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HOUSE OF COMMONS  
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES  
CANADA

*John Nater*

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Perth—Wellington

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November 21, 2025

Ryan Erb  
Executive Director  
United Way Perth—Huron

Dear Mr. Erb,

Thank you for your letter of November 6, 2025, concerning the national housing crisis and how it is impacting our community.

Unfortunately, the petition included with the letter could not be certified by the Clerk of Petitions as it did not meet the requirements for petitions in Parliament. Therefore, I am unable to formally present the petition in the House of Commons. However, I have forwarded it to the Minister of Housing and Infrastructure for his consideration with a request that he send a response.

As a Member of the Official Opposition, I remain disappointed by the Liberal Government's record on housing over the past 10 years. It is unacceptable that the number of unhoused people has risen dramatically while encampments continue to grow across the country because people have no safe place to call home.

The National Housing Strategy and programs through the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation have failed. Housing construction has not kept up with population growth and the federal government has been unwilling to address the red-tape, taxes and fees that suppress construction. Building bureaucracy does not build homes.

These failures were clearly explained in the Auditor General's report on Chronic Homelessness in November 2022. Yet three years later, the Liberal Government's record has only worsened.

For many years, my opposition colleagues have been working to propose real solutions to the housing crisis. Conservative Members of Parliament have proposed motions in the House of Commons and publicly announced policy options.

Proposals include:

- Immediately eliminating the federal sales tax (GST) on new homes sold under \$1 million and call on the provincial premiers to match this proposal;
- Tying federal infrastructure dollars for municipalities to the number of new homes built, and imposing clawbacks on municipalities who delay new home construction;
- Tying federal funding for major transit projects to cities that pre-emptively "up-zone" lands around transit infrastructure for high-density housing so that young and middle-class people don't need to use cars;
- Making available 15% of under-utilized federal properties across Canada for new housing while guaranteeing an appropriate ratio of affordable units in the developments;
- Banning foreign investors from purchasing Canadian real estate; and
- Implement tax incentives focused on increasing the supply of purpose-built market rental housing units.

In 2023 Conservatives also proposed the Building Homes Not Bureaucracy Act which proposed to:

- Provide for the reallocation of \$100 million from the Housing Accelerator Fund to municipalities that greatly exceed housing targets;
- Make it a condition for certain cities to receive federal infrastructure and transit funding that they not unduly restrict or delay the approval of building permits for housing;
- Eliminate executive bonuses at the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation unless housing targets are met and to reduce executive compensation if applications for funding for new housing construction are not treated within an average of 60 days; and
- provide a 100% GST rebate on new residential rental property for which the average rent payable is below market rate.

Unfortunately, these initiatives were voted down by the Liberals in the House of Commons.

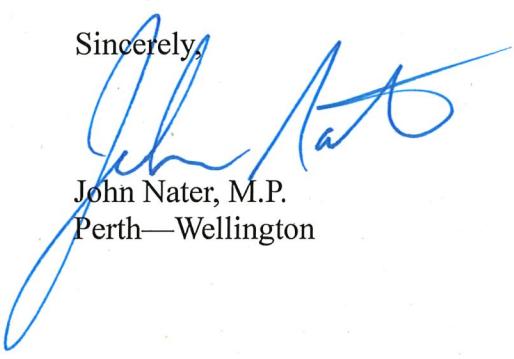
In September 2024 I personally moved a motion in the House of Commons on addressing chronic homelessness in Canada. I demanded that Government fix their failed programs and find out where tax-payer's money for housing has actually gone. The video of my speech is available here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TQQqxS644bA>

These are the initiatives I will continue to promote until the crisis is resolved.

Finally, should any municipality or non-profit organization request federal assistance in building affordable housing, I will continue to work with them to obtain federal grants and contributions wherever possible.

Thank you again for your letter and for your work addressing the housing crisis in our communities.

Sincerely,

  
John Nater, M.P.  
Perth—Wellington

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November 21, 2025

Hon. Gregor Robertson, P.C., M.P.  
Minister of Housing and Infrastructure  
House of Commons  
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Dear Minister Robertson:

I am writing on behalf of United Way Perth-Huron who recently sent you the attached petition  
“Speak Up for community Housing”.

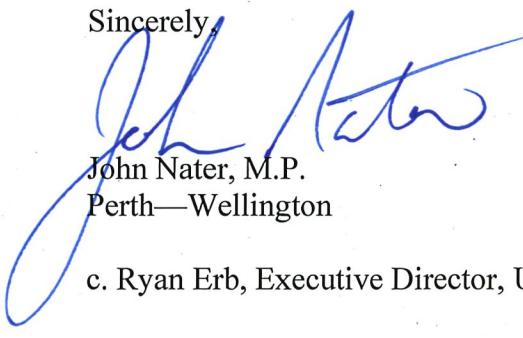
As the petition did not meet the requirements for petitions in Parliament, I am unable to formally present the petition in the House of Commons and ensure they receive a formal response from your government.

Therefore, United Way Perth-Huron is requesting that you consider it to be an open letter addressed to you.

I encourage you to consider the comments of the signatories and send a response to United Way Perth—Huron at the address below:

The United Centre  
32 Erie St.  
Stratford ON N5A 2M4

Sincerely,

  
John Nater, M.P.  
Perth—Wellington

c. Ryan Erb, Executive Director, United Way Perth-Huron

Enclosed: United Way Perth-Huron Speak Up for Community Housing