



MEDIA RELEASE
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February 13, 2018

BC students excited about on-campus housing announcement

VICTORIA, BC - The Alliance of BC Students (ABCS) is happy to see that on-campus housing was a priority in the throne speech delivered today. This is a huge step towards addressing the rental crisis that BC has been facing for years. Students regularly discuss housing as one of their primary struggles and this support for on-campus housing will help students focus on their classes instead of their living situation.

“The ABCS has been working with government for years to make this change happen” said ABCS Chairperson Caitlin McCutchen, **“we know that on campus housing will reduce commute times, improve the living situations of thousands of students, and take some pressure off the hectic Vancouver rental market”**

As laid out in the ABCS Student Housing White Paper, steadily rising prices and plummeting vacancy rates have resulted in a rental housing crisis across the lower mainland and extending across the province. Students have struggled to find housing during the course of their studies and are forced to live in expensive, low quality, or over crowded housing, and face stretched budgets and long commutes.

Getting more students into on campus accommodation will also provide relief for the crowded transit corridors leading to colleges and universities, and will free up space in the low-cost rental market, benefiting vulnerable populations who are struggling to access this housing.

“Students living on campus makes sense for not only for the students across the province who have been struggling to access affordable housing, but for everyone else in BC who is trying to find somewhere to rent and facing elevated prices and competition because of absurdly low vacancy rates” state McCutchen.

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The Alliance of BC Students is a non-partisan society of 5 student societies representing over 60,000 students from across the province that exists to advocate on issues that affect post-secondary students in British Columbia.