



Unions, Community Organizations Call on Government not to Abandon Promise to Protect Tenants, Immediately Implement New Rent Hike Rules

Winnipeg, MB – Community-based groups and agencies, Indigenous organizations, unions, and tenants are calling on Premier Kinew to keep his promises to stop big rent hikes for Manitoba renters and to end homelessness by immediately implementing regulatory changes to reduce rent increases. A press conference will be held on:

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9th at 10am at Union Centre, 7th-floor (CUPE Training Centre), 275 Broadway.

Representatives from the **Canadian Union of Public Employees - Manitoba**, **PRIDE Winnipeg**, the **Manitoba Association of Newcomer Serving Agencies**, the **West Broadway Tenants Committee**, and the **Right to Housing Coalition** will release an open letter to the Premier and the Minister of Public Service Delivery, signed by 50 organizations that serve Manitobans.

After years of advocacy by tenants and housing advocates, NDP leader Wab Kinew promised in 2023 to “strengthen rent controls with legislation to protect renters from big rate hikes.” Finally, in March 2026, the Minister of Public Service Delivery, Hon. Mintu Sandhu, introduced two proposed changes to rent regulations at the same time he introduced Bill 13, *the Residential Tenancies Amendment Act*. Bill 13, which makes minor positive changes to the *Act*, was delayed by the Official Opposition but was passed by Committee October 5th and will be referred to third reading.

The first proposed regulatory change would reduce the number of units exempt from rent regulation by increasing the rent threshold from \$1,670 to \$2,000 month; the second would reduce the portion of capital expenses by 50% that landlords can claim to receive above-guideline (AGI) rent increases every 12 months. Regulatory changes do not require the passage of new legislation to be implemented.

On September 3rd, the government announced it was implementing the first change, effective January 1st, 2027. They provided no update on the second change, which landlords have vigorously opposed. It now appears that the government may cave to landlord pressure to keep the unfair system. If the proposal was implemented, rent increases for capital repairs would be much smaller, though tenants would still pay the entirety of landlord repair costs, but over a longer period. These AGI changes would partially fulfill the Premier’s promise and make a measurable difference for tens of thousands of Manitoba renters who face above-guideline rent increases each year, some as high as 200%.

About the Right to Housing Coalition

The Right to Housing Coalition is a group of individuals and organizations concerned about homelessness and housing insecurity experienced by low-income renters in Manitoba. In 2023, the Coalition released a [Social Housing Action Plan for Manitoba](#), based on decades of research and consultation. Its five pillars, which include better tenant protections and improvements to rent control, have been endorsed by more than 90 organizations.

Media Contacts:

Right to Housing Coalition:

Yutaka Dirks betterta@gmail.com 431-335-3170

CUPE Manitoba:

Garett Williams Garettw@cupe.ca

Pride Winnipeg:

Rae Gunn rgunn@pridewinnipeg.com 866-611-5546 xt.117

West Broadway Tenants Committee:

Brendan Devlin BrendanA.Devlin@gmail.com 204-960-1096