

From: Jerry Fairbridge
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2026 12:34 PM
Cc: Rudy, Jo-Anne <Jo-Anne.Rudy@burlington.ca>
Subject: Written submission in support of 12.1 City Land for Affordable Housing – For March 3 Committee of the Whole.

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Re: Support for Indwell in Burlington

Dear Madam Mayor and Councillors,

I am writing in support of the reports brought forward by City of Burlington Community Planning and Legal staff recommending use of municipal land for an affordable housing development by Indwell.

I write to you as a member of Session (Elder) of Burlington East Community Church, formerly Burlington East Presbyterian Church. In the past year, we've seen increased needs in our local ministry, what we call our backdoor ministries. We hand out Walmart gift cards and gas cards; we support Food For Life. We chat with people about housing and where to find help, coming into close contact with the homeless and precariously housed. Sometimes we find people sleeping overnight on the property. We advocate for supportive housing. This is where a petition originated calling for a change in provincial government housing policy - distributed by Halton Faith Advocates and signed so far by close to 1,800 people. It has been presented twice so far to the provincial legislature.

I'm sure you know of Indwell's strong reputation for creating and supporting long-term affordable housing in southern Ontario. They do a superb job in Hamilton, Woodstock, Norfolk County, London, Waterloo Region, Mississauga and St. Thomas.

You also know the need for much more of this type of housing in Halton with more than 8,000 households on the waiting list for community housing. Your own policies have been aimed at increasing the supply through ARUs. And you know the numbers of precariously housed, and how interceding at the right time can break a cycle of poverty for generations.

For many reasons, please support the proposal to enter into a long-term land lease with Indwell on 1022-1030 Waterdown Road and provide funding from the city's Housing Accelerator Fund to support the development of 75 units of deeply affordable housing.

Burlington has shown great leadership in addressing these vital housing needs. Thank you for that, and I hope Indwell can count on your support.

Sincerely,

Jerry Fairbridge