



Giving Hope Today

New Hope in Leslieville

Last April, the Salvation Army reluctantly closed the doors of our Hope Shelter at College and McCaul when our lease ended. After an extensive search, we believe we may have at last found a new home for a new Hope Shelter at 29 Leslie Street between Queen and Eastern.

We are proposing an 80-bed shelter for homeless men between the ages of 18 and 70+. The shelter would be smaller than the 124-bed shelter we operated on College Street, but will still offer the services that contributed to 40 successful years at that location: three meals a day, counseling, housing placement and follow-up, and referrals to other services.

Our staff would be providing services on-site 24/7. Shelter residents do not have to leave the shelter during the daytime or line up to get into the shelter.

Would you like to learn more about our proposal?

The Salvation Army and the City's Hostel Services Division are hosting a:

Drop-In Open House

Saturday, January 16th, 2016, 1 - 3 pm

Toronto Fire and EMS Training Centre at 30 Knox (south of Eastern).

No speeches. No lining up at microphones. Just a chance to drop by and get good one-on-one information. Councillor Mary-Margaret McMahon and her staff will be there to welcome you, and Salvation Army staff, and representatives from the City of Toronto and 55 Division will be on hand to answer your questions.

A commitment to being good neighbours

We want our shelter to contribute to the wellbeing of *both* our clients and the neighbourhood.

To ensure good communication right from the start, we have hired Joy Connelly, an independent facilitator. She will host a Comment Table at the Open House to collect your suggestions, and forward them to the City and to our staff. She will also be seeking your suggestions for the best ways to stay in touch with the community.

Not able to come on January 16th? Or want to be added to an email list for occasional updates? You can contact Joy at any time at hopesheltonleslie@gmail.com or 416-466-2371.

Bradley Harris

Executive Director, Toronto Housing and Homeless Supports

Information from the City of Toronto's Hostel Services

Why is this shelter needed?

The demand for shelter beds is growing. Between January 2011 and January 2015 the average nightly shelter occupancy increased by approximately 11%. As a result, many of Toronto's 59 shelters were operating above the 90% occupancy threshold approved by City Council.

Why this location?

The Salvation Army has looked for almost two years to find a suitable location it can afford. The building at 29 Leslie is a suitable size, is accessible for those who cannot climb stairs, and is close to transit and other services its clients use. The location also complies with the Municipal Shelter By-law requirements - it is on an arterial road and is more than 250 meters from another shelter.

What are the next steps?

While the location complies with the City's Municipal Shelter By-law requirements, City Council must still approve a shelter use at this site. The first step in the approval process will be a City staff report to Toronto's Community Development and Recreation Committee's meeting on Wednesday January 27, 2016. The report will be posted online one week earlier on January 20, 2016 at:

<http://bit.ly/1RiWrBW>

If you would like to make your views known you can submit comments or request to speak at the Committee meeting by contacting the Committee Administrator at cdrc@toronto.ca or 416-338-5089. City Council will then vote on the shelter location at its next meeting on February 3 & 4.

When would the shelter open?

The Salvation Army plans to begin renovations in April 2016 with the aim of opening by Fall 2016.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "G. Tanner".

Gordon Tanner

Director of Change Management, Shelter Support and Housing Administration