

# Rent relief and tenant support

I will prioritize keeping people housed and making rent assistance easier to use. A better tax headline is not enough if rent and other household costs keep rising.

## WHAT I WILL BRING FORWARD

- Seek a 48-hour decision target for complete urgent Rent Bank applications, measured in elapsed hours. Begin with rapid triage and publish missing-information delays separately.
- Explore bridge support for short income interruptions, including EI delays, with the program operator. Preserve affordable repayment, hardship relief and existing low-cost assistance.
- Test a tenant-verified rent-reduction rebate and safe-suite legalization compact. Benefits must purchase enforceable affordability, with tenant confirmation and recovery of misused funds.
- Develop RTB-Helper as an independent, neutral preparation tool for chronologies, evidence indexes and source-linked arguments. Provide phone or in-person help for people unable to use an app.

**Delivery.** Negotiate targets and funding with the Rent Bank operator. Bring a capped pilot to Council, with eligibility, legal authority and recurring funding. Refer province-wide rental law and tribunal changes to BC.

**Public measures.** Report urgent processing times, evictions prevented, actual tenant savings, years of affordability secured, suite approvals and tool errors.

**Conditions.** No automated denial of assistance, promise of a hearing win or claim of RTB endorsement. Avoid a permanent renter dividend funded from speculative vacancy-tax revenue. A rebate must improve the tenant's position rather than reimburse a paper discount.

**Connects to:** 03, 07, 09, 26

**Evidence notes:** S01, S05 in the full policy package.