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**From:** TSC Management

**Sent:** June-26-21 8:56 AM

**To:** 'Sandy Brown' <sbrown@orangeville.ca>; Debbie Sherwood <dsherwood@orangeville.ca>; 'Joe Andrews' <jandrews@orangeville.ca>; Andy Macintosh <amacintosh@orangeville.ca>; 'ttaylor@orangeville.ca' <ttaylor@orangeville.ca>; Lisa Post <lpost@orangeville.ca>; Grant Peters <gpeters@orangeville.ca>

**Cc:** John Creelman <jcreelman@dufferincounty.ca>; 'Tracy MacDonald' <tmacdonald@orangeville.ca>; Karen Landry <klandry@orangeville.ca>

**Subject:** FW: Men's Homelessness

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Hello Mr. Mayor and Members of Town Council,

First of all, I want to commend all of you for your sensitivity and concern about the issue of men's homelessness in Orangeville, and in particular for the Mayor's leadership in the formation of the Mayor's Committee on Men's Homelessness. I have nothing but admiration and support for the work of the Mayor and members of Town Council in this regard.

I am writing to once again emphasize that there is an urgent need for a men's emergency shelter in Orangeville as soon as possible. I have been advocating for this on and off for the past seven years but to no avail. Subsequent to my delegation to Town Council at the beginning of May of this year in support of the formation of the Mayor's Committee on Men's Homelessness, I have had a number of additional encounters with men who are homeless. Of course, I do what I can to help them by offering them accommodation and food. That is what anyone would do. My point is that the problem of men's homelessness in the Town is real as well as an urgent issue, as you have heard from others, like Pastor Matt from the Lighthouse.

As a case in point, when I arrived at my office on Broadway early this morning, I found a man (who I have written to you about before) sleeping outside the front door of my office. Please see the attached pictures that I took this morning from inside my office and ones that I also took outside, none of which prejudices the privacy of the individual in question. I went back into my office and opened the front door and offered this man a cup of coffee, which he was glad to receive, as well as an opportunity to use our bathroom, which he declined. As I have done on numerous occasions with this man, as has the Mayor and others, I offered to put his belongings into storage and provide him with a motel room, particularly given that it will be raining all weekend. He declined both offers but did ask if he could stay under the overhang of the front of our office, as it provides him with shelter from the rain this weekend. I said of course he could. It was the least I could do. As such, this man will more than likely be parked under the overhang of my office on Broadway as shelter from the rain on and off for the next few days with my permission.

I recognise that this man's situation is unique because he does not want to accept much help. However, there are many other homeless men that I have encountered on Broadway, in particular over the last 8 months, who have been looking for a men's emergency shelter that they could access 24/7 and not just when the County of Dufferin Housing Office is open.

Men's homelessness in Orangeville is an acute problem and needs an acute solution. The time for discussion and studies is over. I am therefore asking that the Mayor's Special Committee on Homelessness be constituted quickly and that the first order of business be the establishment of a men's emergency shelter in Orangeville this year and before the weather turns cold. This is a collective community problem that requires the collective efforts of concerned citizens, the Town, as well as the County of Dufferin. In this regard, I have copied John Creelman on County Council.

I am also copying the Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk in order to have this email officially entered into Town Council Minutes. If that means that I need to need to read this email as a delegation at the upcoming Council meeting on Monday evening along with the attached pictures, then I am willing to do so, although I may be beyond the usual deadline to make a delegation request.

Again, I want to commend the Mayor and members of Council for your collective interest and concern about the problem of men's homelessness in Orangeville. My point in writing is not to criticise anyone but rather to emphasise that the problem is a pressing one and the time to establish a men's emergency shelter in Orangeville is now !

Best regards,

Terry

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