

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 2nd, 2026

Mayor Ken Sim calls for Federal-Provincial deal on housing and infrastructure

VANCOUVER, B.C. – Vancouver Mayor Ken Sim is calling on the Province of British Columbia to secure a housing and infrastructure agreement with the federal government that would lower development costs and keep housing projects moving forward.

Earlier this week, the federal government and Province of Ontario signed an agreement, with each committing \$4.4 billion to fund new infrastructure, enabling municipalities to reduce development charges by up to 50%.

“The agreement in Ontario offers a template for funding infrastructure and lowering the cost of building,” said Sim. “We need a similar deal here in BC, one that sees the Province match federal funds dollar-for-dollar to reduce development charges directly so projects can continue moving forward.”

Despite action by Vancouver City Council to accelerate approvals, reduce red tape, and cut development cost levies by 20%, slowing construction activity is creating risks for housing and affordability.

“Vancouver has done the work to lower building costs and speed up approvals. As a result, we’ve seen decades-high rental delivery in 2025 and rents declining over the past two years,” said Sim. “We can’t afford to lose that progress.”

The City’s 20% reduction in development cost levies has delivered savings for projects across Vancouver, but recent increases in Metro Vancouver’s regional development charges have offset much of that progress, underscoring the need for a coordinated provincial-federal solution.

“We know the only way to improve long-term affordability is to keep building more homes,” said Sim. “This is a window of opportunity for the Province to partner with the federal government and municipalities to lower costs and deliver the homes people need.”

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Background on Vancouver Housing Delivery

- 78,000+ housing units in the pipeline (as of September 2025).
- 46,200 units currently approved or under construction (as of December 2025).
- 45% of all Metro Vancouver rental starts, more than any other municipality in the region.
- On track to exceed the Provincial Housing Target.
- Approved City's first ODP and eliminated of public hearings for ODP-consistent residential projects, months off approval timelines.