



Who Are We?

The New West Tenants Union began during a wave of mass evictions in 2018 when landlords tried to use the excuse of “renovations” to kick out low-paying tenants. Those that fought together kept their affordable rents then took the fight to city hall to win new laws to protect renters.

Our goal is to grow that network of supportive tenants willing to stand up for each other.

Attend a Meeting

We gather in the basement auditorium at the New West Public Library at 6:30pm on the last Tuesday of every month. Check our website for more.

Become a Building Contact

Want to act as a go-between for your neighbours and the union? Sign up on our website and...

Contact Us

By Phone: 778-358-2680
Website: <http://nwtenantsunion.org>
Email: nwtenantsunion@gmail.com
Facebook: @nwtenantsunion

More Resources



TENANT RESOURCE & ADVISORY CENTRE

Call TRAC for free answers to legal questions about renting or for potential legal aid if you are facing an eviction.

Website: <https://tenants.bc.ca>
Phone: 1-800-665-1185



The New Westminster Rent Bank offers interest-free short term loans if you're behind on rent. Applications take 2 weeks to process.

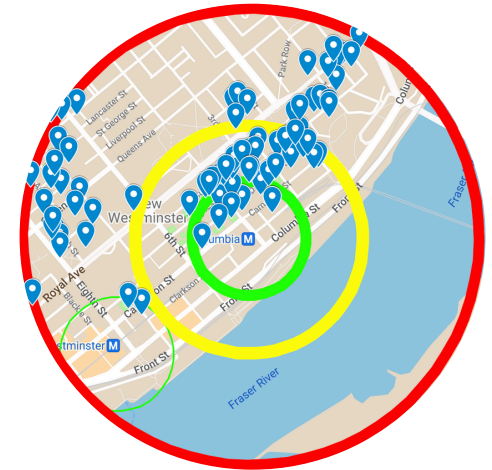
Phone: 604-526-2522
Website: www.purposesociety.org



BC 211 is a text or phone line that can connect you with government and non-profit social services in your city

Phone: 211 (call or text)
Website: <https://bc211.ca>

Transit Oriented Development



The province of British Columbia has passed a new law to help build larger towers near our Skytrain stations, meaning older rental buildings with long-term tenants could be torn down.

The New West Tenants Union is lobbying the city to protect your rent and we need your help.

Learn more inside.



This information is brought to you by volunteers at the New Westminster Tenants Union.

What's Happened

Last fall, the provincial government passed Bill 47, a new housing bill that **allows developers to build high-rise towers within 800 metres of every Skytrain station.**



Specifically, it requires cities to allow 20 storeys within 200 meters, 12 storeys within 400 meters, and 8 storeys within 800 meters.

New West is known for its older, walk-up rental buildings. Because of rising rents, a lot of tenants in those buildings have held onto their apartments for many years to hold onto a rent that's at least somewhat affordable. With this new pressure to build higher density, many of those shorter buildings on Agnes, Carnarvon, and Royal could be torn down, forcing existing tenants to move and pay unaffordable market rent in new apartments. Many would have no choice but to move out of the city or even the province.

The city's current Tenant Relocation Plan only requires developers to pay a small lump sum to existing tenants. We need a new plan!

What We've Won

The New West Tenants Union spent the summer organizing renters downtown and brought them to City Hall in early June.



Alongside a policy proposal from Professor Elliot Rossiter, we successfully pushed city hall to vote unanimously to start work on a new plan inspired by the Tenant Relocation policy in Burnaby. Burnaby's policy includes...



A New Apartment

In the brand new building, yours unless you refuse it in exchange for a cash settlement.



At the Same Rent

Whatever rent you pay now, you'll pay in the new building. You keep your affordable rent.



With Moving Costs

Developer covers your moving expenses AND must subsidize the rent of wherever you live during construction.

That means if you pay \$1400 now and have to live in a \$2200 apartment for three years during construction, they pay you \$800 every month.

What We Need Now

Now that the motion to develop a new plan has passed, the Mayor and staff will begin developing the new law. We need to make sure renters who will be affected by it have a say! We also need to make sure the new law doesn't have any loopholes developers can exploit. Questions include...

- **Will my rent subsidy continue even if the building is delayed?**
- **Will I have any say in what the new building is like?**
- **Will our new apartments be the same size?**
- **Who will make sure developers follow the rules?**
- **What about my pets?**

We also have to make sure that when the final law comes up for a vote later this year, **it passes.** It's very likely developers seeking to maximize profits will try to water the law down or kill it entirely by claiming it's too much of a burden. We can't let that happen.



Get Involved!

Do you live in any of the buildings below? Reach out! We need the support of you and your neighbours to protect people's right to continue living in this community.

204 Agnes St	331 Agnes St	313 Carnarvon St
210 Agnes St	338 Agnes St	320 Carnarvon St
212 Agnes St	403 Agnes St	74 Merrivale St
250 Agnes St	407 Agnes St	375 Royal Ave
307 Agnes St	503 Agnes St	831 Royal Ave
309 Agnes St	201 Carnarvon St	845 Royal Ave
315 Agnes St	205 Carnarvon St	312 Hospital St
321 Agnes St	206 Carnarvon St	315 Hospital St
325 Agnes St	215 Carnarvon St	521 Victoria St
327 Agnes St	301 Carnarvon St	53 Fourth St
	311 Carnarvon St	111 Eight St