

Phil and Michele, and City Councilors,

RE: proposed by-law to eliminate downtown temporary shelters

Less than a week after National Housing Day on Nov. 22nd, as you weigh in on this discussion, I urge you to consider if this proposed by-law aligns with addressing critical issues such as poverty, mental health challenges, drug addiction, and the pressing shortage of shelter.

I urge you to recognize that addressing the underlying issues should be the primary step. At the very least, this by-law must come with a solution for the people who will be displaced.

It's essential to recognize that merely removing shelters won't contribute to solving these substantial problems and could potentially intensify the stress experienced by those currently residing in the encampments.

I urge you to prioritize solutions that directly target these core issues, fostering a more comprehensive and compassionate approach to the challenges faced by our community.

Catherine Killen