



United Way
Thunder Bay

1085 Carrick St. Thunder Bay ON P7B 6L9
Telephone: (807) 623-6420 Fax: (807) 623-6180
Registered Charitable #129820387 RR0001

October 16, 2024

Mayor and Council
City of Thunder Bay

Subject: Letter of Support for the Municipality's Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan to Address Encampments

Dear Mayor and Council,

On behalf of United Way of Thunder Bay, I am writing to express our strong support for the City's Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan to address encampments. This initiative represents a critical and well-coordinated effort to address the pressing challenges of unsheltered homelessness and aligns with our shared vision of fostering safety, well-being, and dignity for all residents of Thunder Bay.

As part of our **BETTER *is* POSSIBLE** initiative, United Way is committed to investing in significant community projects that tackle issues of poverty, and we believe this plan is an important step forward. We are particularly encouraged by the key strategies outlined, including:

- **Permissible Encampment Areas** providing controlled environments with essential services, which will reduce strain on resources and improve conditions for residents.
- **Temporary Village Sheltering Units** offering immediate shelter and critical wrap-around services to help individuals stabilize and transition toward long-term solutions.
- **Specialized Encampment Management Teams** ensuring timely responses, sanitation, and overall safety.
- **Advocacy to Provincial and Federal Governments** to secure the necessary funding and policy support for sustainable homelessness solutions.
- **Integration of Lived Experience Voices**, ensuring the plan reflects the real-life needs of those directly impacted by homelessness.

While we are not in a position at this time to provide a formal commitment, United Way of Thunder Bay is keenly interested in exploring opportunities to collaborate with the City and other funders to help raise funds toward one-time capital expenditures or to provide support toward ongoing operating costs. We would welcome the opportunity to meet with City officials and other interested funders to develop a plan to secure the funding required. By uniting our efforts, we believe we can create lasting, positive change in our community.

We look forward to working alongside the municipality and community partners to support the success of this initiative.

Sincerely

Albert Brulé

Chief Executive Officer
D 807-626-1754 | C 226-927-0608 | abrulé@uwaytbay.ca



United Way
Thunder Bay