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June 7, 2023

REGION OF PEEL

OFFICE OF THE REGIONAL CLERK



To: Chair and members of Peel Regional Council
Date: June 7, 2023
RE: Bill 112, The Hazel McCallion Act

To the Chair and members of Council,

We are writing to address the passage of Bill 112, The Hazel McCallion Act, from the perspective of those who serve the homelessness and those who are receiving those services.

The Peel Alliance to End Homelessness represents 25 service providers, collectively serving thousands of clients annually. Some of our community partners have facilities in Mississauga and Brampton. People experiencing homelessness are often transient as they don't have a fixed address. The system is already difficult to navigate, so imagine the confusion when continuity is disrupted.

In April, Peel's Coordinated Access System, was finally recognized as official by the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness under its Built for Zero program. This has been years in the making and was developed with the cooperation of staff from the Region's Housing Department and community Services providers throughout Peel. We have heard from agencies that coordinated access is working and while more people are being added to the by-name-list, some individuals and families have obtained housing through it. What would that model look like under the dissolution of Peel?

We know that there are many uncertainties surrounding the breakup of Peel, but we are certain that many of the clients served by the Alliance's service providers cannot fall through the cracks. Therefore, we are asking the following from Regional Council.

- Consultation with the social services sector, once a transition team has been implemented by the province
- The implementation of an oversight housing committee made up of key stakeholders including regional staff, service providers and people with lived experience
- A commitment to addressing the housing and homelessness crisis as a key priority during the dissolution process

We thank you for your attention to the matter and look forward to working with you on ensuring that our most vulnerable residents receive the support and resources they require.

Sincerely,

Daphna Nussbaum
Program Coordinator and Analyst,
Peel Alliance to End Homelessness
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REFERRAL TO _____
RECOMMENDED
DIRECTION REQUIRED _____
RECEIPT RECOMMENDED _____