

## Donation from Sleep Country Canada to City of Toronto

**Date:** April 24, 2023  
**To:** Executive Committee  
**From:** Vera Dodic, Director, Strategic Partnerships  
**Wards:** All

### SUMMARY

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This report seeks approval from City Council to accept an in-kind donation from Sleep Country Canada for 77 sets of mattresses, along with coordinating bedframes and posture boards, with a value of \$58,000. The donation will help Shelter, Support and Housing Administration's Rapid Rehousing Initiative.

The estimated value of this offer exceeds the \$50,000 threshold for donation acceptance under the City's Policy on Donations to the City for Community Benefits. As a result, City Council's approval is required to accept this donation.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

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The Director of Strategic Partnerships recommends that:

1. City Council authorize the Director, Strategic Partnerships to accept an in-kind donation from Sleep Country Canada, valued at \$58,000 for the City of Toronto.
2. City Council authorize the Director, Strategic Partnerships, or her designate, to negotiate and sign on behalf of the City a donor agreement with Sleep Country Canada, on terms and conditions satisfactory to the Director, Strategic Partnerships and in a form satisfactory to the City Solicitor.
3. City Council authorize the Director, Strategic Partnerships, or her designate, to allocate and disburse the donated items to the Shelter, Support and Housing Administration's Rapid Rehousing Initiative.

### FINANCIAL IMPACT

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There is no financial impact resulting from the adoption of the recommendations in this report. The Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer has reviewed this report and agrees with the financial implications as identified in the Financial Impact section.

## DECISION HISTORY

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At its meeting on October 30, 31 and November 1, 2012, City Council amended its Donations to the City for Community Benefits policy:

<http://app.toronto.ca/tmmis/viewAgendaItemHistory.do?item=2012.EX23.17>

At its meeting on September 25, 26, 27 and 28, 2006, City Council adopted its Donations to the City for Community Benefits policy.

<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/2006/agendas/council/cc060925/cofa.pdf>

## COMMENTS

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Sleep Country Canada, a Canadian mattress retail company, was approached by Strategic Partnerships in March 2022 with the prospect of donating mattresses and bedframes to the City of Toronto. The goal was to receive a donation of supplies that could be provided to support Shelter, Support and Housing Administration's Rapid Rehousing Initiative.

In April 2020, the City of Toronto and Toronto Community Housing launched the Rapid Rehousing Initiative to identify vacancies to be made available immediately to people experiencing homelessness in Toronto. Since initial launch, the initiative has successfully connected over 1,900 people to permanent and fully furnished housing (over 1,400 units). An additional 600 units are planned for 2023. The Initiative is available to people experiencing chronic homelessness who are on the Centralized Waiting List for [rent-g geared-to-income housing](#) and are staying in an emergency overnight space or living outdoors and working with [Streets to Homes](#). The City has partnered with the Furniture Bank to set up the units for tenants when they move in, including providing furnishings and household items to help new tenants feel at home. Furniture Bank is a non-profit charity that heavily relies on donations from the community to provide lightly-used furniture. The donation from Sleep Country Canada fills gaps in inventory and supports the ongoing work of the City and its partners to achieve successful housing outcomes with people experiencing homelessness.

## CONTACT

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## SIGNATURE

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