



方卓怡 市議員 **Paula FLETCHER**

Councillor Toronto-Danforth Ward 30

January 27, 2016

To: Community Development & Recreation Committee

Re: Hope Shelter at 29 Leslie Street

Dear Chair & Members,

Unfortunately I cannot be at the Committee meeting today as last week I had a skating accident which required surgery and now have restricted mobility for the next short while.

I attended the January 16 Open House hosted by the Salvation Army and the City's Shelter Housing Support Division regarding the proposed relocation of the Hope Shelter to 29 Leslie Street. While this location is in Ward 32, and Councillor McMahon is the lead Councillor, over 70% of the local residents who attended the Open House live in Ward 30. As their local Councillor, I am committed to ensuring that the Hope Shelter is a well-run facility like the Red Door Shelter on Queen Street East.

I heard a number of concerns raised about on-site services for shelter residents, the design and operating model for the shelter, and community relations between the Salvation Army and its neighbours. This shelter must reflect the Leslieville community and run at a gold standard for its clients and neighbours.

As the City commits to expanding access to affordable housing, we continue to have a need for shelters to provide immediate support to those experiencing homelessness. The City must commit to a high standard of service delivery for those in need.

I very much appreciate the work that Councillor McMahon has undertaken to bring the proposal before the Committee, and fully support the motions that she has submitted to address concerns raised by the community.

Based on what I have also heard from residents over the past two weeks and at the Open House, I am submitting some amendments to Councillor McMahon's motions that she agrees with and which Councillor Mihevc will move on my behalf.

I would appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

Paula Fletcher
City Councillor, Ward 30, Toronto-Danforth