



Dec. 12, 2018

FOR ATTRIBUTION TO Anne McMullin, UDI PRESIDENT & CEO

Media Statement on Rental Housing Task Force Releases Report and Recommendations

This afternoon the Rental Housing Task Force released its Report and remaining 23 recommendations to government. UDI is now assessing the full impact of the recommendations and will be sharing our detailed comments and findings with members and government in the coming weeks.

Upon preliminary review, UDI is relieved that recommendation 10 specifically states, “Maintain rent tied to the renter, NOT THE UNIT.” The potential change of tying rent to the unit would have put [more than 12,000 rental units at serious risk of cancellation.](#)

However, we are disappointed the Task Force didn’t take the opportunity to recommend incentives to increase the construction of new rental homes. The access and availability of rental homes was one of the top topics discussed on the online forum during the consultation. Renters were especially concerned there was not enough housing in urban areas, yet the report makes no significant recommendation to increase or encourage more rental construction. We urge the government in reviewing the report, and preparing for Budget 2019, to include [meaningful solutions](#) to help fulfil the government’s commitment to build 114,000 new homes over the next nine years.

There is no doubt we are in the midst of a rental housing crisis; and, we all need to work together to deliver more housing options.

[UDI](#) is an 850-member association and partner in community building. Our members are builders of homes, offices and institutional buildings, supporting more than 220,000 BC jobs plus billions in economic activity. Through municipal fees and contributions, our members fund and build daycares, social housing, parks, public art, museums, schools and community centers throughout BC.