Jill Andrew, NDP, Toronto St Pauls, pledges support for accessible housing

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For immediate release

Seniors and people with disabilities demand universal design housing

Toronto - Jill Andrew, NDP MPP for Toronto St Pauls, who is standing for re-election in the June 2 Ontario election, has pledged to support the call for amendment of the Ontario Building Code to require that all units in every new multi-unit residential building be built according to universal design principles, so anyone of any age or ability can live there.

The Accessible Housing Network (AHN) invites Ontario voters to urge candidates in their ridings to sign the Accessible Housing Pledge, which can be printed from the AHN website.

“You've definitely got an ally in me, and this is also a part of the Ontario NDP Housing Platform,” said MPP Andrew. “We are especially loud on ensuring universal design and a push for investments in home care and community care.”

The pledge has also been signed by NDP Critic for Accessibility, Ottawa Centre MPP Joel Harden, Green Party leader Mike Schreiner, and several other candidates from both the NDP and Green parties.
The **Accessible Housing Network (AHN)** is a non-partisan network of Canadian organizations working to support the human rights of persons with disabilities to end the extreme lack of accessible housing.

For more information, please contact:
Accessible Housing Network <accessiblehousingnetwork@gmail.com>
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Website: accessiblehousingnetwork.org

Quotes:

“It costs the same to build a new apartment whether accessible or not,” says Minette Samaroo, President of the Toronto chapter of the Alliance for Equality of Blind Canadians (AEBC).

“Although 24% of Ontarians have a disability and millions of seniors also have one or more disabilities, the Ontario Building Code requires only that 15% of new units be “visitiable” - not accessible enough to live there”, says Kate Chung, co-chair of the Accessible Housing Network.
Candidate’s Pledge: Accessible Housing 2022

I pledge that if I am elected as a Member of the Provincial Parliament of Ontario, I will:

Ensure that the Government of Ontario implements fully the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and its associated Protocol;

Actively work to change the Ontario Building Code (OBC) to require that 100% of units in every new multi-unit residential building be built according to universal design* principles (UD), so anyone of any age or ability can live there.