June 12, 2017

To: Mayor John Tory, Chair, Executive Committee
   Members, Executive Committee

From: Bud Purves, Chair, Toronto Community Housing Board of Directors
      Kevin Marshman, Toronto Community Housing Interim President and CEO

Subject: Tenants First Phase 1 Implementation Plan

As the first phase of the Tenants First implementation plan comes before Executive Committee, we want to reaffirm Toronto Community Housing’s commitment to the City’s vision for transforming social housing in Toronto being led by the Tenants First project. Our board and management fully support the City’s goals of improving the homes and lives of social housing tenants now and in the future, and of finding solutions to TCHC’s long-standing financial challenges, which are urgently needed.

Toronto Community Housing’s 58,500 homes are in nearly every city neighbourhood. They offer stability and hope for more than 110,000 Toronto residents, including families, youth, seniors, individuals and persons living with a range of vulnerabilities. Our portfolio of 2,100 buildings, consisting of 50 million square feet of residential space, represents a $12-billion public asset. With the City and nearly 300 community partners, we work to connect tenants to programs, services and opportunities, and to make the best possible use of our assets. With our private sector developer partners, we are revitalizing six communities. Our 1,600 employees work hard every day to serve the needs of our tenants and provide value to the people of Toronto.

Toronto Community Housing is a partner in Tenants First. We support the phase 1 plan’s strategic directions of delivering integrated housing and social services to better serve the needs of a growing seniors population, of redefining our mandate to place a
greater focus on serving the needs of families, youth, individuals and vulnerable tenants, and of ensuring adequate and sustainable funding both for TCHC and the proposed new seniors housing and services entity. We will continue to work closely with the City to support the implementation of Council decisions aimed at improving living conditions for our tenants, such as using the additional funding provided by Council in 2016 to significantly improve the cleanliness of our buildings and provide financial relief to tenants who pay to heat their homes with electricity.

We welcome the City’s collaborative model for engaging our Board and leadership team in implementing the Tenants First report, as well as its continued commitment to ongoing consultation and engagement with tenants, staff, labour partners and stakeholders.

Thank you again for your efforts to sustain the city’s social housing assets and to improve the lives of more than 110,000 people who live in our homes.

Sincerely,

N. W. (Bud) Purves
Chair, Board of Directors

Kevin Marshman
Interim President and CEO