

July 10, 2025

Mayor and Members of Council City of Thunder Bay 500 Donald Street East Thunder Bay, ON P7E 5V3

RE: Letter of Support – Temporary Shelter Village at 114 Miles Street East

Dear Mayor and Members of Council,

On behalf of P.A.C.E. – People Advocating for Change through Empowerment, I am writing to express our strong support for the City of Thunder Bay's Temporary Shelter Village Initiative and the recommended location at 114 Miles Street East.

As an organization committed to improving the quality of life for consumer survivors of mental health, addictions and homelessness by providing all of the resources, opportunities, rights and benefits of the community at large; and we believe in the equality of people, that all people are autonomous, intelligent, diverse individuals that should be treated with respect and dignity without discrimination and live in a barrier free community that allows equal opportunity for all, we recognize the critical need for safer, supportive, and stable shelter options in our community. We believe this initiative represents a meaningful step forward in addressing the immediate crisis and improving outcomes for those living unsheltered.

The recommended site at 114 Miles Street East offers important advantages, including proximity to services and potential for integrated support delivery. We are particularly supportive of this project and recommended location because:

- It is located near services and supports that people are familiar with
- It will be very near P.A.C.E.'s Warming & Cooling Center with access to computers, telephones, showers and laundry facilities
- It will be located very near the HART Hub which will have a lot of the services they require
- It would be very near a transit hub
- It would help in providing pathways for residents out of homelessness and into housing
- It will be supporting a vulnerable population and reducing unmanaged encampments; being the location that will best support residents in being successful in their transition to housing
- It will provide stability and dignity to residents; leading to better health outcomes; etc.

Given our work in Mental Health and Addictions Peer Support, we see real potential to contribute to the success of this project. We are open to exploring how our organization can collaborate with the City, the

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People Advocating for Change through Empowerment Inc.

future operator, and other organizations to support residents and help foster a safer, cleaner, and better community for all.

We respectfully urge Council to approve the Miles Street location and thank you for your leadership in advancing compassionate and practical responses to homelessness.

Sincerely,
Georgina McKinnon

Executive Director P.A.C.E. 1-807-252-8190

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