From: kizito@rchc.ca
To: Budget Committee

Cc: Moses Gashirabake; Jackie Nyra; Jonathan Okubay

Subject: Request to Speak at the Budget Committee Meeting

Date: January 16, 2023 1:46:23 PM

Attachments: RCHC logo.png

Dear City of Toronto, 2023 - Budget Committee

My name is Kizito Musabimana, I'm the founder and Executive Director of the Rwandan-Canadian Healing Centre (RCHC), founded in 2018, as a federally registered nonprofit organization based in Toronto, Canada with a vision of serving as a Multidimensional PTSD Research Centre for the purposes of healing, education, research, and social advocacy.

Our mandate is to provide mental health services, resources, and other support for people affected by PTSD, and other Trauma-related effects - to the Rwandan-Canadians and other members of the Black Canadian society.

This past year, RCHC was awarded funding through CMHC - Solutions Lab program, which has allowed us to work with our African Canadian Affordable Housing Solution Lab partners, in implementing housing solutions for continental African Canadians in Canada.

Below are our partners on the African Canadian Affordable Housing Solution Lab Project:

- The Ghanian Canadian Association of Ontario (GCAO)
- New Nakfa Eritrean Community Network
- Network for the Advancement of Black Communities (NABC)
- The GTA Rwandan Canadian Collective
- The Kenyan Canadian Association KCA, and
- CASA Design Consult Friends of Africa & Nigeria Community Network

I would like to request a speaking opportunity at the Budget Committee Meeting this coming January 17 & 18, 2023, so I can share testimonies from our stakeholders, and some of our findings from the African Canadian Affordable Housing Solution Lab Project, needs as well as new approaches we believe are necessary to be able to solve affordable housing challenges, able to manage affordability and serve as an economic recovery resource, especially for those in marginalized communities such as our continental African Canadian community.

I look foward to hearing from you soon.

Regards,

Kizito Musabimana | Founder & Executive Director

Rwandan Canadian Healing Centre - RCHC

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