

September 22, 2016

Fred Haynes, Councillor
District of Saanich

Dear Councillor Haynes:

On behalf of the University of Victoria Student Society, which represents over 17,000 students in the Victoria area, I would like to thank you for bringing this housing issue forward to the Union of BC Municipalities.

The University of Victoria Student Society has been working closely with the Alma Mater Society of UBC (AMS), the Simon Fraser Student Society of SFU (SFSS), and the Alliance of BC Students (ABCS) to bring attention to the restrictions universities face on accruing debt for the purpose of building student housing. Collectively we represent over 180,000 students, many of whom have been massively impacted by the low vacancy rates across British Columbia. This housing shortage has been especially apparent for UVic students in these recent weeks.

The University of Victoria Student Society and our members support your recommendations to the UBCM. In addition, if the resolution is passed at the UBCM, we will work in collaboration with the AMS, SFSS, and ABCS to provide a letter of support from students across B.C. to be presented to the Premier of B.C. and to the Ministers responsible for Housing and Finance requesting that they undertake the necessary changes to remove barriers for provincial post-secondary institutions wishing to increase their supply of on-campus student housing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maxwell Nicholson", is located below the word "Sincerely,".

Maxwell Nicholson
Director of Campaigns and Community Relations