

Opening my front door.



Scarborough Residential Alternatives

January 24, 2022

Deputation for the Toronto Budget Council

Thank you to Toronto Council for allowing us to make a written deputation to the budget committee about this important issue.

Scarborough Residential Alternatives is a group of parents with adult children with developmental disabilities. It was established in 2007 to address the crisis of housing for our children. It is increasing annually, as parents age and the housing crisis is becoming beyond manageable.

Adults with developmental disabilities have lived on the cusp of society for most of history. They lived in large institutions miles away from their families, to smaller institutions within communities but segregated by design. It is time to give them the opportunity to live in the community of their choice, with the people they choice to live with or by themselves.

Financially, adults with developmental disability, are far below the poverty rate and are not even close to earning the amount to qualify for affordable housing. Currently the rate they receive from ODSP for rent is \$479. Per month, the average rent in Toronto is \$1789.00 for a 1 bedroom.

We are asking that the council consider the plight of these adults and their families and put forth a rent geared to income that is attached to the individual (so they can live were they desire and move if or when needed.), to make a 2% commitment of funding to adults with developmental disabilities.

We thank you for this opportunity to bring this extremely important matter to the attention of the committee and look forward to a positive outcome.

Bonnie Heath, Scarborough Residential Alternatives