

29 Communications were received from February 15, 2023 8:36am to February 15, 2023 at 6:38pm 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 vote to fund 24/7 indoor warming spaces with walk-in access, ensuring anyone who needs a space to be warm isn't turned away.

Sincerely,

Ledy Loterte
Helen Moore
Manon Lemus
Adrian Considine
Claire Root
Alexis Brassard
Aalysha Vickers
Donald Pulker
Vanessa Cipriani
Sam Cullen
John Wiles
Madelon Gardea
Jack Laughlin
Emily Krichevski
David Lancaster
Jenny Nilsson

Simone Tharp
Christina Mihaly
Michelle Seto
Sherrie M. Golden
Olivia Perrault
Katherine Milazzo
Aubrie Allen
Gabriella Fedra
Eliza Kirby
Pete DeCourcy
Thiri Lwin
Victoria Nguyen
Katelyn Margerm