

236 First Street Transformation – Q&A

Share your questions at 236firststreet@shipshey.ca.

Updated November 10.21

I understand that the facility is one level which makes it ideal for persons with mobility struggles. Will disabled persons be eligible for housing there as well? Will there be any priority to disabled persons?

There will be 3 units that are deemed to be accessible with barrier free washrooms; and kitchens with easily accessible counters and sinks.

What is the relationship between SHIP and Choices?

SHIP is supporting Choices with governance and back office support. SHIP Board members are also represented on the Choices Board.

What is the relationship between SHIP and the (proposed) Men's Homeless Shelter?

There is **no** direct relationship between SHIP and the proposed Men's Homeless Shelter.

I note that SHIP has undergone a name change, previously known as Supportive Housing in Peel. Is there a new structure in place with the Province? Would this open the possibility that the 236 Project could revert to temporary, crisis housing at some future point?

A new corporate name was announced in 2017 with our new name reflecting the current scope of services and housing within the communities we provide support. This accurately reflects the growth that has taken place since we began as Supportive Housing In Peel in 1992.

Have you applied for this motel to be used as a Men's Homeless Shelter? No.

Request for SHIPs Board minutes beyond May 2021. Board Minutes can be found on SHIPs website.

With regard to SHIPs name change, does this mean we will be housing people from other communities? Permanent supportive housing will be offered to residents of Dufferin County.

Are any of our Board members residents of Dufferin? Yes half of the SHIP board are residents of Dufferin County or have family residing here.

What type of agreement will residents be required to sign?

Residents will sign a standard tenancy agreement and be supported through SHIPs Tenant Relations team on being a good neighbour.

Who to contact about housing at the new site?

Visit SHIPs website at Central Intake at intake@shipshey.ca or call 905-795-8742

When did you communicate with the Town of Mono about this development?

While there was no direct communication with the Town of Mono by SHIP, each household in the Starrview Acres neighbourhood received 2 Project communications; all residents within 120m were notified and signage regarding the Zoning Application was erected on the property site early September.

Will we be able to view the site plans?

Draft unit and site layouts will be provided at the November 10 Community Information Session. Once shared, they will also be available at www.shipshey.ca/housing.

What will happen to existing tenants once we close our doors for renovation?

Currently, the program is projected to close by the end of November 2021 with all residents securing alternative housing in the community.

Are there any plans to address the path from 236 First Street to the stores just south of the site?

This is a discussion for and with the Town of Orangeville.

What does the Existing zoning allow for?

The current zoning DOES allow for emergency housing use. In fact, the motel was used for that as are other motels in Orangeville, before SHIP was involved.

What is the re-zoning request for?

The zoning amendment request is to transform the existing motel into permanent supportive housing. The requested zoning is NOT to permit a shelter.

What's happening at the motel right now?

SHIPs short term housing program is projected to close at the end of November 2021 as we transform the motel into permanent housing. During the program's time, we've supported a number of individuals in ending their homelessness and supporting them to resolve their crisis.

Why has there been police presence at the motel?

There has been police presence. This has been for them to seek help with someone in need as well as to intervene when someone may be in a crisis. We understand that this has not been a problem location for the police.

Who is SHIP?

SHIP has been providing services and housing in Dufferin since 2007 currently supporting more than 150 individuals in the community. We are a person-centered, person-focused organization, actively continuing to expand our capacity to provide health services and high quality housing to the communities we serve.

What exactly will the new site be for?

The recent acquisition of the motel at 236 First Street will support vulnerable individuals in Orangeville with safe, affordable permanent supportive housing. Presently, SHIP has more than 65 individuals on our waitlist seeking supportive housing in Dufferin County.

How will permanent supportive housing differ from the Short Term Program this summer?

Supportive housing generally refers to a combination of housing assistance and supports that enable people to live as independent as possible in their community. The Short Term Program was designed to provide temporary accommodation to individuals experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, many as a direct result of the burden of the pandemic (due to job loss resulting in homelessness).

What's the plan for ensuring the property is kept tidy? i.e. garbage, the grounds

The 236 First Street property experienced some early challenges in accessing necessary services; in some cases, as a result of the pandemic. One example was securing a company to provide waste management. Necessary service contracts have now been in place for some time. We've also recently made some changes in our Property Services portfolio to ensure that our 236 Property meets the same high standards as our other capital properties.

We feel that SHIP has not been clear in their communications about who will be living at 236.

SHIP recognizes the need for more affordable housing in Dufferin. The new development will be an apartment comprised of studios and 2-bedrooms, supporting the identified shortage of affordable housing. The building will permit different household types, however there will be a focus on women as a priority population.

More communication to the Community would be helpful.

Community and client engagement is a key focus for all new SHIP projects. We build community engagement plans to ensure project messaging is clear and open to feedback. We began with an initial communication in September with a follow up the week of October 25 2021. Three Community Information Sessions were held in November 2021 and December 2021 along with monthly newsletters and website updates.

Is there an on site presence?

SHIP typically has staffing presence Monday to Friday. In addition, security has been a constant presence at 236 First Street since SHIP first purchased the property with typical coverage being 3 p.m. – 7 a.m.; we experienced minimal service disruption.

Will the building support wellness and community connections?

The location is ideal as there are goods and amenities within walking distance of the residential area as well as open space recreation in the rear of the building to create healthy environments including a community produce and floral gardens. There will be a well landscaped exterior which will improve the visual aesthetics of the neighbourhood.

