

COMMUNITY UPDATE - MODULAR SUPPORTIVE HOUSING AT 150 HARRISON STREET

September 16, 2020

You are receiving this information because you have signed-up for community updates on the Modular Supportive Housing Initiative at 150 Harrison Street. Please share with your network as appropriate.

City Selects Housing Providers for Modular Housing Initiative

The City of Toronto has selected The Neighbourhood Group (TNG) and COTA Health (Cota) as the housing service providers for its two modular housing sites at 150 Harrison Street (Ward 9) and 11 Macey Avenue (Ward 20). These experienced non-profits agencies will work together at both sites to operate the modular housing buildings and also provide on-site housing support services. They will also work with the City of Toronto's Shelter, Support and Housing Administration Division to select residents for the two buildings.

TNG and Cota bring the proven expertise and qualifications needed to support the 100 people who will be moving into the City's modular housing this fall and help to ensure they have the support they need to transition from homelessness to being successfully housed.

You can find out more about them at https://www.cotainspires.ca/ and https://www.theneighbourhoodgroup.org/

Resident Selection

The Modular Housing Initiative is providing permanent supportive homes for Torontonians experiencing homelessness or who are risk of homelessness, and who have complex health and support needs.

Cota and TNG staff will provide 24/7 staffing and supports on-site including connections to health care, mental health and substance use services, as well as life-skills, learning, volunteering and employment opportunities. All supports and services offered will be for residents only.

Residents support needs vary, although they will all have chosen to move into their new home, and will be working with the support of staff, towards a healthier life. Residents will be assessed to ensure a healthy mix in the building and to identify the specific supports they will need to be successful in their housing. Cota and TNG's expertise and experience ensure they can respond and support residents as their needs change over time.

The City, Cota and TNG will work together through the assessment process to match the needs of residents with the types of supports available, reviewing the supportive housing wait-list in terms of priorities that include connection to the local community, length of homelessness and health needs. It is the intention to select residents of all genders who can be successful in their new home.

Respecting the privacy rights of all future residents is important to all the partners and so the City, Cota or TNG will not be able to discuss any detailed characteristics of residents or their health and support needs.

The partnership between the City, Cota, and TNG is focused on ensuring that the residents are safe and supported, and the building successfully fits into the broader community.

Community Liaison Committee

Community liaison committees are being formed in Wards 9 and 20 to facilitate dialogue between community organizations, individual neighbours, the City of Toronto Housing Secretariat and the housing providers to: 1) foster and maintain positive relationships amongst the community, the building operator, and service partners; 2) facilitate information sharing and dialogue; and 3) identify and resolve any issues, opportunities and concerns related to building operations.

The first CLC meeting in Ward 9 will be held on **Tuesday**, **October 6 from 7-9pm**.

If you are interested in joining please contact modularhousing@toronto.ca and include CLC-Harrison in the subject line.