

19 Communications were received from February 8, 2023 4:35pm to February 8, 2023 at 6:52pm with the following text:

Dear Clerk - City Council,

Toronto's shelter system is over capacity and unable to support the number of people experiencing homelessness right now. This is a public health crisis. People are dying from preventable cold weather related injuries and many others are needlessly suffering.

The City's current approach of opening and closing its very limited 24/7 warming centres based on vague and undefined criteria leaves people freezing through rain and snow. And it makes it very difficult for people experiencing homelessness to know where they can go and when a safe space might be available.

Before the pandemic, Toronto had 24/7 respite and drop-in spaces where people could walk in any time to be warm indoors. Today 24/7 walk-in spaces are no longer available, and people are seeking shelter anywhere they can find warmth: the TTC, libraries, hospitals, coffee shops.

Toronto can and must do more. We can do better for people right now, to keep them safe and to help save lives. We need 24/7 indoor spaces with walk-in access and livable conditions including access to hot meals, washrooms, and other supports.

That's why I am writing to you today to ask that you support motion HL1.6 to open, and keep open, 24/7 indoor warming spaces with walk-in access, ensuring anyone who needs a space to be warm isn't turned away.

Sincerely,

Mae Ong
Darcy Nelson
lala loon
Sarah Minnifield
Samantha Yang
Nikki Machin
Hailey Radigan
Shae Schouten
Farheen Butt
Joanne Weisfeld
Anjana Christopherson
Larry McFall
Larry McFall
Anna Zotkina
Meghan Wallis
Vera Cheng
Charles Flood
Bonita Martens
Jenna Danchuk