

58 Sumach Street  
Toronto, Ontario M5A 3J7  
t. 416.863.0499 f. 416.863.9981



July 8, 2021

Dear SafeTO Committee Members:

I am writing to support the initiatives of SafeTO, the City's 10-year Community Safety and Well-Being Plan.

In response to Homelessness and the Covid-19 Crisis, the City of Toronto has supported the opening of Shelter Hotels and associated Community Engagement Strategies in the form of Community Liaison Committees (CLC) and operative partnership engagements in neighbourhoods where these Shelter Hotel Programs are located. These initiatives have afforded us unique opportunities to convene unlikely partners to re-envision what a safe city can be.

The Shelter Hotels have ushered in a new era of collaboration across downtown communities, bringing together Security Teams, businesses, Social Service agencies, Toronto Police Services, Educational Institutions and People with Lived Experience to discuss innovative solutions to some of the city's most complex challenges. Innovations such as these community responses have permitted a range of voices to coalesce around issues that support the city's most vulnerable denizens while embracing safety for all. These collaborative efforts have focused on the needs of some of the most vulnerable men and women in our city and have built a newer more spirited approach to partnered support in neighbourhoods where we work, live and entertain.

I suggest that these tables are a model that can serve our city well as we move toward and encourage a wide range of voices committed to advancing and maintaining the safe city that has always been a proud marker of Toronto's brand.

The Downtown Yonge BIA has been a leader in these innovations through its work with local business and their Partnered Outreach Team which has long prioritized the health and safety of some of the neighbourhood's most marginalized men and women. Recognizing that trauma informs some of the most challenging behaviours amongst members of the homeless community is a critical starting point for meaningful conversation and change.

Dixon Hall  
Registered Charitable Organization Number 11888 6308 RR0001

meals shelter community programs music job search employment homecare housing

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As a proud partner in Toronto's Downtown East, Dixon Hall embraces the City's 10-year Community Safety and Well-Being Plan and will continue to work with you to advance the creative enterprises of the Plan while facilitating and advancing some of these very timely, yet complicated discussions. The progressive realization of strategic and comprehensive plans serves all of our citizens well. Thank you for your efforts and commitment to building innovative solutions to complex problems. Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D Reycraft", written on a light-colored background.

David Reycraft  
Director – Housing Services  
Dixon Hall Neighbourhood Services