

3. City of Vancouver's Interim Housing Solutions Strategy

MOVER: Mayor Robertson

WHEREAS there are hundreds of homeless people sleeping on Vancouver city streets every night;

WHEREAS the seriousness and scope of homelessness requires solutions and collaboration that crosses beyond party lines;

WHEREAS the successful HEAT shelters only have funding secured until the end of June 2009;

WHEREAS the majority of new housing, including the 14 sites of social housing in Vancouver, will not be completed until 2011 at the earliest;

WHEREAS the city has seen tangible gains in reducing street disorder, mental health calls, and connecting homeless people with support services, simply by providing shelter and food through the HEAT facilities;

WHEREAS the City is prepared to provide \$13 million in capital and lease costs, to complement provincial and private sector funding, to create 550 units of interim housing solutions;

AND WHEREAS the City's new Interim Housing Solutions Strategy addresses the gap Vancouver is facing between people living on the street and new housing being constructed;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Vancouver City Council call on all Provincial political parties to:
- 1) Publicly support the City's Interim Housing Solutions Strategy, and make a clear, public commitment to providing \$27.5 million in funding over five years to immediately implement the plan;
 - 2) Publicly commit to providing longer term funding to Vancouver HEAT shelters to ensure they can service the critical needs of the homeless.
- B. THAT Vancouver City Council ask the Mayor to write a letter to all Party Leaders in this election asking for their public commitment of the above.

referred

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