



9 Oakland Blvd., Suite 2 | Elliot Lake, ON | P5A 2T1

1 Industrial Park Road, Suite 210 | Blind River, ON | P0R 1B0

Dear Mayor and Council members

We are writing to you in the hopes that we can highlight the lack of housing and affordable housing and the crisis it is creating for our most vulnerable citizens. We here at the Counselling Centre of East Algoma work on the front lines every day and are witnessing firsthand how the housing crisis is negatively affecting people.

Not only is there a lack of housing in general, but there is virtually no affordable housing whatsoever. Landlords who would previously charge \$600 for a one-bedroom apartment have now increased rent costs to the point where those on low income cannot afford it. These people are then referred to access ADSAB where they are told that there is a lengthy waitlist to get in with subsidized housing or geared to income housing. Both of our shelters have been at capacity and recently we have had to coordinate for community members to get access to Sudbury shelters, which they are not always welcomed at because they are from out of town in COVID times. In order for someone to be accepted into the shelter in Sudbury, they have to present with their N95 mask (which many do not have access to) or they will not be accepted into the shelter.

We have continued to see the crisis escalate as more people are moving to Elliot Lake from other parts of Ontario, which has driven up the cost of home ownership. Landlords have taken advantage of this situation and are selling their homes out from under their tenants, leaving them with few options or nowhere to go.

We wanted to bring this issue to light and make sure that people are talking about this and coming up with a plan on how to address this issue. We trust that you are aware of this situation and are actively involved in finding solutions. If there is anything you need from our organization to assist you in this, please reach out to our Executive Director, Shelley Watt Proulx.

Thank you for your consideration of this very important issue.

Sincerely,

Counselling Centre of East Algoma