



**The Corporation of the District of Saanich | Mayor's Office**

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October 8, 2020

Mayor & Council  
City of Victoria  
1 Centennial Square  
Victoria, BC V8W 1P6

**VIA EMAIL: [mayor@victoria.ca](mailto:mayor@victoria.ca)**

Dear Mayor Helps & Council:

Re: Federal Funding for Affordable Housing

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On October 5, 2020, Saanich Council considered a Report to Council and resolved as follows:

*"That:*

- 1. The Mayor write on behalf of Council to the Prime Minister and the Federal Minister of Families, Children, and Social Development about Saanich's desire to see British Columbia receive its fair share of federally supported affordable housing;*
- 2. The Mayor write on behalf of Council to the other mayors and councils of municipalities in the Capital Regional District (CRD) encouraging them to express their desire to see British Columbia get its fair share of federally supported affordable housing; and*
- 3. The Mayor request a meeting with local Members of Parliament and the Federal Minister responsible for housing to discuss Saanich's concerns about the equity of federal funding for affordable housing."*

On behalf of Saanich Council, I encourage your kind support in this matter in order to create significant positive change to the current housing and homelessness crises being experienced in British Columbia.

A copy of the report and draft excerpt from the October 5, 2020 meeting minutes are attached for information.

Sincerely,

Fred Haynes  
Mayor  
Attachments

cc: Saanich Council  
Paul Thorkelsson, CAO



## The Corporation of the District of Saanich

# Report

**To:** Mayor and Council  
**From:** Fred Haynes, Mayor, and Zac de Vries, Councillor  
**Date:** September 10, 2020  
**Subject:** Federal Funding for Affordable Housing

RECEIVED

SEP 28 2020

LEGISLATIVE DIVISION  
DISTRICT OF SAANICH

### RECOMMENDATION

- 1) That the Mayor write on behalf of Council to the Prime Minister and appropriate Federal Ministers about Saanich's desire to see British Columbia receive its fair share of federally supported affordable housing.
- 2) That the Mayor write on behalf of Council to the other mayors and councils of municipalities in the Capital Regional District (CRD) encouraging them to express their desire to see British Columbia get its fair share of federally supported affordable housing.
- 3) That the Mayor request a meeting with local Members of Parliament and the Federal Minister responsible for housing to discuss Saanich's concerns about the equity of federal funding for affordable housing.

### PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to highlight the fact that British Columbia has not received an equitable share of the federal funding available for affordable housing and to propose an action of advocacy.

### DISCUSSION

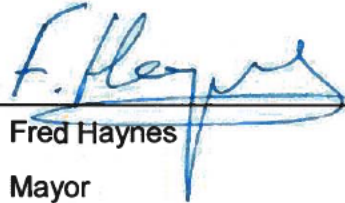
British Columbia has received just 0.5% of the available federal funding for affordable housing. The National Co-Investment Fund finalized \$7.3M for two projects in British Columbia compared to \$1.39B for 12 projects in Ontario. What is clear is that the housing crisis in British Columbia is not getting as much attention from the federal government as the housing crisis in Ontario.

Our community is still being impacted by the housing crisis, homelessness is still an issue in our community, and the 66 units that have been finalized for funding from the federal government in British Columbia is but a drop in the bucket. We need a more meaningful partnership from the

government to address housing issues across British Columbia and here in Saanich. The most pragmatic thing we can do to address the Federal governments shortchanging of British Columbia is to advocate for fairness.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Zac de Vries", written over a horizontal line.

Zac de Vries  
Councillor

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "F. Haynes", written over a horizontal line.

Fred Haynes  
Mayor

2140-30  
Affordable  
Housing

**FEDERAL FUNDING FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

Report of Councillor de Vries and Mayor Haynes dated September 10, 2020 recommending to Council that:

1. The Mayor write on behalf of Council to the Prime Minister and appropriate Federal Ministers about Saanich's desire to see British Columbia receive its fair share of federally supported affordable housing;
2. The Mayor write on behalf of Council to the other mayors and councils of municipalities in the Capital Regional District (CRD) encouraging them to express their desire to see British Columbia get its fair share of federally supported affordable housing; and
3. The Mayor request a meeting with local Members of Parliament and the Federal Minister responsible for housing to discuss Saanich's concerns about the equity of federal funding for affordable housing.

**MOVED by Councillor de Vries and Seconded by Councillor Taylor: "That**

- 1. The Mayor write on behalf of Council to the Prime Minister and the Federal Minister of Families, Children and Social Development about Saanich's desire to see British Columbia receive its fair share of federally supported affordable housing;**
- 2. The Mayor write on behalf of Council to the other mayors and councils of municipalities in the Capital Regional District (CRD) encouraging them to express their desire to see British Columbia get its fair share of federally supported affordable housing; and**
- 3. The Mayor request a meeting with local Members of Parliament and the Federal Minister responsible for housing to discuss Saanich's concerns about the equity of federal funding for affordable housing."**

**CARRIED**