



July 7, 2021

To whom it may concern.

Wyndham House strongly supports the County of Wellington's proposed creation of the new Transitional Housing with Supports project at 65 Delhi Street.

This newly proposed program to support up to 36 individuals is a cost-effective upstream solution that will have significant impact in the work to end homelessness in our community by 2023. Ending homelessness in Guelph Wellington is within reach and this proposed project will allow up to 36 individuals to stay out of the shelter system and receive the needed supports and services while they work to move beyond a housing crisis and stabilize their lives.

This proposed transitional housing would play a key intermediate support role for individuals who are needing safe, longer term housing with direct access to individualized support options while they await permanent supporting housing that will fully meet their needs for years to come. As a community that is well along the path to knowing how to end homelessness, we know that while emergency shelter services are needed but only for those without any other option and this program would be that better option. The lack of appropriate, safe housing stock in Guelph, our vacancy rate is very low, and these challenges have only magnified with the Pandemic. This proposed program will make it possible for the individuals housed there to make the necessary gains to exit the costly cycle of homelessness and reduce future stressors on our emergency services in the city of Guelph.

As our designated Service Manager, The County of Wellington has a mandate to deliver Housing and support services that align with the community plan to end chronic homelessness by 2023. In this role they have provided strong leadership to keep our community on track to meet the stated goal thus they are well positioned to determine that this project will keep our community on track to end homelessness by 2023.

We believe that the proposed Transitional Housing Project at 65 Delhi St. will play a critical role in ending chronic homelessness in our community.

Sincerely,

D. Bentley-Lauzon,
Executive Director,
Wyndham House

WORKING TO PREVENT, REDUCE AND END YOUTH HOMELESSNESS

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