

Serving co-ops in Durham, Toronto and York Region.

Planning and Housing Committee Toronto City Hall 100 Queen Street West Toronto, Ontario M5H 2N2.

Dear Committee members,

Re: Item PH 13.9 – Community Housing Sector Modernization and Growth Strategy

We support the recommendations of the Executive Director of the Housing Secretariat contained in this report, particularly those related to a New Lease Policy Framework with Community Housing Providers and the proposed enhancements to the City's MURA program.

As many of the City ground leases with housing co-ops, including Beech Hall and Alexandra Park, are expiring, the members living in those co-ops are understandably anxious to know they will continue to enjoy their quality affordable housing. We at CHFT look forward to working with the City's Housing Secretariat to ensure new leases are in place to give those members the continued comfort provided by security of tenure.

In its 50 year history, CHFT has acquired rental buildings and created co-operative communities including English Canada's largest co-op, City Park Co-operative Apartments. The MURA program is an effective method of expanding the affordable co-op housing sector without the need of the lengthy approval and construction process of new buildings. We therefore support further enhancements to the program as proposed by the Housing Secretariat and encourage the City to continue to think of ways to expand this program.

Co-operatively,

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Tom Clement, Executive Director, CHFT

On behalf of the 50,000 people living in 185 member housing co-ops in Toronto, York Region, and Durham