

**Statement from Cabbagetown South Residents' Association:  
in response to our Neighbourhood hiring private security guards.**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
December 17<sup>th</sup> 2020**

The Residents Association and the community of Cabbagetown South strongly believe in protecting our most vulnerable populations. We also believe that our children, elderly, and all residents deserve the same protection.

It is easy to paint us as insensitive or NIMBY, but that does not solve or recognize the deep-rooted issues and concerns that continue to grow in this small ward that hosts 40% of the cities under-funded social services.

The Cabbagetown South Resident's Association has been in conversations with our community and neighbours on Berkeley, Ontario & Seaton between Dundas and Shuter since July regarding the issues and concerns that have escalated on their Streets throughout the summer.

We have helped facilitated several meetings with Councillor Wong Tam, Shelter Support & Housing, By Law Officers, Toronto Community Housing and 51 Division to hear our concerns and to understand what role the City can play to help deal with the escalating crime, drug dealers, overdoses and homelessness within our community.

The level of stress in this neighbourhood is unprecedented and unsustainable, and we support the measures our residents have taken to ensure their families are safe in their own homes. It is also a concept we are considering implementing and supporting on a larger scale if the City cannot get a head of this.

The City has an obligation to act now and recognize the harm being inflicted upon our neighbourhood and others like us.

Sincerely,

Cabbagetown South Board  
[www.cabbagetownsouth.com](http://www.cabbagetownsouth.com)  
info@cabbagetownsouth.ca



- **Clean Communities:**
  - Sites should be responsible for daily clean-up of litter in the immediate vicinity of their building. Styrofoam plates and cups should be replaced with sustainable products.
- **Outreach:**
  - Sites should be responsible for having a team of 24/7 outreach workers whose job it is to assist clients
- **Safety Walks:**
  - If there are businesses within the area of the Respite there should implement a Safe-Walk program, to walk residents and employees to and from their cars/other locations.
- **Community Liaison:**
  - Community complaints must be taken seriously and responded to within 24 hours or another established timeframe
  - Community consultation should be an ongoing requirement

By putting a priority on the safety of residents, as well as members of the vulnerable community we can offer a safe environment for all people.

Our expectation is that all levels of government will work together to fight not only the homelessness but also the harm that is falling on neighborhoods that open their arms to these sites only to face irreparable damage. ***This means that appropriate funding must be put in place to support the appropriate levels of security and services.***

***Board, Cabbagetown South Residents' Association***