



**CANADIAN UNION OF
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES**

34 St. Patrick Street
Toronto, Ontario M5T 1V1
Tel: (416) 977-1629
Fax: (416) 977-9546
www.cupelocal79.org

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Nas Yadollahi

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City of Toronto

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Part-Time
- Unit B Part-Time

*Toronto Community
Housing Corporation*

*Toronto Seniors Housing
Corporation*

November 25, 2024

Members of the Economic and Community Development Committee
City Hall, 100 Queen St. West, Toronto, ON

Re: Shelter Safety Action Plan

Dear Members of the Economic and Community Development Committee,

Safety is a top concern for frontline workers at the City of Toronto. We constantly hear about safety issues from our members – whether physical safety, mental health and wellbeing or workplaces free of harassment, intimidation and reprisal.

We are happy to see a proactive approach taken by Toronto Shelter and Support Services to tackle this issue. Many other Divisions at the City of Toronto should follow suit.

The recommendations included in this report, including asks around ensuring the provincial government continues funding harm reduction initiatives, are well placed to prioritize the safety and well-being of Toronto's most marginalized residents.

I am concerned, however, that while there is an obvious emphasis on staff safety, that emphasis is not backed up by meaningful consultation. While we understand that some level of consultation with staff occurred in the 2024 calendar year, it is neither mentioned in the report nor was it broad enough to be representative.

We would also like to reiterate the importance of adequate training where safety is concerned. We ask that the City of Toronto provide in-person training as it pertains to safety issues and make this training accessible to all workers.

As this report is implemented and operationalized, the Division should consult fully with Local 79 and with frontline staff to ensure a successful result.

Sincerely,

Nas Yadollahi

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. Yadollahi".

President
CUPE Local 79