

Paula Kusack

Subject: FW: June 9th Motion on Housing as a Human Right

From: Rowan Burdge <rowan@bcpovertyreduction.ca>

Sent: June 4, 2025 11:48 AM

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Good day,

I am writing to support the City of Langley's City Council Meeting Agenda Item on Housing as a Human Right for the upcoming June 9th meeting.

My name is Rowan Burdge, and I am the Provincial Director of the BC Poverty Reduction Coalition. We are a coalition of 80+ member organizations across BC that advocate for food security, adequate housing and incomes, and wider anti-poverty measures for the province to ensure everyone has their needs and rights met.

As surely everyone in BC knows, the housing crisis has profoundly impacted our communities, making it difficult for people to access safe, affordable, and appropriate housing. The affordability crisis is hitting people in our communities very hard, and those at the lower end of the income spectrum need leadership and support to ensure safe housing for all. As a renter myself, I know firsthand how challenging it can be to find an affordable, long-term place.

I hope the Council will support this UBCM resolution, as it shows the province that there is public support for housing as a human right. This can help us, as housing justice and anti-poverty advocates, continue credibly advocating for better living conditions for all.

Thank you for your consideration and leadership on this critical matter.

Warmly,

Rowan Burdge (they/she)
Provincial Director

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The BC Poverty Reduction Coalition office is on traditional, ancestral and unceded xʷməθkʷiʔəm (Musqueam), Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səliłwətaʔt (Tsleil-Waututh) territories home of the Hul'q'umi'num', SENCŌTEN and Skwxwú7mesh Sníchim speaking peoples. We acknowledge colonization's historical and present-day practices and recognize that poverty is interwoven with colonization, oppression and genocide. We strive to be in solidarity with Indigenous peoples and communities in the assertion of Indigenous peoples' rights, cultural practices, land defence and food harvesting.

My working hours are Monday to Thursday and may be different from yours. Please don't feel obligated to respond to me outside of yours.