

## MOTION ON NOTICE

### 9. Keeping Winter Shelters Open All Year Round

At the Regular Council meeting on February 26, 2019, Vancouver City Council referred the following Motion to the Standing Committee on Policy and Strategic Priorities meeting on February 27, 2019, in order to hear from speakers.

Submitted by: Councillor Swanson

#### WHEREAS

1. The city's website says, "We are committed to ensuring all residents have a safe, warm place to come inside to during the cold winter months";
2. All residents should have a safe warm place to come inside during all months in order to provide mental and physical health;
3. Winter shelters with almost 300 beds are scheduled to close on March 31, 2019;
4. The City's website says the Downtown Vancouver Business Improvement Area reported a reduction in the number of people sleeping on the street when the shelters are open;
5. People have to leave some shelters during the day and have no place to go except the streets;
6. There aren't enough homes for people who use shelters to go to when the shelters close;
7. The BC Housing Vancouver wait list has over 4000 households on it;
8. People who use shelters desperately need real housing but we don't have enough affordable units at this time.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Council direct staff to work with BC Housing to keep the winter shelters open all year on a 24/7 basis.

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