

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 Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic, 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 promoting access to justice and housing stability for low-income Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in Thunder Bay and surrounding communities, 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 essential services and agencies that many unsheltered individuals already access regularly.
- It provides a more secure and dignified environment for residents than unmanaged encampments.
- It offers the opportunity for residents to build relationships with support workers and transition toward long-term housing.
- It supports improved health and wellness outcomes through stability, warmth, and safety.
- It represents a compassionate and practical response to homelessness in our city.

Given our work in eviction prevention, tenant advocacy, housing stabilization, and support for individuals facing housing insecurity, 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 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,

Sarah Racine

Housing Systems Navigator

Kinna-aweya Legal Clinic