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August 12th, 2024

Brigadier-General (Ret'd) Alan Mulawyshyn
Executive Director
Veterans' House Canada
404 McArthur Avenue, Suite 208
Ottawa, ON K1K 1G8

RE: City of Toronto's Commitment Letter on Securing Land for Veterans' House Canada

Dear Brigadier-General (retired) Alan Mulawyshyn:

The City of Toronto commends Veterans' House Canada for its leadership and determination to support veterans experiencing homelessness. As noted in the City of Toronto's 2021 Street Needs Assessment:

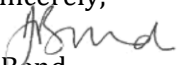
5% of all respondents experiencing homelessness reported ever serving in the Canadian Military (includes Canadian Navy, Army, or Air Force), RCMP, and/or Military outside of Canada Employment and Social Development Canada reported that veterans account for approximately 4.4% of homeless individual counted in communities across Canada in 2018.

The City is grateful to have had the opportunity to meet several times with Veterans' House Canada to learn more about its unique mandate and program. We understand that Veterans' House Canada not only offers permanent, affordable housing, but also the wrap-around supports, such as mental health and addiction counselling as well as other transition programs, to support veterans to gain stability and increase well-being.

We are also aware of Veterans' House Canada's successful first home in Ottawa (The Andy Carswell Building) and their collaboration with the City of Edmonton, which is the site of their second home. We applaud the action taken from all three levels of government for their support of both projects through the provision of development charge relief, direct funding and land. In addition, we commend Veterans' House Canada's private fundraising efforts that will have totalled nearly \$10 million for both projects.

Given the number of veterans experiencing homelessness in Toronto, as well as the City's ambitious targets to create 41,000 affordable, rental homes and 6,500 Rent-Geared-to-Income homes, the City is supportive of Veterans' House Canada's efforts to establish permanent and affordable homes for veterans and is looking forward to joining the growing coalition of municipalities combatting veteran homelessness and supporting Veterans' House Canada to identify opportunities to secure land.

Yours sincerely,


Abigail Bond
Executive Director, Housing Secretariat
City of Toronto