



Burnaby Task Force on Homelessness

Working Together to END Homelessness in Burnaby

www.burnabyhomelesstaskforce.org

SECTION 2 COUNCIL CORRESPONDENCE

City Manager

Dir. Planning and Building

Planning and Development Committee

March 6, 2015

Mayor Derek Corrigan and City Council
4949 Canada Way
Burnaby, B.C. V5G 1M2

Re: Motion M47

Dear Mayor Derek Corrigan and City Council:

The Burnaby Task Force On Homelessness commends MP Kennedy Stewart for writing Motion M47 to establish, develop, and implement an affordable housing strategy. We strongly affirm the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights that access to adequate housing is a fundamental right of all Canadians. We believe that a national housing initiative is the most effective solution to addressing homelessness throughout Canada.

The Burnaby Task Force On Homelessness was established in January 2005 and is committed to working collaboratively with all parties that are moving forward in establishing housing and services for Burnaby citizens who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

The Burnaby Task Force On Homelessness is comprised of representatives from government agencies, the health authority, RCMP, social service and community organizations, business improvement associations, housing providers, faith communities and concerned citizens who are committed to working together to identify and address issues of homelessness in the City of Burnaby.

The 2011 City of Burnaby Social Sustainability Report states that almost 20% of Burnaby households had incomes below \$20,000 in 2005. The Progressive Housing Society Homeless Outreach Program assists between 30-40 new clients each month. Burnaby residents living in extreme poverty and homelessness have limited options for support services and housing and no local shelter within their home community. This results in dire living situations for Burnaby's vulnerable citizens.

Addressing this issue at all three levels of government is of utmost importance. We request that you support this motion and continue to advocate for the critical need of a national housing initiative. Thank you for your consideration of this request. The contact for the Burnaby Task Force On Homelessness is 604-317-8114 or info@burnabyhomelesstaskforce.org.

Sincerely,

Darin Froese
Co- Chair
Burnaby Task Force On Homelessness

Carolyn Oraziotti
Co-Chair
Burnaby Task Force On Homelessness

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Burnaby Task Force On Homelessness mailing address 7476 13th Ave Burnaby, B.C. V3N 4K4

Co Chair: Darin Froese darinf@lookoutsociety.ca

Co Chair: Carolyn Oraziotti carolyn@burnabynorthroadbia.ca

Addendum

M-547 — November 27, 2014 — Mr. Stewart (Burnaby—Douglas) — That, in the opinion of the House, the government should work in collaboration with the provinces, territories, municipalities, Aboriginal communities, and housing providers to establish, develop, and implement an affordable housing strategy that: (a) affirms that access to adequate housing is a fundamental right of all Canadians, as guaranteed by the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights; (b) provides financial assistance, without discrimination, to those who are otherwise unable to afford adequate and secure housing; (c) ensures that the cost of housing does not compromise an individual's ability to meet other basic needs, including food, clothing, healthcare, and education; (d) maintains and expands direct federal investments in social housing, including not-for-profit cooperatives, in order to increase the supply of low-income housing, preserve rent subsidies, and provide funds for renovations and maintenance; (e) sets targets and objectives to prevent, reduce, and end homelessness, particularly among vulnerable populations, with clear timelines and accountability measures; (f) examines and addresses the potential impact of investor speculation and housing vacancies on the high price of real estate in urban markets; and (g) takes into account the unique needs and housing priorities of different regions, including British Columbia.

<http://kennedystewart.ndp.ca/mp-stewart-calls-for-federal-action-on-affordable-housing>

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