

February 8, 2021

Dear Colleagues,

The pandemic continues to disproportionately affect many members of our community. There have been many crises within this crisis, especially pertaining to housing. I believe that we should continue to support our residents to alleviate the burden felt from the pandemic and therefore I wanted to bring to your attention an important issue tenants across the city are currently facing.

I have recently been in discussions with members of the London ACORN, an organization that is a multi-issue, membership-based community of low and moderate-income people that has been working to support the rights of tenants, including many other equity issues facing tenants in London. They put out a call to action to respond to a growing issue facing tenants with property standards regulations that are not being enforced. Tenants are facing many repair issues due to the lack of maintenance being undertaken by landlords during the pandemic, on top of all other issues we are all facing. I believe that this is a call to action that we must also take to ensure a healthy and safe home environment for London residents.

The current City of London's Residential Rental Units Licensing By-law, By-law CP-19, as amended, does not apply to apartment buildings, stacked townhouse and townhouses and currently, only requires rental units to comply with the Building Code, Fire Code, Property Standards By-law and public health regulations.

I am seeking support for the following motion:

"The Civic Administration BE DIRECTED to review the Residential Rental Units Licensing By-law CP-19, as amended, and report back on the possibility of expanding the regulations to include rental units contained in apartment buildings, stacked townhouses and townhouses and to incorporate the following requirements for all rental units:

- a) all new and existing rental units be licensed, regardless of the type of unit;
- b) random inspections of rental units and building be undertaken to ensure compliance with the City's Property Standards By-law and other regulations to prevent the deterioration and disrepair of rental units; and,
- c) establish an anonymous complaint reporting system to prevent retaliation for those launching the complaint."

Respectfully submitted,

Councillor A. Kayabaga
Ward 13

Councillor M. Salih
Ward 3