PETITION TO THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

**Whereas:**

- Housing unaffordability and homelessness are twin national crises;
- Financialization of housing inflates Canadian real estate prices;
- Inflation is exacerbated by the use of Canada's housing market to launder money and evade taxes;
- Corporations, numbered companies and real estate investment trusts (REITs) are rapidly buying up affordable housing units and flipping them to market rate units;
- Some government policies designed to increase housing affordability transfer tax dollars to the private sector but do not protect existing affordable housing, or create new permanent affordable housing;
- While some parts of Canada have rent and vacancy controls, there are no national standards to protect tenants.

**We, the undersigned citizens and residents of Canada call upon the Government of Canada to:**

1. Re-define affordable housing using an updated formula that better reflects the economic realities faced by millions of Canadians;
2. Create regulations to control excess profiteering by corporate investors and REITs;
3. Close tax evasion and money laundering loopholes and increase regulation of foreign investment in residential real estate;
4. Require restrictive covenants on affordable housing units built with taxpayer subsidies to ensure that those units remain affordable;
5. Create national standards to establish rent and vacancy controls;
6. Create an empty home tax for residential property owners who leave units vacant;
7. Encourage municipalities to create affordable housing zoning to decrease land speculation and lower barriers to development permits for affordable housing;
8. Prioritize funding for non-profit and cooperative housing.

| **SIGNATURE**<br>(Sign your name. Do not print.) | **ADDRESS**<br>(Full home address, OR city, province & postal code) |
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*Please complete and send, postage free, to Mike Morrice M.P., House of Commons, Ottawa ON, K1A 0A6*

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**Guidelines**

1. Petitions must not be altered or have any text added.

2. Petitions can be either double-sided or have a blank back page.

3. A petition should contain signatures of residents of Canada only.

4. There is no minimum age requirement for anyone signing a petition.

5. Each petitioner must sign, not print, their name directly on the petition.

6. If a petitioner cannot sign because of illness or a disability, this must be noted on the petition and the note signed by a witness. Aside from this exception, you can only sign for yourself.

7. A petition must contain original signatures written directly on the document and not pasted, taped, photocopied or otherwise transferred to it.

8. No photocopies, scans, e-mails etc. as petitions are only admissible in hardcopy. Please return all original signed petitions, postage free, to:

9. Paper petitions need a minimum of 25 signatures to be certified by the clerk

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