will continue to be targeted as future residents through the marketing campaign being carried out by Upper Canada Property Management.

The request to establish a volunteer advisory committee is being discussed with the Board of Directors as part of the proposed transfer of the building to Toronto Community Housing. The Affordable Housing Office will continue to liaise with the Ghana Amansie Canadian Non-Profit Homes and Toronto Community Housing in an effort to ensure an orderly transfer of the building to TCHC.

## CONTACT

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## SIGNATURE

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