

January 7th 2026

**Re: Support for Community Builders & EDF Funding**

To Mayor and Council:

As the leading Not-for-Profit Construction-based Social Enterprise in Simcoe County and Greater Sudbury, with new locations in Mouskoka and Sault Ste. Marie, Community Builders, provides critical employment training, grows our trades workforce, and does remarkable work in creating affordable housing and fostering healthy vibrant communities. We are pleased to write a letter of support recognizing that construction training and wrap-around supports for people who face barriers to employment is a crucial step along the path towards a meaningful career in the trades. Community Builders work helps tackle two of Canada's biggest issues: the **Affordable Housing Crisis** and the **Skilled Labour Shortage**, while also bringing people currently underrepresented in the construction industry into this workforce.

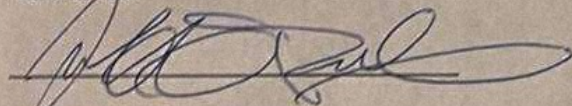
**Den Construction** is proud to support Community Builders in their expansion to deliver their programming in our community.

We are happy to support Community Builders' application to the Economic Development Fund as their work is fully aligned with the goals of the program. This funding will allow Community Builders to continue to deliver on the impacts their work is having:

- Approaching 200 positions available annually for paid Trades & Diversity Programming across their locations
- Building or maintaining 100s of affordable housing units annually
- More than 1000 people apply for the program - a great demand exists!
- ~90% of CB graduates move into meaningful employment in the trades sector after graduation
- High yield social return on investment, saving millions of dollars annually in justice, health, and social services costs for various levels of government

We would strongly recommend Community Builders' application funding and look forward to working with them in our community.

Sincerely,  
Jeff Dube



Owner  
Den Construction