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Deputation letter of support for Agenda item PH23.7 - 877 Yonge Street - Long-term Lease Agreement to Deliver Affordable Rental Homes with Support Services

On behalf of Fife House Foundation, I am writing in support of the above agenda item moving for a nominal lease agreement for a term of 50 years less a day for the residential portion of 877 Yonge Street with St. Clare's Multifaith Housing Society.

Fife House provides secure and affordable housing to people living with HIV/AIDS. We have identified that access to housing is key determinant for the health and well-being of people living with HIV/AIDS. We also work through a lens of co-operation, collaboration and partnership with service agencies like St. Clare's and believe it is essential to the delivery of focused, cost-effective services. The proposal for a 50 year lease (minus a day) gives St. Clare's, and partners like Fife House, the consistency and stability required to develop a solid well delivered project that can contribute to the City and the surrounding community. Fife House has secured 10+ units in the building and we understand there are numerous partners bringing various forms of supportive housing support, noting that at least 25 units has been earmarked for people that require physical support.

The need is evident, especially during the ongoing pandemic. I strongly urge you to consider the motion in front you in order to address the current state of homelessness in our city.

Thank you for your consideration,

Nadine Sookermany
Executive Director
Fife House Foundation Inc.