



ACORN Canada

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To: Toronto City Council

Re: MM22.19, Reducing the Risk from COVID-19 for Residents of Multi-Tenanted Buildings

Thousands of tenants across Toronto are currently doing their part to flatten the curve by staying home. However, many of them are being forced to live in substandard apartment buildings across the City. We need the City of Toronto to enforce public health protocols and to make them mandatory - tenants need healthy homes during COVID-19 and beyond!

ACORN members across the city are reporting landlords not complying with public health guidelines by: not putting up signage in common areas about social distancing, not disinfecting touch points, staff not wearing PPE, landlords not providing hand sanitizer, and people forced to congregate in lobbies due to broken elevators slowing down traffic.

We need urgent action now - as the lockdown keeps extending, tenants health and safety is at risk. I'm urging you to support ACORN's call for public health guidelines for landlords of apartment buildings to be made mandatory. Tenants have no power over their landlord - we need city council to stand up for tenants and make sure landlords comply with best practices from public health to help stop the spread of COVID.

We demand:

- Proper PPE given to building staff while doing thorough deep cleaning of buildings
- Assign staff and make healthy homes a priority during COVID 19
- Signage in common areas (laundry rooms, elevators, lobbys) and on every floor encouraging social distancing and hand washing.
- Disinfection of touch points two times a day
- Deep clean common areas weekly
- Hand sanitizer on every floor and in common areas
- Continue with maintenance/pest control if tenants wants, in order to ensure safe/healthy place to stay in during lockdown

Thank you, and I hope you will support ACORN's campaign for Healthy Homes & Enhanced Cleaning during COVID-19, to protect low and moderate income tenants across the city.

Sincerely,

Marva Burnett,
President, ACORN Canada