



September 12, 2024

TO: Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)
New Horizons for Seniors Program (NHSP)
Government of Canada
P.O. Box 538 Station Don Mills
North York ON M3C 0N9
Email: ON-NHSP-PNHA@servicecanada.gc.ca
Telephone: 1-866-945-7342

RE: OWN (115 The Esplanade): Application for funding support for *aging in place* initiative

To Whom It May Concern,

The St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association (SLNA) is pleased to offer this letter of support for OWN Housing Co-operative's proposed project to support *aging in place* initiatives for their residents, under the community-based stream of the New Horizons for Seniors Program (NHSP).

These initiatives will be designed to improve quality of life through stimulating learning and social opportunities emphasizing gross and fine motor skills, supporting neuro-plasticity and building supporting networks within the co-op and more broadly in the community at large.

Proposed programming elements include art, music, writing, movement, story-telling, and hands-on learning activities, providing all participants with numerous opportunities to build connections which support *aging in place*. Extra attention will focus on residents who are isolated at home, including those who may not be able to participate in group activities.

The program will be managed by senior volunteer leaders, and the requested funding will provide a part-time paid project coordinator, plus fixtures, equipment and materials which support program activities.

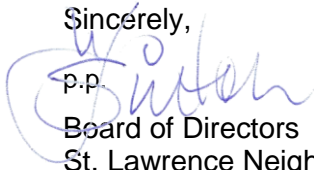
The SLNA is a non-profit association representing residents of the St. Lawrence area in Toronto since 1983, serving a population now exceeding 35,000 residents. The Association advocates for responsible development, heritage preservation, and community engagement by fostering relationships with local businesses, institutions, and all levels of government.

The St. Lawrence neighbourhood, Toronto's oldest (the *Original Ten Blocks* of the Town of York being established in 1793), is a mixed-income, ethnically diverse community. It includes historic low-rise buildings from the 19th century and family-friendly, mixed-income residential areas built in the late 20th century.



The Board of Directors of the SLNA supports this project. It is consistent with many of the initiatives being developed by other Association members to foster the health of NORCs (naturally occurring retirement communities) in the neighbourhood. The Board would greatly appreciate a positive response from NHSP to OWN's request for financial support.

Sincerely,



p.p.

Board of Directors

St. Lawrence Neighbourhood Association

cc: SLNA Board of Directors:

Ms. L. Allen

Ms. N. Fung

Mr. K. Jackson

Mr. S. Linton

Ms. S. McMillan

Ms. T. Tenenbaum

OWN:

Glen Hutzul

Row Iliescu