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City of New Westminster I am writing in regards to the proposed building of the 6 to 8 story stratified build. I'm happy to see the Heritage of the home on 82nd and First but troubled by the lack of rentals. Does the city really need more Condos? Im sure with the loss of the 118, 114, 112, 108, 110, 82, 74 homes (many im sure have multiple rent units inside) this will lower the already dwindling number of rentals in the area.

All I hear from businesses is that they are desperate for workers, no one is applying. Could this be because many people had to leave the area due to not being able to afford rents? Can it be due to the ever growing list of long term units being used for short term rentals? Can it be due to rentals being torn down and replaced by condos? (which does not replace nor increase rental unit supply)?

Yes we need to build more homes for people to live in, but why cant new developments include both rentals and stratified units? If people can't live in your city then they can't work in your city. The solution should not be "if you can't afford it here then leave". Let's face the fact, most renters want to have their own home but unless the lottery is in your favour, or you have the bank of mom and dad, it's a pipe dream. As a renter, I live in perpetual fear and stress of losing where I live because my building will one day get bought, then getting that dreaded eviction notice. I love my Job, I love living in New Westminster, but I am constantly afraid I will have to give up my job because I will lose my current home and be unable to find a new home. I had to watch my co-worker (been at the job 20 years, didn't want to leave) leave the lower main-land because they could not find a home they could afford to rent for their family.

Progress is unavoidable but can we not progress with the idea that the average person mostly rents, and that Condos do not increase the supply like everyone thinks it will. If homes are only seen as investments to make money, then no one is living in them as they get flipped for higher and higher prices. No one is investing in the community. You need people living there, shopping, working, and living in the homes / units.

In conclusion, I'm hoping the City will see the value of keeping renters in New Westminster by helping to add to the affordable rentals available by adding units for rent in new developments.

Thank you for your time.
Concerned New West Renter