June 16, 2017

Dear Members of the Executive Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Innstead Co-operative Inc., an 89-unit scattered housing co-operative in the east end of Toronto. Our co-operative is writing our strong support for staff’s Recommendation #5 to issue a Request for Expressions of Interest to the non-profit, co-op and land trust sectors to operate TCHC’s scattered unit houses.

Innstead Co-operative has 52 homes scattered amongst our neighbours in an area between Coxwell and Jones Avenues and Queen Street East and Upper Gerrard Streets for about 40 years now. We have maintained our homes in good condition while also keeping them affordable for our members and also managing to save money for the future maintenance of our houses. Our members are strongly involved in their community, not only in the co-op community itself through serving on committees and the Board of Directors, but also are involved and cooperative neighbours.

The co-operative is also looking to maintaining housing for its current members by creating new affordable and accessible housing for members who have lived in the co-op for decades and now need elevators and accessible units. That project is underway in the community that we are situated in.

We believe that our housing has been a successful way to maintain affordable housing in the east end of Toronto and we are welcoming a new generation of young families and young adults to our homes who otherwise would not be able to afford a home in a gentrifying neighbourhood such as Leslieville. Innstead would welcome the opportunity to continue to care for and provide affordable family homes by increasing its housing stock and have the chance to welcome new members to its long-standing community in Leslieville.

Thank you for your consideration to our support of Recommendation #5.

Yours truly,
On behalf of Innstead Co-operative Inc.

Joanne Patterson
Administrative Coordinator