



TORONTO NEEDS MORE SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

24 Feb 2026

To the Chair and Members of the Planning & Housing Committee
City of Toronto
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON [📍 Place](#)

Subject: Letter of Support for Report PH28.7 - Expanding Mental Health & Addiction Supportive Housing

Dear Chair and Members of the Planning & Housing Committee,

On behalf of the Toronto Mental Health & Addiction Supportive Housing Network, I am writing to express support for the recommendations outlined in Report PH28.7, regarding the expansion of supportive housing for individuals with mental health and addiction challenges in the City of Toronto.

The Toronto Mental Health & Addiction Supportive Housing Network is a coalition of over forty organizations committed to providing high-quality, community-based supportive housing services across the city. Combined, the Network members deliver close to 7500 units of supportive housing either owned, leased or provided with rent supplements in the private market. Collectively, Network members have land and building assets of over 1 billion dollars. Network members have seen firsthand the transformative impact that stable, supportive housing has on the lives of the clients and tenants, leading to improved health outcomes, increased community integration, and a significant reduction in the use of costly emergency services.

The report highlights the critical need to increase the supply of these housing options. As signatories to the Supportive Housing Growth Plan, the network has worked very hard to increase the number of supportive housing units. Nonetheless, the

opportunity that the network members present with land, development experience and most importantly, service delivery expertise is unused while residents of the City of Toronto are left with few choices: shelters, encampments, the TTC, public libraries and the other places that have become the defacto response to a lack of appropriate housing.

The current shortfall in supportive housing of thousands of units is a major barrier to addressing homelessness and improving the well-being of some of our most vulnerable residents. We particularly commend the following aspects of the report:

- **Recognition of the Acute Need:** The report clearly articulates the urgency of the situation as well as the disproportionate impact of housing instability on individuals with concurrent mental health and addiction issues. Similarly, the report highlights the impact of promising supportive housing examples like Dunn House and the proposal of a Dunn House 2. The Network has the ability to partner and develop many more sites like Dunn House 1 & 2.
- **Commitment to Integrated Support:** The focus on coupling housing with essential health and social services is crucial for long-term success and aligns with best practice models. The Dunn House model is successful because it has the requisite wrap around supports that create the opportunity for dignity and recovery.
- **Strategic Acquisition and Development:** The Network endorses the premise of strategic acquisition and development to add supportive housing units at the speed and scale required. The Supportive Housing Growth Plan is woefully behind by at least 7,000 units. The Network is ready, willing and able to increase the number of supportive housing units to get the growth plan back on track so that the City can house its most vulnerable residents in a dignified and respectful manner.

The Network urges the Planning & Housing Committee to adopt all recommendations within Report PH28.7 and allocate the necessary resources to ensure their swift and effective implementation. Expanding supportive housing is not only a moral imperative but also a sound investment that yields significant benefits to the entire city.

The Toronto Mental Health & Addiction Supportive Housing Network looks forward to collaborating with City staff and community partners to make the goals of this report a reality. The Network would be pleased to participate in further discussions and looks forward to helping the City achieve our shared goals.

Sincerely,

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