



NOTICE OF MOTION

TO: Council **MEETING DATE:** February 5, 2024
FROM: Councillor Brenda Rowe
SUBJECT: Notice of Motion - Motion to Submit an Expression of Interest to the Ministry of Housing for the Hearth and Home Program
FILE NO: 0550

RECOMMENDATION

WHEREAS the District of Sechelt is experiencing a growing homelessness issue that disproportionately affects seniors and Indigenous individuals, both of whom are particularly vulnerable populations;

AND WHEREAS there is a critical lack of affordable and supportive housing opportunities in the District of Sechelt, which is insufficient to meet the increasing needs of the community;

AND WHEREAS the Hearth and Home Program, endorsed under the NDP and BC Green Party agreement, continues to receive funding support and aligns with the “Village” model of housing, which promotes community-oriented and sustainable solutions to homelessness and housing insecurity;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the District of Sechelt Council direct staff to prepare and submit an Expression of Interest to the Ministry of Housing for the Heart and Hearth Program, outlining the urgent need for affordable and supportive housing in Sechelt, with a particular focus on addressing homelessness among seniors and Indigenous individuals;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT staff reach out to the Shíshálh Nation to partner in this Expression of Interest and to explore, recognizing the importance of collaboration and shared leadership in addressing homelessness within the District of Sechelt;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT staff reach out to the Town of Gibsons and the SCRCD for letters of support to strengthen the Expression of Interest.

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor Brenda Rowe