

# HOUSING IS A RIGHT, NOT AN INVESTMENT

## NATIONAL DAY OF ACTION

### MARCH 19TH, 2025

We are in the middle of an unprecedented housing affordability crisis. Combined with the reality that U.S. President Trump is implementing a range of tariffs, tenants will be the ones to suffer. Tariffs will drive up construction costs, worsening the housing supply crisis and further raise the cost of living. Affordable housing needs to be protected and not treated like an investment tool. Non-market housing needs to be built, and should be used as a stimulus to the economy!

### The People Demand!

- ◆ Implement a national rent freeze.
- ◆ National and permanent rent control, with security of tenure.
- ◆ A national stimulus package that builds a minimum of 50,000 net new rent-geared-to-income social and non-market housing units each year.
- ◆ Invest in the acquisition turning market housing to public, non-profit, and cooperative-housing.
- ◆ Eviction Moratorium and national rent bank to help offset any potential wave of evictions.

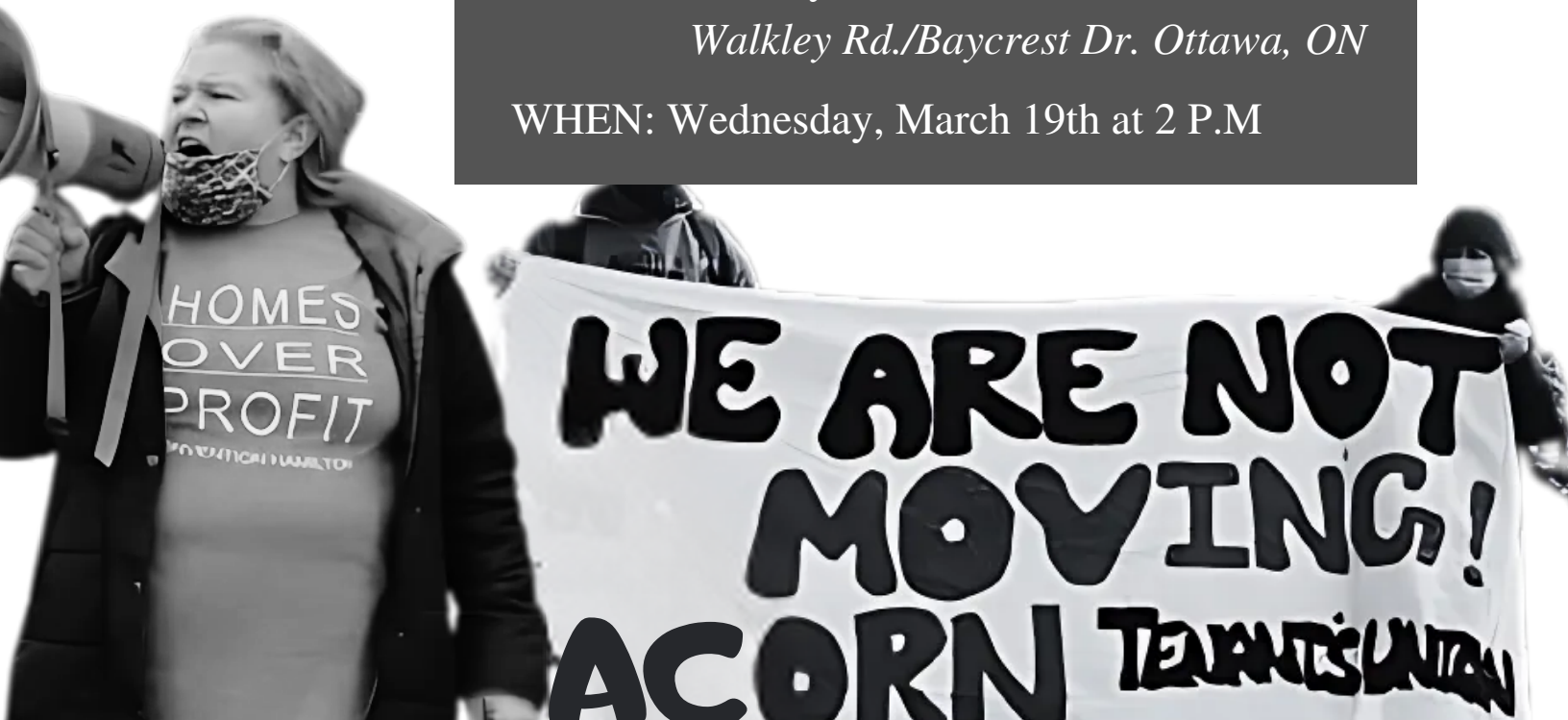


**Take action!** Email the Government and demand investments in Social Housing

WHERE: 2898 Baycrest Dr.—

*Walkley Rd./Baycrest Dr. Ottawa, ON*

WHEN: Wednesday, March 19th at 2 P.M



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#### **The solution to the housing crisis will not be found in the for-profit market.**

- **Canada's social and non-market housing makes up just 3.5% of the total housing stock**—way behind other OECD countries where it exceeds 20%.
- In 1993, the federal government terminated all new funding for social housing, effectively halting the development of new affordable housing units. By 1996, the federal government transferred the responsibility for existing social housing to provincial governments, further reducing its involvement.
- Between 2011-2021, 550,000 affordable rental units were lost. CMHC has a projected shortfall of 3.5 MILLION housing units to restore affordability by 2030.
- 61% of low-income renters are struggling with housing affordability.

#### **Mandate National Tenant Rights Standards that include:**

- A national lease structure that gives tenants security of tenure and limits rent increases.
- National full rent control with security of tenure and ban on fixed term leases – no loopholes.
- Ban no-fault evictions.
- Ensure Federal funding goes toward non-market housing rather than luxury developments.
- Maintain units for healthy and safe living.
- Tenant protections for harassment free tenancy.
- Protect the right to organize in buildings.
- Mandate landlord contact information disclosure.

#### **Non-Housing Demands**

- Place a cap on the price of essential food items.
- Create Emergency Employment Supports & Fix EI.
- Lower NSF Fees & End Predatory Lending.
- Mandate telecom companies to provide affordable, high speed internet access.

#### **Stop Treating Homes as Commodities**

- Ensure the acquisition fund set up by the federal government is adequately funded and enables land-trusts, co-ops, tenants, and non-profits to afford the purchase of affordable buildings.
- Federal funding to corporate landlords must only build housing for tenants in core housing need.
- Green infrastructure retrofits must include affordability and anti-eviction covenants and require an agreement signed between landlords, financing agency, and tenants.
- Require REITs to convert 20% of their units to social housing OR plug the tax loophole in the Income Tax Act that gives tax exemptions to REITs
- Regulate banks, CMHC and public pension funds to stop financing corporate landlords who purchase with the intent to raise rents and displace people.

ACORN CANADA IS A GRASSROOTS ORGANIZATION MADE UP OF 185,000+ MEMBERS ACROSS 5 PROVINCES. IN OUR FIGHT FOR HOUSING JUSTICE. WE'VE WON RENT CONTROL IN NEW BRUNSWICK, ANTI-RENOVICTION LAWS IN ONTARIO AND BC, AND PROTECTED MEMBERS FROM BEING EVICTED FROM THEIR HOMES. JOIN ACORN, AND FIGHT BACK!

