



MEDIA RELEASE

April 24, 2025

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Regional Municipality of Waterloo v. Persons Unknown and to be Ascertained, 2023 ONSC 670

Waterloo Region Community Legal Services (WRCLS) is deeply concerned by the Region of Waterloo’s decision to pass the [Site Specific By-law](#) related to the encampment at 100 Victoria Street (“the Encampment”).

We are further troubled by Acting Regional Solicitor Fiona McCrea’s comments to Council that “In the context of the decision of Justice Valente in the [Regional Municipality of Waterloo v. Persons Unknown and to be Ascertained](#) Region staff intend to seek further direction to the extent this is feasible and compatible with the anticipated construction schedule.”

The *Regional Municipality of Waterloo v. Persons Unknown and to be Ascertained* was not appealed by the Region. Any actions that the Region takes with respect to the Encampment that are inconsistent with Justice Valente’s order of January 27, 2023 are unlawful.

Although WRCLS welcomes the supports now being offered to residents at the Encampment to connect residents with housing options, we are deeply concerned with, *inter alia*, the budget line related to motels as we know this is not a long term solution. Eventually this funding will run out and the Encampment residents will once again be facing displacement.

WRCLS intends to defend the Encampment residents against any unlawful actions pursuant to the *Site Specific By-Law* and we are exploring all legal options against the Region in relation to any unlawful actions taken against Encampment residents.



Waterloo Region
Community Legal Services

Kitchener – Main Office

450 Frederick Street, Unit 101
Kitchener, Ontario N2K 2P5

Phone: 519-743-0254

Fax: 519-743-1588

For further information about the contents of this media release, please contact Ashley Schuitema, Executive Director, at 519-743-0254, Ext 17.

For more information about WRCLS, please visit: <https://www.wrcls.ca/>