



Advocating for inclusive
communities where
everyone fully belongs

ALL IN

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phone: 416-889-9484

Councillor Ana Bailão
Ward 18 City Councillor
City Council's Housing Advocate

Monday, January 11, 2015

Dear Councillor Bailão,

We are All IN, a group committed to building inclusive communities across Ontario.

We are pleased to provide you with our Comments Document submissions in the Housing Opportunities Toronto Update. We have focused on and responded to those questions to which we can contribute the most meaningfully. As a result, you will find that we have not responded to every question in the document.

Our vision of inclusive communities and the future of Toronto is very much aligned with HOT's Action Plan and vision for our city.

Our province and our city rely on the work and collaboration of people from all socio-economic levels. Businesses rely on the employment of many lower-waged Canadians to succeed. These persons work as part-time or full-time labourers, as cashiers, and as cleaners. Homeowners and families similarly rely on lower-waged Canadians every day: personal workers, housekeepers, even the baristas in our local coffee shops. People of various income levels are all members of our community. We want these community members to have safe, affordable homes in which to live. Moreover, we want to ensure that people of lower income levels are not segregated in the outskirts or "less attractive" parts of Toronto. A strong, vibrant, and equitable democracy and society is one where people of all backgrounds and income levels live and work in proximity to one another.

We firmly believe that affordable housing is all of our responsibility. All IN's objectives are to engage the public and politicians so that we build inclusive communities that are equitable, sustainable, and socially cohesive, and where everyone feels connected. The HOT documents and vision, and, to some extent, the City's Official Plan, do incorporate a vision of a city where everyone can afford a safe home, and where we can all live in close to proximity with one another and build our communities. We wish for Councillors to continue to work toward achieving the laudable goals set out in the Official Plan and the HOT mandate.



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We would welcome an opportunity to speak to you to see how our organization can work with your Committee in a mutually supportive and beneficial relationship to further our goal of an integrated, inclusive Toronto.

Please feel free to contact us by email, at dyanoosh@allinadvocacy.ca, or by phone, at 416-889-9484.

Thank you for your dedication and continuing work on affordable housing.

Sincerely,

Dyanoosh Youssefi
Founder, Executive Director, All IN
On behalf of All IN Steering Committee and members