

Mayor and Councillors of Cambridge:

I would like to express my support for the Motion for Rental Replacement Bylaw made by Councillor Roberts.

The housing situation in Cambridge is a crisis situation for many lower income and vulnerable people. Council saw this particularly in the recent Blair Road development that saw the OLT overturn Council's decision and allow for the displacement of long term tenants.

Rents are now at a rate that many people cannot afford and there is no provincial will to address the problem.

I myself am one of these vulnerable low income tenants. I have rented an apartment in a heritage building that is, thankfully, subject to rent control. I have experienced firsthand the attempts of unscrupulous landlords to deceive tenants and attempt to force them to leave in order to increase profits.

If I had to leave my home of the past 25 years, I would likely end up in an encampment because there is nowhere else that I can afford to live. The waiting list for subsidized units is so long that I would likely be dead by the time that a unit became available.

I am a senior whose income consists of OAC, CPP and GIS. Most apartments would cost almost all of my entire monthly income. I have no investments or savings!

This is the situation in which many people find themselves. If the province will not take action, then it is the responsibility of municipal governments to do so. It is time to take action and protect those who are less affluent and in danger of becoming displaced and adding to the homeless crisis.

Brad McEwen

[REDACTED]

Cambridge ON.

[REDACTED]