



**Catherine Soplet**  
**Building Up Our Neighbourhoods**  
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February 8, 2024

Via e-mail to: [council@peelregion.ca](mailto:council@peelregion.ca)

Peel Regional Council  
10 Peel Place  
Brampton, Ontario

**Region of Peel Council held February 8, 2024**

**Item 18.1 – Regarding the Communications submitted by Jay Naster, Counsel to the Coalition of Concerned Citizens, Lacy Naster LLP Barristers to the Council of the Regional Municipality of Peel**

I am a Member of PPAG - Peel Poverty Action Group and participant at Peel Poverty Reduction Strategy since 2010.

PPAG advocates for Housing First approach to action “Housing is a Human Right” and that the current unavailability of adequate housing is an exacerbating health crisis. PPAG raises the voices of people expert in living with experience of poverty.

I am a resident of Ward 2.

I join with More Homes Mississauga to register disappointment in my Clarkson neighbours who do not represent my views in their unidentified Coalition of Concerned Citizens as represented by counsel.

In attending MIRANET Council on February 7, 2024 this matter was raised and I registered my views to oppose Coalition of Concerned Citizens.

MIRANET Council is aware that PPAG has actively supported the model of supportive affordable housing by which Indwell brings “Hope and Housing” to Mississauga.

I am amplifying the voice our former PPAG co-chair Richard Antonio, whose journey from housing instability to thriving despite health impairments moves from 2014 introduction to The Compass Foodbank Men’s Group and its faith-based founding network which developed a relationship with Indwell, through to himself becoming a tenant in 2022 at Lakeshore Lofts.

Indwell Lakeshore Lofts created a brief video in September 2023 to record stories of residents, including Richard, whose lives were transformed after only 1 year. YouTube: <https://youtu.be/aJZGci2u-HU?si=5yuNh5IZqu2igcHq>

Richard’s last public appearance was the November 2023 in support of the sod turning for the Indwell Clarkson site on Lakeshore Road West.

Sadly, Richard deceased in December, before the public meeting.

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Richard Antonio's efforts to drive a Petition on Poverty presented in the House of Commons, to co-chair PPAG and inform the 2018-2028 Peel Poverty Reduction Strategy, to co-found Peel Health Coalition ahead of 2018 provincial election to declare healthcare a crisis, and advocacy for Indwell as an intersectional lived experience was documented for his funeral in January. It is attached to this letter.

Richard's housing journey exemplifies how Mississauga is a welcoming city, evolving substantially and innovating with resilience – all in a context of per resident lowest decile funding for housing, education, health and social services and surging diverse population growth.

As a Member of PPAG, I publicly affirm support for the Indwell Clarkson project, and commend all Mississauga and Peel Region officials who have worked to bring this project to fruition.

I restate the conclusion of More Homes Mississauga:

Mississauga is a welcoming city that has evolved substantially in the past few years to include residents from all walks of life. Whether or not groups such as the Coalition and their lawyers want to see Mississauga address the local housing crisis, the needs will continue to mount for housing of all kinds in our city.

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Soplet  
Resident Ward 2  
Member – Peel Poverty Action Group

Att: **Richard-Antonio\_Advocacy-Solutions-in-Peel\_2014-2024\_CSoplet.pdf**