Adequate and Affordable Housing: A Basic Right

Original Policy Recommendations

- Generate a housing strategy that addresses the distinctive and diverse housing and homeless circumstances of women and girls, such as vulnerability to violence, income inequality and family responsibilities
- Implement sustainable low-income housing options that focus on women and children
- Request that the federal and provincial governments reinvest resources toward housing strategy development, and housing supply and maintenance, with a focus on supporting the diverse housing needs of women and girls

Progress

- Minimal Progress
- Significant Progress
- Moderate Progress

Based on a series of conversations with community partners and elected officials, there has been minimal progress on the issue of adequate and affordable housing for women and girls.

Ongoing barriers:

- Inability to generate financial support for housing strategy that support women and girls from the municipal level
- On-going challenges with gaining provincial and federal government support for gendered housing strategies
- Developers within the City of Vancouver focusing on single-unit investment properties rather than family housing
- Lack of implemented gender/intersectional lens on housing polices and homelessness data

Progress made towards original goals:

- Expanded access to rental housing for women and girls through increased mandated development of rental housing by 1,000 units per year
- Mandatory development of minimum share of family-sized units (2-3 bedrooms)
- On-going review of City of Vancouver Housing Strategy to incorporate a gender/intersectional lens (underway)

Additional actions taken:

- Partnerships with the private sector, including the re-development of city spaces, including increased housing for women in domestic violence situations within the community through partnerships with local NGOs (YWCA)