



WEST HANTS REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY REPORT

Information ☐	Recommendation ☒	Decision Request ☐	Councillor Activity ☐
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To: Council

Submitted by: Mayor Abraham Zebian

Date: July 23, 2024

Subject: Under Housed Support

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

Municipal Government Act

RECOMMENDATION or DECISION REQUEST

Council direct staff to write a letter to all relevant Provincial Ministers, West Hants MLA Melissa Sheehy Richard, and the Premier expressing the need for financial support for the under housed population in West Hants including support to establish a permanent shelter.

BACKGROUND

Since Covid, the number of residents experiencing under housed circumstances has grown. This can be attributed to, but not limited to, cost of new construction, increase in residential home values, increased rents, lack of support/ help for substance abuse, and not enough affordable housing being constructed.

Property ☐	Public Opinion ☐	Environment ☐	Social ☐	Economic ☐	Councillor Activity ☐
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DISCUSSION

This past Winter, a group of West Hants residents, elected representatives, municipal staff, local service groups, and volunteers got together to create a functional temporary warming center at the Windsor Community Center. While it did help get some out of the elements during our hardest and coldest months, it did have challenges for those who benefited from the center, volunteers, and municipal staff. The project highlighted that there is a need for a permanent shelter, that it would be used regularly by many in need, and that it will require

stable and permanent funding from the Provincial government. I believe Council can be a successful advocate to make this happen.

NEXT STEPS

If approved, staff will write a letter to be sent to the identified individuals.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications associated with this report outside of staff time to prepare a letter.

ALTERNATIVES

Council may not approve the recommendation.

Council may recommend something different.

ATTACHMENTS

None.

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER REVIEW

Pending CAO review and comments

Report Prepared by: Abraham Zebian, Mayor

Report Reviewed by: _____
(Name and Title)

Report Approved by: _____
(Name and Title)