

Executive Committee - Letter to Executive

EX16.3.37

From: "jcartwright" <jcartwright@labourcouncil.ca>
To: <exc@toronto.ca>
Date: 1/23/2012 12:06 PM
Subject: Letter to Executive
Attachments: TCHC scattered housing - City Executive..pdf

Dear Ms. Pritchard,

Please ensure that the attached letter on the sale of TCHC Housing is circulated to all Executive Committee members for Tuesday,

Thank you,

John Cartwright
President,
Toronto & York Region Labour Council



January 23, 2012

TO: Mayor Rob Ford and the City of Toronto Executive

Dear Members of the City Executive:

Re: Sale of Scattered Units

The Toronto & York Region Labour Council, representing 195,000 women and men who work in every sector of the economy, strenuously objects to the sale of hundreds of social housing units being proposed by Toronto Community Housing.

Given the recent reports about the massive increase in house prices in Toronto, compared to stagnating family incomes, the issue of affordable housing needs to be urgently addressed. Selling off existing units does nothing to solve the problem. The cost of covering backlog of repairs is a highly political issue, which Labour Council and many other organizations have highlighted as a provincial responsibility since the downloading took place some years ago.

The net effect of the proposal will be to take low and modest income families out of neighbourhoods they have lived in for years, and place them into existing housing units which are part of mixed income buildings. This will further intensify the number of poor families in TCHC buildings and retreat from a basic principle of creating mixed income neighbourhoods as key elements of a stable housing policy.

There is no disguising the fact that this is part of a broader "slash and burn" mentality which will do irreparable harm to the health of our city in years to come. We urge you to reject the recommendation for sale of these units, and focus on building a stronger and more robust public housing authority to serve this City and all its residents.

Sincerely,

John Cartwright
President

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