

Dear City Council and Staff,

My name is Myrna Gale and I am an ACORN member.

I am delegating today in support of the city moving forward with a strong anti-renoviction bylaw. I applaud city staff for making such quick progress on the bylaw this past year. I now ask City Council to ensure the funding needed is added to the 2024 budget.

The impact renoviction has had on my personal life is difficult to fully capture in words. I am a senior who has lived in my current apartment for multiple decades and have had no issues with my landlord until they decided that it was more important to make top dollar than to leave me in peace. They used a bunch of tactics in an effort to get me out of my apartment. Only one of these was the N13 form and lowball buyout letter I received back in early spring of 2023. I was harrassed, bullied, and one time was walked down to the building office where they tried to make me sign a new lease for a smaller apartment at double my rent. It took a combination of my neighbours rallying around me, getting an advocate through the Indian Centre, and organizing with ACORN to force Family Properties to back off of their constant efforts to push me out onto the street.

At my age, if Family Properties was successful in kicking me out, I would have died on the street. I am as it is dealing with stress-related health issues from everything they've put me through. When it comes to seniors in particular, stopping these renovictions will save lives.

It is relieving to know that the City Council cares about tenants enough to fund things like the Tenant Defense Fund, and now are moving forward with the anti-renoviction bylaw. Thank you for reading my delegation.