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## CHF BC Member Engagement Toolkit

### *Community Housing Fund Intake Cancellation*

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We've created this toolkit to help CHF BC members take action to make their voices heard regarding recent cuts to the Community Housing Fund. Use these resources to contact your representatives, share why this is important on social media, and start engaging conversations.

However you choose to get involved, we want to hear about it! Email us at [communications@chf.bc.ca](mailto:communications@chf.bc.ca) to let us know. Also consider taking photos or video and we can reshare to help inspire others.

#### BACKGROUND

In the 2026 provincial budget released on February 17<sup>th</sup>, the Government of British Columbia cancelled the July 2025 intake of the Community Housing Fund (CHF) and delayed progress on the Indigenous Housing Fund (IHF).

These decisions have had an immediate and lasting negative impact. They have:

- Stalled thousands of affordable home projects across the province, meaning work cannot proceed on more than 4,000 new homes for people in BC.
- Left projects that were months and in some cases years in development on hold.
- Created financial strain for organizations that invested in good faith to advance housing projects.

#### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The Provincial Government needs to hear loud and clear about the impacts of this decision.

CHF BC is advocating publicly for government to change course and working directly with sector partners to demonstrate impacts – but we need to add your voice to make it count.

This toolkit outlines ways our members can help, right now, to make the case to the BC Government that they need to reverse course on this decision.

## HOW TO TAKE ACTION

### *Email your MLA*

Contacting your MLA directly, as their constituent, is a very effective way of making an issue matter to an elected official.

### **Who to contact:**

- Find your local MLA's contact details [here](#). You can search by postal code if you're not sure who your representative is.
- Consider also reaching out to relevant Ministers:
  - Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs, [Christine Boyle](#)
  - [Members](#) of the Treasury Board and Planning and Priorities Committee

### **What to include:**

- Include local impacts wherever possible
- Clearly state your request

\*If you've already emailed your MLA, talk to your friends, neighbours and fellow members about doing so as well. You can share this guidance with them.

### **Template MLA email**

Dear MLA [last name]

As a resident in your constituency, I have been deeply appreciative of the provincial government's work to tackle the housing crisis over the last 8 years. As a co-op member, I am pleased that we have been able to work with you as a partner in this work.

However, I am deeply concerned about the Provincial Government's recent decision to cancel the recent Community Housing Fund intake and delay the progress of the Indigenous Housing Fund.

Learning that more than 4000 affordable homes have been affected by this decision is deeply alarming. At a time when the province should be investing in non-market housing at speed – it's being slowed down.

This decision is a step backwards, and is already having real, negative, and long-lasting consequences across our province.

We need the Province to create a pathway for projects from the July 2025 Community Housing Fund intake to move forward and to re-start the stalled Indigenous Housing Fund projects that have already been announced.

Thank you,

[Name]

## Request a meeting with your local MLA

Sitting down for a face-to-face meeting your MLA is also a very effective way to show them something matters to you and your neighbours, as their constituents.

We've got lots of tips and tricks for making these meetings as effective as possible. If you end up securing a meeting, you can reach out to [Communications@chf.bc.ca](mailto:Communications@chf.bc.ca) for support.

## MLA meeting request template

[Add the below language to the template email above]

I would very much appreciate the opportunity to meet with you as your constituent to discuss this issue further.

## Stand-alone meeting request

If you've already emailed your MLA, or if you'd prefer sending a shorter meeting request, you can send the following:

Dear MLA [last name]

[If they replied to your email] Thank you for your reply to my email.

I remain concerned about the impact of this decision on our community. As your constituent, I would appreciate the opportunity to meet with you to discuss it further.

I'm proud of the work the BC Government has done on housing over the last 8 years, and am hopeful we can talk more about the Government's plan to address this issue.

Thank you,

[Name]

## POST ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Many people get their news from social media, so it can be a great way to get your social circle involved in this cause. In addition, many elected officials and members of the media are very active social media users, so it's a great way to quickly make your voice heard and show that an issue matters. Tag @CHFBC in your posts and we can help amplify your message.

You can refer to the Housing Central [call to action](#) for more ideas on what to include.

### General Posting Guidelines

- Follow the messaging recommendations...but make the post your own!
- Always have a call to action at the end of your post
- Post at the beginning of the day
- Keep it readable, skimmable, and concise
- Consider adding a photo. Use our graphics or use something from your own co-op community.
  - [Graphic 1](#)
  - [Graphic 2](#)
  - [Graphic 3](#)
- Include a link to a recent media article to link back to previous coverage on the issue:
  - Housing Central [Op-ed](#)
  - CBC [news coverage](#)
  - Future of Good [news coverage](#)

### Template social media posts

#### *Broad community call to action*

Purpose: This post is meant to reiterate the collaborative call to action demonstrating the larger support base and efforts to make change.

#### *Post options:*

“Cancelling the community housing fund intake slows down housing delivery at the exact moment the British Columbians need affordable homes built. We are calling on the provincial government to change course so we can get homes built. [2026 budget turns its back on housing. Communities will pay the price | Vancouver Sun](#)”

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“We’re facing the real-world impacts of the province’s decision to cancel the recent intake of the Community Housing Fund and delay progress on the Indigenous Housing Fund at the exact moment British Columbia needs more homes, faster.

We are calling on the provincial government to change course so we can get homes built. [2026 budget turns its back on housing. Communities will pay the price | Vancouver Sun](#)”

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“Cancelling the community housing fund intake will have real, negative, and long-lasting consequences across our province.

It means work cannot proceed on almost 4,000 new permanently affordable homes in communities across the province - nearly 4k homes for BC families.

We are calling on the provincial government to change course so we can get homes built. [2026 budget turns its back on housing. Communities will pay the price | Vancouver Sun](#)”

## Impact story

People connect with stories. By telling a personal story you can have a greater impact on your audience, whether it’s the elected official you’re writing to, or the people reading your social media posts.

If you have a story about how having access to affordable co-op housing has impacted you, especially if you live in a co-op which received support from the Community Housing Fund, please share it. We’ve put together some tips to help you get started.

- Be specific – are you writing about yourself? A friend or loved one? Where do they live? What does their live look like?
- Be brief – This doesn’t need to be a novel. Focus on the most important details and aim to write something less than 300 words.
- Start with a hook – Something to lure your reader in. Take a look at news articles or your favourite book for examples.
- Include a CTA – What should your reader do next? Link them back to this toolkit!
- Share! Include your story in your letter, in social media posts, or send it to us ([communications@chf.bc.ca](mailto:communications@chf.bc.ca)) and we can help you amplify it.

**Stay tuned for more on this important issue as we continue to raise our collective voices.**