May 3, 2019

THE STANDING SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, THE ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Dear members of the committee,

Thank you for the work you are doing to better help Canadians understand and speak to the details regarding Bill C-69.

It has come to our attention that some misinformation has been communicated to you during your visit to Winnipeg on April 12, 2019 regarding the operation of our Transitional Housing Program.

We do not ‘rent’ our program rooms to anyone in ‘industry’ or any third party housing/camp provider.

In the Province of British Columbia, The Salvation Army is proud to partner with BC Housing to deliver emergency shelter services and transitional housing. In Fort St. John we are the operators of a building owned in partnership with BC Housing to deliver services to our cities most vulnerable, impoverished, and homeless population. In this building we have 36 units of transitional housing that are designed to assist men and women experiencing homelessness to have a safe and secure home; the majority of our program residents enter our program through connection with a caseworker in the emergency shelter.

In our agreement with BC Housing, we reserve access to our transitional housing programs to men and women facing absolute homelessness or those whom are at risk of homelessness. Individuals are assessed based on need and are obligated to submit a Proof of Income and Asset form to help us ensure the best use of resources.

The Salvation Army in Fort St. John BC is honoured to provide vital services to our cities most vulnerable population. In Fort St. John we operate an Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing Program, Food Bank, Family Servies, Emergency Diaster Program, and Thrift Store.

Sincerely,
The Salvation Army

Cameron Eggie
Executive Director
The Northern Centre of Hope

William and Catherine Booth     Brian Peddle          Susan McMillan          Jamie Braund
Founders                       General             Territorial Commander   Divisional Commander