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July 10, 2025

Mayor and Council City of Thunder Bay

**Subject:** Re-Affirming Our Support for the City'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 reaffirm our strong support for the City's Human Rights-Based Community Action Plan to address encampments and the associated development of a temporary shelter village.

This initiative remains a critical and compassionate step forward in addressing unsheltered homelessness in our city. The coordinated, human rights-based approach outlined in the plan aligns closely with our shared goal of promoting dignity, safety, and stability for all members of our community.

As stated in our earlier letter, United Way is committed to supporting bold, collaborative projects that reduce poverty and improve lives as part of our **BETTER** *is* **POSSIBLE** initiative.

United Way is committed to exploring opportunities to collaborate with the City and other partners to help raise funds toward one-time capital expenditures and/or ongoing operating costs for temporary shelter village and related wrap-around supports. We remain ready to work with City administration to develop a funding strategy once a site has been confirmed and the project is approved to move forward.

We believe this initiative represents a tangible opportunity to improve lives, reduce strain on emergency services, and demonstrate leadership in community-driven solutions. We look forward to continuing to support the City of Thunder Bay and our community partners as this important initiative progresses.

Sincerely,

Albert Brule
Chief Executive Officer

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