

March 9, 2026

Reference: Support for Indwell in Burlington

**Written submission in support of 12.1 City Land for Affordable Housing – For March 3
Committee of the Whole**

Dear Madam Mayor and Councillors,

I am writing in support of the reports brought forward by the City of Burlington's 'Development, Growth and Management Committee' recommending use of municipal land in Aldershot for affordable housing development by Indwell.

I write to you as a 30+ year resident of Ward 4 in the City of Burlington, as well as a Board member of Indwell. It is becoming increasingly obvious to all that the City of Burlington and Halton Region, like many Ontario urban areas, has a growing homelessness and affordable housing need. The recent arrival of various small tent encampments around the City of Burlington is painful evidence of this need. As an Indwell Board member, looking at this challenge from the inside out, it is very clear that Indwell's strategies, organizational capacity and effective responses to supportive housing needs in our municipalities have tremendous integrity and should be supported by stakeholders, including the City of Burlington. Having volunteered at several Indwell facilities and toured a number of others in the Golden Horseshoe area, I can say that their strong reputation is well-founded – the City of Burlington will count an Indwell Waterdown Road facility as a good neighbour.

Indwell has a strong track record of working with communities across Southern Ontario to create well-designed, long-term affordable housing buildings. Indwell supports 1,300 people in buildings in Hamilton, Woodstock, Norfolk County, London, Waterloo Region, Mississauga and St. Thomas. Locally, this includes 550 apartments operated by Indwell in Hamilton alone.

In the context of the overwhelming need for affordable housing, I urge you to support the proposal to enter into a long-term land lease with Indwell on Waterdown Road and to provide funding from the city's Housing Accelerator Fund to support the development of 75 units of deeply affordable housing. I commend Burlington councillors and staff for your leadership in using all the tools at your disposal to address this pressing need in our community.

Thank you for noting my support as you consider this matter.

Sincerely,



Homer Lensink

