

From: [Karen Landry](#)
To: [Tracy MacDonald](#)
Subject: FW: Men's Homeless Shelter
Date: Thursday, September 23, 2021 10:47:41 AM

Thanks,
Karen Landry

From: sylvia.a.bradley sylvia.a.bradley [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 23, 2021 10:39 AM
To: Sandy Brown <sbrown@orangeville.ca>; Joe Andrews <jandrews@orangeville.ca>; Andy Macintosh <amacintosh@orangeville.ca>; Debbie Sherwood <dsherwood@orangeville.ca>; Grant Peters <gpeters@orangeville.ca>; Lisa Post <lpost@orangeville.ca>; Todd Taylor <ttaylor@orangeville.ca>
Cc: Terrance <tcarter@carters.ca>; Karen Landry <klandry@orangeville.ca>
Subject: Men's Homeless Shelter

Good morning Council,

I have participated in and observed the Men's Homeless Shelter Committee meetings and have a few comments.

Kudos to the town for taking on this issue and bringing to the attention of the community. But the responsibility for housing rests with the County and I feel strongly that the financial burden should be with the County and not the Town. I do not mind paying my share but I do mind paying my share twice - the town portion and the county portion. Terry Carter was very clear in his statements on this topic as well.

According to the rep from the County, they feel that the need is being addressed by them at this time. Before any further action is taken, I believe it would be prudent to ascertain the need and the level of need before embarking on a plan in the absence of an assessment.

Choices has stepped up and opened a men's shelter in isolation from the County and it appears that there is a lack of communication and co-ordination by them. It appears that Choices has made a casual request to the Town for funding of \$175K for 6 months without preparing a business case to demonstrate the need and how the money will be spent. It amounts to almost \$1000/day. At last count it was reported 0 to 2 homeless men are being housed. That is a lot of money to house so few. The county is housing homeless men in motels and perhaps that program should be bolstered instead of embarking on a new plan at this time.

Sandy and Andy, as reps on the County Council, I respectfully request that you work with the County and place this responsibility clearly and solidly with them. The Town can assist in whatever manner appropriate, ie fundraising, but this is outside the Town's jurisdiction and it a dangerous precedent to set.

As some or most of you know, I have personal first hand experience with the chronically

homeless. A shelter will not solve the problem. There is a systemic failure in our society in providing for the needs of the vulnerable due to poverty, mental illness, cost of living, disability etc. Until those issues are dealt with, homelessness will continue no matter how many shelters are available. The homeless cannot be forced into housing.

Please let me be clear. I do support the need for a Men's Homeless Shelter, if an assessment supports it, but that need is the responsibility of the County.

Ms Landry, could you include my correspondence in the Sept. 27th Council meeting.

Thank you all.

Sylvia Bradley

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Orangeville, Ont.

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