Submitter: Melissa Tanguay

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Housing and Homelessness

Measure: HB3501

It seems every policy, thus far, that has taken a more permissive stance on allowing people to camp at will wherever they want, while intending to help the problem, has just made it exponentially worse. And as more and more tents get put up, the trash, drugs and crime seem to follow, and the less livable this city becomes for residents and business owners that actually pay taxes to help run the city. We need policies that more aggressively and realistically address the issue, even if they are a bit more heavy-handed, like requiring people to only live in sanctioned areas (be it shelters, sanctioned camps / RV sites, safe rest villages, etc...). This seems like a no-brainer way to link individuals more easily with services, which seems like the only way out of homelessness for most people.