

## Rhonda West

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**From:** Alan Harrison  
**Sent:** Monday, July 24, 2023 8:00 AM  
**To:** Erin Jackson  
**Cc:** Rhonda West  
**Subject:** Fw: [External] Supporting salmon arm's emergency shelter

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**From:** Judy Sims [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** July 22, 2023 6:14 AM  
**To:** Alan Harrison <aharrison@salmonarm.ca>; Tim Lavery <tlavery@salmonarm.ca>; Sylvia Lindgren <slindgren@salmonarm.ca>; Louise Wallace-Richmond <lwallacerichmond@salmonarm.ca>  
**Subject:** [External] Supporting salmon arm's emergency shelter

Unhoused is a respectful shift in language to a growing crisis in pretty much every community defining people we see in tents and in doorways if we don't look away, and those we don't see who find temporary shelter without security. There are so many complex paths that can lead a person, or a family to be homeless. The time frame in which it happen can be surprisingly fast. There are multiple levels of services and shelters to hope for, the most desperate of which is safe emergency shelter in a supported, staffed environment. This isn't an act for charity, it's a responsibility of partner in government to protect vulnerable populations.

I support salmon arm moving forward in partnership with bc housing and mental health to build a shelter within walking distance to town, on municipally owned property.

Over the past many years salmon arm has been known for many things It's natural beauty, hospitality, community, comfortable livability. We've been highlighted both as a community burdened by racism and in another series of articles as a Christmas postcard. Last winter's extreme cold brought us dangerously close to being known as a town that allowed people to die of exposure for lack of a safe space. Private citizens stepped up and provided a temporary alternative. I'm sure we all wish this wasn't an issue but it is, it is complex in causality, and it would appear it is not temporary in a societal context. Unhoused defines a state of living, how we address it, defines us.

Sent from my iPhone