

Cathy Crowe, RN (non-practising) BAAN, M.Ed.
www.cathycrowe.ca

Cathy Crowe
Street Nurse, C.M.
www.cathycrowe.ca

November 25, 2024

Chair Alejandra Bravo,
Economic & Community Development
Committee,
City of Toronto,



Re: 2024.EC17.4, Shelter Safety Action Plan

1. Declare a right to shelter in the City of Toronto.

There can be no safety in the city's shelter system when there is no declared **right to shelter** in the Shelter, Support and Housing Administration's mandate. This human rights value should be informed by city divisions that respond to equity and access such as Ombudsman Toronto, the Indigenous Affairs Office, Environment and Climate, People and Equity, Public Health to name a few.

2. Expand the emergency shelter system. Act as if a natural disaster has hit Toronto.

The city's own statistics show that over 220 people are declined shelter daily because the system is full. We know the need is much higher.

3. The city's three decade old response to inclement weather, most notably it's [Winter Services Plan for People Experiencing Homelessness](#) is by the city's own admission not going to meet the need for shelter. The annual pretense to provide shelter through expanded respite options and warming centres that are temperature dependent is a policy affront to those who need shelter any day of the year. Furthermore, it ignores the [science of climate change](#).

Honorary Doctor of Science in Nursing (University of Victoria), Honorary Doctor of Laws (McMaster), Honorary Doctor of the University (U of Ottawa), Honorary Doctor of Laws (York University), Honorary Bachelor of Applied Studies (Humber College) Honorary Doctor of Laws (University of Windsor), Honorary Doctor of Laws (Law Union of Ontario).

Cathy Crowe, RN (non-practising) BAAN, M.Ed.
www.cathycrowe.ca

<https://rabble.ca/columnists/seasonal-relief-plans-for-shelter-deny-the-climate-crisis-and-the-right-to-shelter/>

Honorary Doctor of Science in Nursing (University of Victoria), Honorary Doctor of Laws (McMaster), Honorary Doctor of the University (U of Ottawa), Honorary Doctor of Laws (York University), Honorary Bachelor of Applied Studies (Humber College) Honorary Doctor of Laws (University of Windsor), Honorary Doctor of Laws (Law Union of Ontario).