

The Honourable David Eby  
Premier of British Columbia  
Legislative Building  
PO BOX 9041 STN Prov. Govt.  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E1

The Honourable Christine Boyle  
Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing  
Ministry of Housing and Municipal Affairs  
PO BOX 9074, STN Prov. Govt.  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Date: February 09, 2026

Re: The homebuilding crisis in British Columbia

Dear Premier Eby and Minister Boyle,

Supply-Build Canada is an association that represents Canada's building materials industry. We have over 1,300 member firms across Canada, including 211 member firms based in BC. Our industry contributes \$53.1 billion into Canada's GDP which ranks third in industry GDP contributors, and supports more than 561,585 jobs, BC accounts for \$9.3 billion and over 96,000 thousand jobs.<sup>1</sup> Our industry is a strong advocate, supporter, and contributor to "buy Canadian" and "buy BC" policies as our members manufacture, distribute, buy, and sell Canadian and British Columbian made building materials. These building materials are important to the home-building industry in BC.

Supply-Build Canada and the Government of British Columbia share common goals to increase BC's housing supply and improve housing affordability. We appreciate the Government of British Columbia's ongoing efforts to achieve these goals by implementing Local Government Housing Initiatives which include providing funds for the Local Government Development Approvals Program to help municipalities accelerate residential development processes; and establishing a deferral program for development cost charges (DDCs).

However, our industry leaders in BC have expressed concerns regarding the current cost of development fees which has made homebuilding unaffordable for developers. For instance, it is estimated that high development cost charges (DDCs), especially in Metro Vancouver, are part of the reason the province has seen slower housing start growth. DDCs are scheduled for a 3-year increase from 2025 to 2027 which will increase DDCs in Metro Vancouver more than 200%. For example, DDCs for a Vancouver townhouse dwelling unit will grow from \$8,679 to \$30,861 (an increase of 225.5%), and DDCs for a North Shore townhouse dwelling unit will increase from \$8,482 to \$30,113 (an increase of 255.1%).<sup>2</sup> This has priced out families from pre-purchasing residential units, therefore deterring developers from building.

From 2024 to 2025 housing starts in BC have fallen by 4.7% -one of only three provinces that saw reduced growth.<sup>3</sup> If this trend continues layoffs will occur in the home building industry (i.e., trades and building materials jobs), residential units will not be built, municipal revenue from these costs will be reduced which will negatively impact operating budgets; and housing unaffordability will continue to rise. As a result, developers have already reduced their building material orders which has adversely affected the building materials industry nationwide.

By encouraging municipalities in BC to lower (not eliminate) these costs the Government of British Columbia can rejuvenate the homebuilding industry, and assist municipalities meet their housing targets.

We welcome the opportunity to meet with you to discuss further.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



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*Formerly the Western Retail Lumber Association (WRLA)*

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<sup>1</sup> Numbers derived from Statistics Canada, Table: 36-10-0480-01.

<sup>2</sup> Homebuilders Association Vancouver, "We're Going Up, Up, Up...", *Homebuilders Association Vancouver* 26, no.03, January 19, 2026.

<sup>3</sup> Bryan Yu, "Bryan Yu: B.C. housing market is weaker than the numbers suggest", *Business Intelligence for B.C.*, January 28, 2026.