



Cathy Case, Chief Administrative Officer  
Haldimand County  
53 Thorburn St, Cayuga, ON N0A 1E0

Monday, October 28, 2024

Re: Dunnville Affordable Housing Project

Dear Cathy Case (Haldimand County CAO) and the Haldimand Council,

Please accept this letter as YWCA Hamilton's support of the Dunnville Affordable Housing Project proposed by the Haldimand Norfolk Housing Corporation (HNHC). YWCA Hamilton is a multi-service organization that provides meaningful, accessible services to create opportunities, amplify voices, and co-create gender inclusive and equitable communities.

We are experienced housing and childcare providers in Hamilton and Haldimand Norfolk County. Our housing programs offer safe shelter, permanent affordable housing and transitional living for women and non-binary individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness, fleeing violent situations, or in need of temporary housing. We offer childcare through nine different locations (with 444 childcare spaces), with three new centres opening soon (that will increase total to 542 spaces overall).

We are supportive of this project in Dunnville and open to future collaboration with HNHC. We see great value in the model they are proposing that will require support from Haldimand Norfolk Health & Social Services to pursue additional affordable units and a childcare centre as part of the design. We know that providing childcare in the same building where women-led families live is a wholistic approach to supporting children and families. It reduces access barriers for low-income families, especially those with transportation barriers. Mothers can go to work, go to school, and balance activities of daily living knowing their children are receiving quality childcare so close to home. To ensure families are well supported, YWCA is also open to partnership with HNHC to support much-needed units for women and children fleeing violence, in consultation with Haldimand Norfolk Women's Services.

We look forward to the realization of this much needed, innovative project.

Sincerely,

Chelsea Kirkby (she/her)  
VP Strategic Initiatives & Program Development  
YWCA Hamilton

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**YWCA HAMILTON PROVIDES MEANINGFUL,  
ACCESSIBLE SERVICES TO CREATE  
OPPORTUNITIES, AMPLIFY VOICES, AND  
CO-CREATE GENDER INCLUSIVE AND  
EQUITABLE COMMUNITIES.**

Charitable Registration BN: 11923 6792 RR0001