### SUPPORTIVE HOUSING IN TORONTO



## 877 Yonge Street Community Information Session

Wednesday May 12, 2021



### Land Acknowledgement

This site is on the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.



### **Guidelines for respectful dialogue**

- We are here tonight to hear from everyone who wants to share their perspective in a safe and respectful way
- The Community Information Sessions are meant to be safe spaces where people can listen and share
- Discrimination or abusive language of any kind will not be tolerated and will result in a warning, followed by removal from the event



### Today's agenda

- Welcome and introductions
- Taking collective action on homelessness
- The need for this housing in Toronto
- How this housing will help people in need
- Details on the homes with supports at 877 Yonge Street
- Supporting the success of the building
- Process and next steps



### How to participate

FOR SMARTPHONES



• Tap the **Participants** panel button at the top right of the screen. Then tap **Raise Hand** at the bottom right of the screen.



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#### FOR TABLETS

• Tap the **Participants** panel button at the bottom of the screen. Then tap the **Raise Han**d button at the bottom right.

#### FOR TELEPHONE

**Press \*3** to raise your hand. **Press \*6** to unmute your microphone.

#### Note: This meeting is being recorded



### It takes a community to address homelessness





### **Homelessness in Toronto**

- There are more than 7,800 people experiencing homelessness in Toronto
- New homes with supports are urgently needed to ensure everyone has a warm, safe place to call home

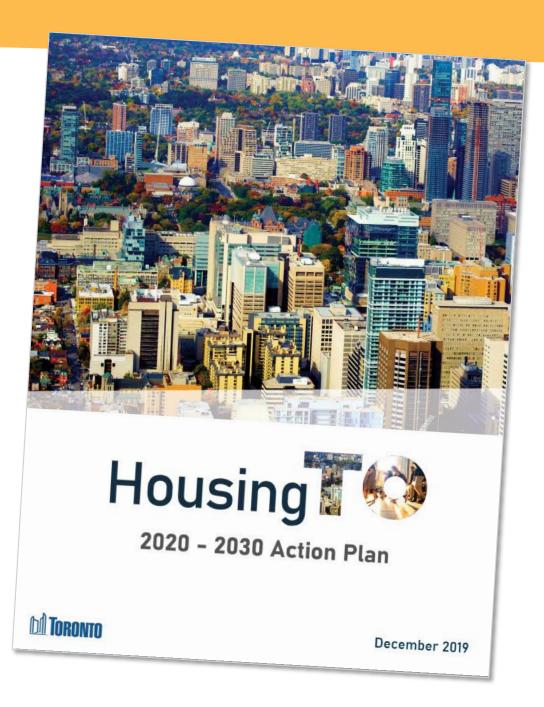


# Pathways to homelessness



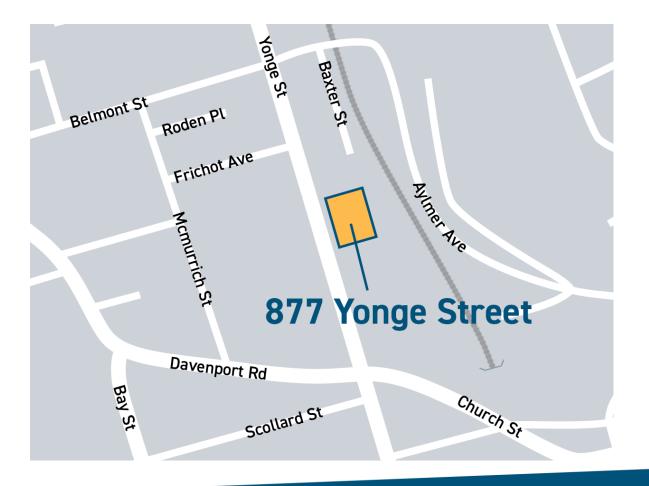


### Providing dignity and supporting well-being





# Creating new homes with supports at 877 Yonge St



The City of Toronto has purchased the building at 877 Yonge Street to provide new homes for approximately 250 people and support their health and well-being.



### What is supportive housing?

- Supportive housing provides permanent homes with supports.
- Residents have a connection to a variety of supports and services that will support their well-being such as medical care, life skills training and support, meals, and mental health care.
- Residents who live in supportive housing in Toronto make a choice to live there, pay rent, and are protected by the Residential Tenancies Act.



### New warm, safe and permanent rental homes

The new homes will be:

- Dedicated to women, Indigenous residents, seniors, people with disabilities and people who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness.
- Studio and one-bedroom apartments with a bathroom and a kitchen.

The building includes amenities such as shared laundry, a dining area, a communal area and programming space.



# A professional and experienced non-profit Housing Operator

The City has selected St. Clare's Multifaith Housing Society to operate the building at 877 Yonge based on a number of criteria including but not limited to:

- Effective in working with the Councillor and local community
- Experience managing affordable and supportive housing
- Strong track record in tenant engagement/communications
- Experience working with a range of tenants, including marginalized and vulnerable populations.



### **Process**

On May 5<sup>th</sup>, City Council approved a staff recommendation to seek a Minister's Zoning Order (MZO) to obtain relief for the minimum required vehicle and bicycle parking spaces.

#### What is an MZO?

A Minister's Zoning Order (MZO) enables the Minister to regulate land use on specific lands and has been used to expedite timesensitive projects.



### Timeline



A Community Liaison is available to receive community comments and questions

Dates in the timeline are approximate and subject to change.



## DISCUSSION



## Homes with supports help create safe, inclusive communities for everyone



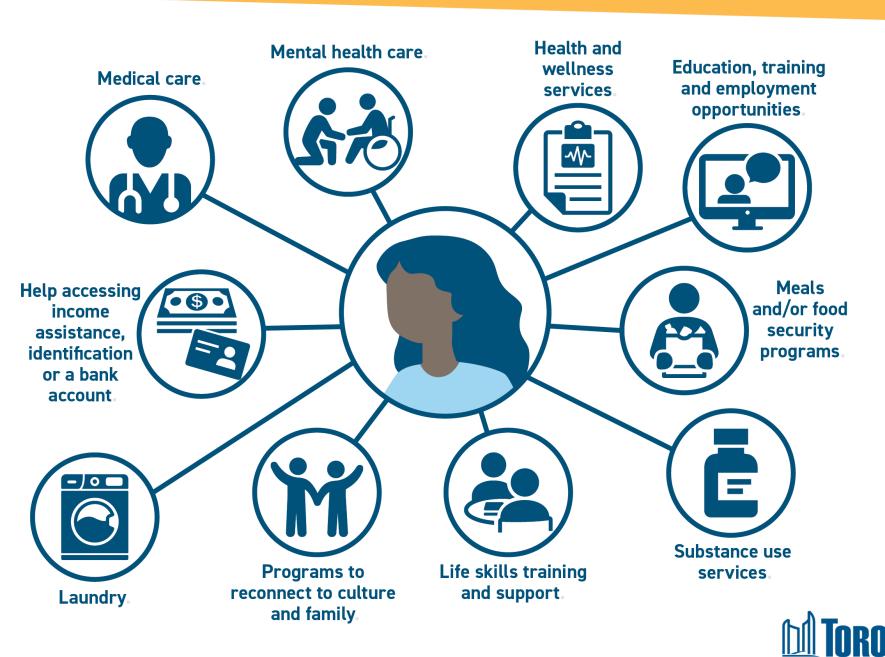
### St Clare's Multifaith Housing Society

St. Clare's Multifaith Housing Society supports people who have experienced homelessness with access to healthy, secure, safe, affordable and diverse housing communities.





### Supportive housing: connecting residents to services and programs



### **St Clare's: Resident story**

A.S. struggled with managing addiction, but he was able to make progress after moving into a St. Clare's apartment.

In his words: "Unlike a lot of places where I have lived, this building has a real community that gets together for meals and other events. There's no pressure to go, but it's nice that you have the option to take part and can offer your thoughts and decisions to make a difference in the community. Everybody wants their own place where they can reflect. This place offers privacy and a built-in community network. I love the whole concept. It's the best of both worlds."



# Coming together to support the success of the building

- Building homes with supports can offer an opportunity for people to come together and create welcoming, safe and inclusive communities for all.
- By working together, we can reduce the number of people experiencing homelessness and help save lives.







Local artists created a "healing and playful atmosphere" by installing custom designed artwork to welcome residents to their new homes.



### **Community Liaison Committee**

Purpose

- Facilitate information sharing and dialogue
- Build and maintain positive relationships amongst St. Clare's, the City, and neighbours at 877 Yonge St
- The Committee would have seats for representatives of neighbouring businesses, resident associations and neighbours



### **Community Liaison Committee**

To apply for a community member seat, please:

Send an email expressing interest to <u>877yonge@stclares.ca</u> on or before May 21 with your:

- Name
- Phone number
- Name of the neighbouring business or residential building or association (if applicable) that you would like to represent.

The first meeting will be held in June.



## DISCUSSION



### Thank you

Community Liaison: Phone: 437-684-5857. (Monday to Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.).

Email: communityliaison@bigideaspace.ca

Councillor Mike Layton's office: Phone: 416-392-4009. Email: councillor\_layton@toronto.ca

For more information on these new homes, please visit: <u>www.Toronto.ca/877Yonge</u>

