



Myths and Facts: Proposed Healing Lodge at 2217 Kingston Road

Thunder Woman Healing Lodge (TWHL) is a community-driven project. Our goal is to promote the **Restoration of Identity** for Indigenous, Metis, and Inuit Women. Indigenous women are over grossly over represented in Canada’s correctional system. This is due to poverty, the residential school legacy, the foster care system, and racism. As well as the deliberate targeting of Indigenous women as seen in the large number of missing and murdered Indigenous women. Thunder Woman Healing Lodge Society recognizes, as all good Canadian citizens do, the need to provide support, healing, rehabilitation, and meaningful re-integration of Aboriginal women.

There are number of healing lodges in Canada, and they are diverse in the populations they serve, their funding and operations, and programing. This fact sheet will address some of the common misconceptions in relation to the proposed Healing Lodge at 2217 Kingston Road in Scarborough.

MYTH	FACT
TWHL is a correctional institution	FALSE - The proposed healing lodge is a holistic, culturally-relevant residential facility with a variety of programs to aid women in their healing journey out of the correctional system.
The women who will live in TWHL are incarcerated	FALSE - The women who will live in the proposed healing lodge are transitioning back into society. They have either not been convicted, or have served their sentence and have been released.
TWHL will bring criminals to our neighbourhood	FALSE – The women that TWHL will be supporting are already in the neighbourhood without the benefit of programming and supports.
TWHL is going to be like the place where Terri-Lynne McClintic was sent	FALSE – The proposed healing lodge is a residence run for and by the indigenous community, for the reintegration of women who have either not been convicted, or have served their sentence and have been released. (The healing lodge where McClintic was sent was an alternative correctional facility for inmates to serve out their sentence. It was operated by Corrections Canada and was open to indigenous and non-indigenous women.)
Anyone is eligible to become a resident of TWHL	FALSE – Priority will be given to First Nations, Metis, and Inuit women. Prospective residents will have to apply to enter TWHL and be motivated to participate in programming that promotes healing, rehabilitation, and life skills. Healing Lodge staff, Elders, and administrators will interview and vet all prospective residents.
TWHL will not be an active participant in the community	FALSE – The proposed healing lodge will have a small social enterprise space on the ground floor where members of the community are welcome. The lodge will also host special events and welcome the community to attend. Members of the community will be invited to participate in a Community Advisory Council.

Any questions on the programs and services to be offered by Thunder Woman Healing Lodge can be directed to Ms. Patti Pettigrew at: twhls.inc@gmail.com

Any questions on the minor variance application or the municipal planning process can be directed to Ms. Kelly Graham at kgraham@svn-ap.com