

MOTION

5. Housing for Adults with Developmental Disabilities

Vancouver City Council, at its meeting on September 20, 2011, referred the following motion to the Standing Committee on City Services and Budgets meeting on September 22, 2011, in order to hear from speakers.

MOVED by Councillor Geoff Meggs  
SECONDED by Councillor Kerry Jang

WHEREAS

1. The Provincial Government is cutting funding and supports for adults with developmental disabilities, resulting in the closure of group homes and mounting waiting lists for services;
2. These group homes form a vital and necessary part of the housing continuum that has won broad support from members of the public at large, families of adults with developmental disabilities and the communities in which they are located;
3. The Parent Support Group for Families of Mentally Handicapped Adults Society have approached the City of Vancouver seeking assistance to create new supportive housing options to provide homes for parents and their adult children with developmental disabilities;
4. The forced relocation of adults with developmental disabilities, against their will and without the support of their families, is causing severe emotional hardship to many families and growing vulnerability in the community, jeopardizing health and safety and increasing the risk of illness or homelessness;
5. The BC Community Living Action Group, which represents more than 65 affected agencies and organizations, thousands of families, and adults with developmental disabilities, has called for an end to service cuts and the closure of group homes.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

- A. THAT Council urge the Provincial Government to end funding cuts, implement a moratorium on the closure of group homes and provide sufficient financial resources both to maintain this vital housing resource and address growing waitlists.
- B. THAT Council direct staff to report to Council on:
  - the impact of these changes on city services, including supportive housing and police services;
  - the status of group homes in the city of Vancouver;
  - options to include homes for adults with developmental disabilities in the provision of supported housing in the city; and
  - options to protect the existing homes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this motion be circulated to the LMLGA and the UBCM for their consideration.