



July 10, 2025

Mayor and Council City of Thunder Bay 500 Donald St. East Thunder Bay, ON P7E 5K4

Subject: Letter of Support for the Temporary Shelter Village Initiative at 114 Miles Street East

Dear Mayor and Council,

On behalf of St. Joseph's Care Group, I am writing in support for the City's Temporary Shelter Village Initiative, including the location at 114 Miles Street East as recommended by City Staff and approved by City Council.

We believe the Temporary Shelter Village represents a compassionate approach in addressing a growing crisis. In particular, we support the Village's emphasis on:

- Providing low-barrier, 24/7 transitional shelter with enhanced safety and dignity
- Offering wraparound supports that connect residents to housing, healthcare, and social services
- Creating a managed environment that reduces the risks associated with unmanaged encampments
- Supporting a coordinated approach among service providers, the City, and emergency services
- Locating the Village near essential services that many unsheltered residents already access and rely on, ensuring familiarity, continuity of care, and improved service connection

At St. Joseph's Care Group, we stand ready to contribute to the efforts of this plan through access to our full continuum of care for mental health and addiction services including, safe sobering, withdrawal management, supportive housing, treatment and mental health outpatient services.

We encourage City Council to ratify 114 Miles Street East as the Temporary Shelter Village location and we look forward to working alongside the municipality and other community partners to ensure its successful implementation.

Sincerely,

Andrea Docherty

Vice President, Clinical and Community Health

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