

# CITY OF HAMILTON

## NOTICE OF MOTION

Council: February 10, 2016

**MOVED BY COUNCILLOR C. COLLINS.....**

### **ESTABLISHMENT OF AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING SITE SELECTION SUB-COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton's Strategic Plan recognizes and supports the need for new affordable housing units as one of the City's top priorities (Strategic Action xi for Objective 1.5);

WHEREAS, the City's Housing and Homelessness Action Plan, approved in December of 2013, targets an aggressive 50% reduction in the Access to Housing Waitlist by 2023;

WHEREAS, the Access to Housing Waitlist continues to grow at an alarming rate with an estimated 5,700 families, seniors and individuals currently on the list;

WHEREAS, the City's Housing and Homelessness Action Plan emphasizes the need to upgrade the physical quality of the existing affordable housing stock in Hamilton as well as the need to provide new affordable housing units;

WHEREAS, the Federal Government has publicly announced their intent to create a National Infrastructure Program worth an estimated \$60 Billion over 10 years;

WHEREAS, an estimated \$20 Billion may be dedicated to affordable housing initiatives as part of the program;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton has identified affordable housing as a priority and a topic of discussion with the Province of Ontario and the Federal Government;

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton lacks sufficient reserve funds and debt/levy capacity to address the need for new affordable housing units;

WHEREAS, the rising cost of real estate presents a significant challenge to social housing providers; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Hamilton has an inventory of properties that could facilitate the construction of new affordable housing units;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

- (a) That an Affordable Housing Site Selection Sub-committee of Council be established to devise a list of City of Hamilton owned properties that could be offered to social housing providers for the purpose of building new affordable housing units; and,
- (b) That staff be directed to prepare a Terms of Reference for the Affordable Housing Site Selection Sub-Committee and report back to the Emergency & Community Services Committee.