



2025 Advocacy Mission

Meeting with the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs, the Honourable Christine Boyle

- The Lower Mainland Local Government Association is one of the five areas associations of UBCM.
- We represent the Lower Mainland of British Columbia including Metro Vancouver, the Fraser Valley and Sea to Sky.
- We represent 30 local governments and 3 regional districts and almost 70% of the population of BC.

Topics Important to our Membership

Enhancing Housing Stability through Preventive Measures and Supportive Programs

Current Situation: The housing crisis in British Columbia is influenced by both insufficient housing supply and escalating demand pressures, leading to affordability challenges and housing insecurity that forces many individuals and families into unsafe and precarious living conditions, increasing their vulnerability to exploitation and victimization.

Preventative strategies, including the provision of adequate support and access to portable rental subsidies, are essential to maintain housing stability and prevent homelessness.

REQUEST

That the province, in partnership with local governments and non-profit housing providers, expand programs to reduce housing vulnerability by expanding portable rental subsidies, enhancing support services, investing in preventative strategies, and providing direct grants to local governments to improve housing stability.

Simplifying Access to Public Land for Housing

Current Situation: Public land is often required to support the delivery of publicly funded affordable and attainable rental housing. The process of securing or modifying lands controlled or previously granted by the province to support publicly funded housing projects remains convoluted and extremely lengthy and has not been addressed in the recent provincial efforts to streamline provincial permitting for housing under PermitConnectBC.

REQUEST

That the province establish a streamlined pathway to expediate the public-owned land grants and related title-reverter process for public attainable and affordable housing applications while upholding and recognizing the commitments of the *Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples Act*.

Unmet Demands on Social and Community Infrastructure as a Result of Provincial Housing Targets

Current Situation: The province has mandated accelerated and densified housing, placing historical and unmet demands on social and community infrastructure such as education, transit, social welfare and supportive housing.

REQUEST

That the province focuses on strengthening investments in schools, community mental health, transit and infrastructure to accommodate the mandated housing growth.

Equitable Distribution of Emergency Shelter Beds

Current Situation: The province of BC, through BC Housing, is responsible for ensuring that emergency shelter beds are available to meet the needs of individuals experiencing homelessness across all communities. Some communities have a disproportionately high number of emergency shelter beds per capita compared to other jurisdictions, causing unsustainable pressure on local resources and services in those communities.

REQUEST

That the Province and BC Housing develop and implement a comprehensive, regionally equitable strategy for the distribution of emergency shelter beds, ensuring that all communities have available proportional and sustainable shelter capacity relative to their population and local service capacity.