



**Calgary**

Office of the Councillors  
COUNCILLOR E. Woolley

2017 July 6

Dear Shaganappi Residents,

I met with both the VP of Housing and the CEO of HomeSpace, Martina and Bernadette last Thursday to discuss their recent Open House for the proposed housing project at 2520 17<sup>th</sup> Ave SW. Through the numerous amount of emails I've received from members of the Shaganappi community it was clear to me that there was a significant amount of frustration, uncertainty and concern associated with the proposal and I wanted to be sure to share these sentiments with HomeSpace. Also, HomeSpace shared with me that there were some misconceptions circulating within the community and I'd like to take this chance to share the outcome of our conversation and clear up some confusion.

Through our conversation it became clear that there were misunderstandings and miscommunication that has led us to where we are today. HomeSpace assured me that as at the open house and as of right now, **no non-profit organization has been chosen to run the space** and thus, **the specific form of housing program has not been decided**. Their hopes for the open house were to gain a better sense of the community's understanding of the housing spectrum and to get the neighbourhood's feelings on the wide variety of housing options they offer.

The community has made it clear to both my office and to HomeSpace that they are open to discussing affordable housing options so long as they are not high acuity, or as many of the community members have been referencing: harm-reduction. In term of acuity, the higher the acuity, the higher the needs of their clients. This can mean more multidisciplinary support teams are on site as tenants can have multiple health challenges. HomeSpace has assured me that they have heard what the community isn't comfortable with and are now focused on returning to the table to listen to what the community is open to.

Ultimately, following out meeting, I believe HomeSpace is focused on working with the community to discuss what various housing options that the community could be open to and to do so in a collaborative and open manner. I left last week's meeting with a much better understanding of what HomeSpace was hoping to achieve and that they had heard and understood the community's concerns and are better equipped to re-engage the neighbourhood.

Many of you have reached out to me personally, and I plan on getting back to all of you separately as well. If you still have questions or need some more clarification please feel free to reach out to my office at 403-265-2504 or [caward8@calgary.ca](mailto:caward8@calgary.ca).

Best,

Evan Woolley  
Councillor, Ward 8