



BRITISH COLUMBIA

May 7, 2025

Reference: 186411

His Worship Rob Douglas and Members of Council
Mayor, District of North Cowichan
7030 Trans-Canada Highway
North Cowichan BC V9L 6A1
Email: mayor@northcowichan.ca

Dear Mayor Douglas:

I am pleased to acknowledge receipt of the District of North Cowichan's six-month housing targets progress report.

I note that the District delivered 83 net-new units, or 43 per cent of the Year 1 target. With 460 reported instream units and substantial projects underway in the Bell McKinnon Growth Centre, I am hopeful that the District is trending toward achieving the Year 1 target of 191 net-new units.

I am pleased to see that the District is undergoing a Development Approval Process Review and has delegated minor variance permits to staff. Additionally, I am pleased to see a variety of non-market housing projects being advanced in your community.

I acknowledge that North Cowichan has complied with Small-Scale Multi-Unit Housing (SSMUH) in accordance with Provincial requirements. However, further to my letter of January 10, 2025, I expect that the District is reviewing its bylaws and considering updates to achieve better alignment with the SSMUH Provincial Site Standards to support meeting housing targets.

I note that the District did not report any demolitions in its progress report. I have instructed Ministry staff to follow up with District staff to confirm this is accurate as this information is required to determine the number of net-new units delivered for the reporting period.

I encourage the District of North Cowichan to implement a full suite of actions and initiatives to increase diverse housing supply in preparation for the subsequent progress reporting periods. I look forward to receiving your Year-1 progress report in mid-September 2025.

Sincerely,



Ravi Kahlon
Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs

CC: Ted Swabey, CAO
Amanda Young, Director, Planning and Building
Chris Osborne, Manager, Planning
Housing Targets Branch