**Letter in support of homelessness solutions in the qathet Region

Tips:**

* Explain why you are writing
* Explain why you care (anything personal to share? Know someone?)
* Any stats or facts to share?
* Explain what you are asking for

Sample outline. Highlighted areas - or all - can be customized to you.

Dear Councillor/Minister,

My name is [your first and last name] and I am a [service provider/advocate/community member] who resides in your community.

I am writing you today to bring attention to the issue of homelessness in qathet. As you know, Canada’s National Housing Strategy Action (passed in 2019) recognizes housing as a human right and commits organizations and governments to reform housing laws,

policies, and programs from a human rights perspective, prioritizing the most vulnerable

groups and those in greatest need of housing while working towards housing as a

human right for all. I am asking you to keep this top of mind in your role as Councillor/Minister.

I have lived in this beautiful community for 3 years and care deeply about the wellbeing and safety of our residents. Seeing encampments or unhoused individuals around town reminds me everyday how fortunate I have been not to have had to deal with any of the factors leading to homelessness such as eviction, job loss, domestic violence or other. I do what I can to champion organizations that provide support for the unhoused population; however, the issue persists because of a larger, systemic failure to uphold the right of all people to permanent, adequate housing without discrimination.

In the 2023 qathet homelessness count, 126 people were identified as experiencing homelessness. And we know that is an undercount. Homelessness can happen to anyone at any age; most of us are one life crisis away from housing insecurity. Housing is also a major social determinant of health. Safe and stable housing can make it easier for individuals to access food, medicine, and medical services, and decrease reliance on publicly funded support like emergency health services.

That is why I am writing to you **to ask that you direct more resources and additional housing supports for families, youth, and single adults in the qathet region.** A proactive approach regarding the level of resources required is needed and it is your job to prioritize the most vulnerable.

Sincerely,