

October 30, 2025

Re: 2024-2025 Annual Progress Report – HousingTO 2020-2030 Action Plan and Housing Action Plan (2022-2026)

To the attention of Mayor Chow and Toronto City Council,

On behalf of United Way Greater Toronto, I am writing to express our support for the City of Toronto's staff recommendation to City Council regarding the adoption of recommendation seven in the 2024-2025 Annual Progress Report – HousingTO 2020-2030 Action Plan and Housing Action Plan (2022-2026).

Specifically, we encourage City Council to authorize the Executive Director, Housing Secretariat and Executive Director, Social Development, to negotiate and enter into, on behalf of the City of Toronto, a Memorandum of Understanding and funding agreement with United Way Greater Toronto (UWGT) to provide one-time funding in the amount of up to \$50,000, included in the Housing Secretariat's 2025 Operating Budget, to support actions and initiatives to incubate a Black-focused non-profit housing organization.

This partnership reflects our shared commitment to addressing housing needs in our community and the City's long-term commitment to addressing critical gaps in the housing ecosystem in Toronto for Black residents and communities. UWGT is supporting Black-led, community-driven solutions in the Greater Toronto Area and working with our partners to address the systematic barriers that stand in the way of housing security. This new organization would play a critical role in addressing ongoing and significant gaps in the housing system for Black communities.

UWGT supported this initiative by funding some of the initial research and discovery work to develop a report and scoping of a black-led not-for-profit housing provider. The next iteration of this work will go towards supporting the planning and development required to establish and realize the organization. The funding will help align relationships and partnerships, as well as ensure that the organization is grounded in, and operationalized to meet the unique needs and priorities of Black communities. This organization will be an important pillar of the City's efforts to address core housing needs.

Yours sincerely,

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