



**St. Andrew's**  
G U E L P H

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April 8, 2021

Dear Mayor Guthrie and City Councillors,

It is with delight that I write to you, yet again, in support of the zoning by-law amendment for permanent supportive housing located at 721 Woolwich Street. Our community stands at the precipice of making a significant difference in the lives of our citizens and moving the needle – finally and significantly – towards our communal goal of ending homelessness by 2023.

You already know that creating permanent supportive housing for those who need it most is essential. Permanent supportive housing is a cost-effective solution that is proven to improve people lives, increase health and wellbeing, and support a stronger community as a result. When everyone in our community has a safe and affordable place to call home our whole community benefits. Permanent Supportive Housing is desperately needed and I commend the faith and tireless determination of the Drop-In Centre for seeing the project to this night.

I am confident that Grace Gardens will have the unanimous support of yourself and our councillors. I trust that you, along with myself, wish to say YES IN MY BACKYARD as you vote in favour of the staff recommendation to amend the zoning by-law that will see this project fulfill its vision towards changing lives for the better. Grace Gardens is aptly named and your role in this decision expresses the profound meaning of the word, grace. In my tradition, “Grace” is something special that we receive without having to earn it... it is a gift, you might say. By voting in favour of this amendment, YOU are giving the immeasurable and precious gift of hope, safety, and care to those who are often ignored and passed by but who deserve, like everyone of us, a place to call home.

Thank you,

Rev. John Borthwick  
Minister | St. Andrew's Guelph