

Kris Sakowsky, Board President
Strathcona Shelter Society Ltd. Operating as A Safe Place
Box 3282
Sherwood Park, AB
T8H 2T2

Dear Mr. Sakowsky,

Re: A Safe Place Replacement Shelter and Transitional Housing Project application for CMHC
National Housing Co-Investment Fund for Women and Children Transitional Housing

I am pleased to provide this letter of support for the Strathcona Shelter Society (A Safe Place) to undertake the construction of a new facility for the continued operation of the existing women's shelter and second stage transitional housing programs in Sherwood Park. A Safe Place is a critical member of the County's Social Framework Leadership Table and the Community Safety and Wellbeing Steering Committee and is a key partner in Council's goal of creating a safe and healthy community.

Strathcona County has a long-standing successful relationship with A Safe Place as a trusted partner and provider of family violence services in Sherwood Park. A Safe Place meets a critical need in Strathcona County, helping women and their children who are fleeing domestic abuse by providing wrap around supports including safe accommodation, protection, support and basic needs. A Safe Place is the only organization providing these critical supports to our community. We therefore have a strong interest in the success of the project and will support you in whatever way we can.

Securing funding for a new location is critical. We understand that a recent comprehensive building assessment revealed that the current shelter facility has reached the end of its functional lifespan. A new facility will allow for much-needed additional capacity and space to ensure this essential service remains available and accessible to residents of Strathcona County and surrounding area.

On behalf of Strathcona County Council, we offer our support of the application being submitted by A Safe Place. You are a valued, collaborative community partner with specialized skills and capacity to effectively deliver critical supports and services in our community. Strathcona County is grateful for your continued commitment to women and children fleeing domestic abuse.

Should you require any further information, do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours truly,

Rod Frank, JD
Mayor