

## Janzen, Heather

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**Subject:** FW: Email - Communication - Ruby Stickney - Funding for the Attainable Housing Program and Innovative Housing Incentives - CK 750-4  
**Attachments:** Letter to council Nov. 15, 2022.docx

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**From:** Web NoReply <[web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca](mailto:web-noreply@Saskatoon.ca)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022 10:03 PM  
**To:** City Council <[City.Council@Saskatoon.ca](mailto:City.Council@Saskatoon.ca)>  
**Subject:** Email - Communication - Ruby Stickney - Funding for the Attainable Housing Program and Innovative Housing Incentives - CK 750-4

--- Replies to this email will go to [REDACTED] ---

Submitted on Tuesday, November 15, 2022 - 21:32

Submitted by user: [REDACTED]

Submitted values are:

**Date:** Tuesday, November 15, 2022

**To:** His Worship the Mayor and Members of City Council

**First Name:** Ruby

**Last Name:** Stickney

**Phone Number :** [REDACTED]

**Email:** [REDACTED]

**Address:** [REDACTED] Ave M N

**City:** Saskatoon

**Province:** Saskatchewan

**Postal Code:** [REDACTED]

**Subject:** Funding for the Attainable Housing Program and Innovative Housing Incentives

**Comments:**

Attached is my letter to council regarding meetings being held November 28, 29 and 30

**Attachments:**

- [Letter to council Nov. 15, 2022.docx](#) 7.52 KB

**Will you be submitting a video to be vetted prior to council meeting?:** No

Dear Saskatoon City Council,

I am a resident of the Westmount neighbourhood, and over the past 15 years have lived in various areas of Saskatoon's west side.

**I am writing to you regarding the upcoming agenda item, "Funding for the Attainable Housing Program and Innovative Housing Incentives," and asking that you allocate all available funding to this program.**

We are at a very crucial time in our city, with our unhoused neighbours experiencing an immediate need of shelter beds and further community resources and infrastructure just to be able to survive the winter. On November 6, Kevin Sutherland was found deceased due to freezing outside of City Centre Church. **Had there been a centrally located 24 hour warm up location or an outdoor source of heat, such as city-approved burning barrels or a heated bus shelter, he might still be here.** People experiencing homelessness deserve safety, comfort, and dignity, however the way that this crisis has been overlooked has left thousands of people in survival mode with no clear path to a solution.

Over the past few years I have watched as the Saskatoon Police Service has received more and more of the city budget. Meanwhile, an increasing number of people have been left to sleep on the streets, vulnerable to our harsh weather and numerous other safety concerns. **This in itself is a form of violence** which has been left unaddressed by your growing police force. It is not enough for the city to offer the Safe Bus Program. This program isn't available 24/7 and folks experiencing homelessness are often treated unkindly, or worse, by police and other emergency service providers.

There is a clear disconnect between city council and the unhoused community, as I've learned first hand from attendees at a recent outreach day; many felt they would be unheard or unwelcome if they requested to speak at one of the budget meetings. I was born and raised in Saskatoon but find it difficult to feel proud of a city which deprioritizes those living in poverty and instead over-values the uncompassionate "not in my backyard" views of downtown business and property owners. I would urge you to connect with the former group and to recognize that we are all much closer to housing insecurity than is often acknowledged.

Housing is a human right; the enjoyment of a brand new downtown arena is not. You have the opportunity here to work toward a city all of us can be proud to call home, I hope you'll take it.

Sincerely,

Ruby Stickney