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To: Mayor Finch <gfinch@southhuron.ca>

Subject: An idea

To Mayor Finch and Council

There has been a lot of conversation concerning homelessness, unemployment and affordable housing in South Huron.

I have a suggestion that may be a win/win.

Several years ago my husband and I had the opportunity to visit Japan as guests of Suzuki Motorcycle . We were fortunate to see a lot of the country via guided tours. One of these tours was particularly interesting. Suzuki was in the market for labourers, men and women were in the market for jobs, however, the workforce could not afford the rents AND own vehicles to get to work as the wages at that time were quite low.

The Suzuki company came up with two solutions..

1. build apartments for workers to live in at low rent and within walking/biking distance to work. Their reduced rent was part of their benefit package.....they were still required to pay minimum rent plus their utilities and keep their residence presentable. If they left the Suzuki company they would be required to move from their residence.
2. free busing to and from work daily, for those that lived further than a certain kilometre, again part of their benefit plan.

With discussion of building next to the new Wendys at high rental rate, and the new Church House on Huron about to open, again with rent starting at \$1300. Plus utilities...these rents would still be out of range for the under employed, unemployed, homeless.

Wouldn't it be a great idea for the companies that desperately need workers to

A) build apartments, condos or supply modular homes etc for their employees at reduced rent or

b) supply busing for their employees.

Surely there could be something written into their employment contract that they need to be responsible tenants or become terminated from their jobs. This could help with unemployment, getting people off the street and giving them a hand up, not a hand out , reducing welfare, and helping the local businesses.

I am sure it's worth looking into.

Thank you for your time to read my suggestion.

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Sent from my iPad