




## SOUTH ETOBICOKE COMMUNITY LAND TRUST

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The South Etobicoke Community Land Trust acquires land and buildings to foster an inclusive, diverse, and accessible community where permanent affordable housing, community benefits and inter-generational connections are cultivated. **But we can't do it alone.**

South Etobicoke faces significant challenges in accessing affordable housing, leading to issues of housing insecurity and displacement for many residents. Through the Community Land Trust, we are dedicated to addressing these challenges head-on by working towards creating and preserving affordable housing options for all members of our community.

We rely on the support and collaboration of individuals and organizations like yours to make a meaningful difference in the lives of South Etobicoke residents. Your generosity and partnership are instrumental in advancing our mission and bringing about positive change.

### **There are several ways you can contribute to our efforts:**

- 1. Financial Donations:** Your financial support supports us in acquiring land for affordable housing development, providing housing subsidies for low-income families, and offering educational programs on housing rights and advocacy.
- 2. In-Kind Contributions:** Whether it's providing pro-bono services, donating building materials, or offering expertise in housing development and management, your in-kind contributions play a vital role in helping us maximize our impact.
- 3. Partnership Opportunities:** We welcome opportunities to collaborate with businesses, government agencies, and other community organizations to leverage resources and expertise towards our shared goals. Together, we can achieve far more than we could individually.

I invite you to join us in making a difference. Together, we can create a community where everyone has access to safe, affordable, and dignified housing.

P.S. - Your organization can join the Land Trust too!  
For more information, visit [SECLT.ca/membership](https://www.seclt.ca/membership)!



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Wednesday, January 22, 2025

The leadership of the South Etobicoke Community Land Trust is writing to urge the City of Toronto to continue investment in the Multi-Unit Residential Acquisition program, and to increase funding for the second half of its ten year plan. We have witnessed our partners succeed in increased housing provision for their communities due to this funding, and we would press the City to continue investment in the immediate affordable housing acquisition and retention that the program allows. We ask that all funds allocated for the year be used to help as many non-profit organizations as possible, as these smaller affordable housing projects help to protect stock we already have from larger for-profit development that tend to displace current tenants.

In addition, we would urge the City to fund a desperately-needed warming centre in Etobicoke. The dramatic plunge in temperature our City has experienced this week has forced a number of our unhoused neighbours to choose between hospitable temperatures and crucial access to social and medical supports, forcing many to seek support downtown, over an hour away by TTC from our community, often without financial means to do so.

Many of our partner organizations, including local faith organizations which previously operated Out of the Cold programs, remain committed to supporting vulnerable populations - but they have been unable to continue these services due to the withdrawal of insurance and staffing support. If the City were to reinstate this support, these community partners could once again provide critical overnight shelter. We fully support the proposed \$4.6 million allocation to Toronto Shelter and Support Services, but we strongly urge an increase in funding to expand warming centres, with a commitment to establishing a facility in South Etobicoke.

The South Etobicoke Community Land Trust remains committed to working with the City and community partners to address these critical issues. By allocating adequate resources to these initiatives, the City can take meaningful steps toward a Toronto that is both inclusive and compassionate, ensuring all residents have access to safe, secure, and supportive environments.

We thank the Budget Committee for considering our recommendations and look forward to continued dialogue to address these pressing challenges.

Thank you for your time,

The South Etobicoke Community Land Trust

*The South Etobicoke Community Land Trust is a non-profit organization comprised of over one hundred individuals and five organizations living and operating in Etobicoke south of Bloor Street. Our mission is to acquire land and buildings to foster an inclusive, diverse, and accessible community where permanent affordable housing, community benefits and inter-generational connections are cultivated.*