



# ACORN Canada

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December 15th, 2020

**Re: MM27.2 Stopping Residential Evictions During COVID-19**

To the Mayor and Members of Council,

I'm writing on behalf of ACORN members across Toronto. As you know, Toronto ACORN has been a platform for low and moderate income families and communities to come together and fight for social and economic justice. Since our founding in 2004, ACORN members have identified their #1 issue as healthy and affordable housing.

Before COVID, evictions were a big issue for tenants - as rents climbed and the city become more and more unaffordable, evictions became a tool for landlords to raise their profits by jacking the rent up between vacancies. The landlord tenant board has been a rubber stamp for landlords for too long.

During COVID, and especially since the lifting of the eviction moratorium in Toronto, evictions have become a second pandemic which once again is primarily impacting low and moderate income communities. Landlords have been exploiting this crisis to evict tenants in order to jack up their rent, putting profit before people.

We're writing because after trying to reach top executives at TCHC and stop the eviction of tenants without luck, we hope that City Council will take a stand by stopping residential evictions of tenants in Toronto Community Housing. This is within your power.

Our demand is simple: lack of rent should not be a reason for eviction, during COVID, or after. No one should be evicted for rent arrears right now.

On behalf of Toronto ACORN members,

Marva Burnett, President, ACORN Canada