

From: [Abraham Zebian](#)
To: [Deanna Snair](#)
Subject: Fwd: 2025-11-07 Request for Provincial Support in Establishing a Winter Warming Centre
Date: November 28, 2025 1:39:01 PM

From: "Gray, Theresa E" <Theresa.Gray@novascotia.ca>
Date: November 28, 2025 at 12:24:29 PM AST
To: Abraham Zebian <Mayor.Zebian@westhants.ca>
Cc: Finance Minister <FinanceMinister@novascotia.ca>, Mental Health and Addictions <MentalHealth.Minister@novascotia.ca>, Health and Wellness Minister <Health.Minister@novascotia.ca>, "Minister, DMA" <DMAMIN@novascotia.ca>, johnwhitemla@outlook.com, kody.blois@parl.gc.ca, melissa.mlaoffice@gmail.com, WWH Council <wwhcouncil@westhants.ca>, Mark Phillips <MPhillips@westhants.ca>
Subject: 2025-11-07 Request for Provincial Support in Establishing a Winter Warming Centre

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Dear Mayor Abraham Zebian:

Thank you for your e-mail of November 7, 2025, to the Honourable Tim Houston regarding provincial support to establish a winter warming centre in Windsor, Nova Scotia. As the Executive Director of the Supportive Housing and Homelessness Division within the Department of Opportunities and Social Development (OSD), I am responding on the Premier's behalf.

I commend you on the leadership shown by Council in raising their concern for the most vulnerable residents. We appreciate the initiative your municipality has taken to advocate for a safe and reliable warming space for residents in the Windsor and West Hants area.

We are aware of the need for a warming centre in this region and share your concern for individuals who may be at risk during the winter months. Our department has begun early discussions and coordination with Leslie Porter from Care Mangers Windsor, who is showing strong community leadership. Together, we are working through the necessary background and foundational steps required to ensure that the establishment of a warming centre is safe, sustainable, and aligned with provincial guidelines.

At this time, there is important groundwork underway related to staffing considerations, facility readiness, operational standards, and the support required to operate a warming centre effectively. These steps are critical to ensure that any model we implement provides meaningful protection for residents and integrates appropriately with the broader system of homelessness, housing support, and emergency response.

We value your willingness to collaborate as this work continues. Your insight into local needs will be important as we move forward.

Thank you for your e-mail.

Sincerely,

Jaime Smith
Executive Director
Supportive Housing and Homelessness
Department of Opportunities and Social Development

cc: Honourable Tim Houston (PNS-61355-M1M1L1)
Honourable Barbara Adams
(2017-01-03072)
Honourable John Lohr
Honourable Brian Comer
Honourable Michelle Thompson
Honourable John White
Honourable John A MacDonald
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