



December Newsletter

Updates, events, and recommended reading from Women Transforming Cities.



A Win for Housing & Reaffirmed Commitments

Housing isn't partisan—it's a human right. On Wednesday, City Council voted unanimously to reduce barriers to providing non-market housing in Vancouver by passing the motion, "Reducing Barriers and Deepening Affordability for Non-Profit, Co-op and Social Housing in Every Neighbourhood."

We are very happy to see the new Council upholding one of the commitments they made in our [Hot Pink Paper Campaign](#). They've shown us that they care about the voices of those most often left out of democratic processes.

This is just the beginning. The housing crisis is both complex and urgent—it needs to be addressed from every angle, including strengthening tenant protections, enforcing standards of maintenance, and significantly increasing investment in public housing at all levels of government. But this motion is a step in the right direction. This is a step that makes it easier to build more of the

housing we need, faster.

We look forward to further collaboration and accountability with City Council to realize the [additional seven policies that this Council unanimously committed to](#): like protecting tenants from heat waves and applying an equity lens on all City Council motions.

If you want to help us champion policies and initiatives at City Hall, consider joining our Watch Council program. We take a look at the motions coming to council and decide on collective actions to take to challenge or support them. Learn more about [Watch Council here](#).

Updates from WTC

Farewell, Mahtab!

This week we say goodbye and thank you to our Campaign Lead, Mahtab Laghaei. Mahtab has been an incredible asset to the WTC team over these last two years. From establishing Watch Council to leading the Hot Pink Paper Campaign her passion, thoughtfulness, and leadership have allowed us to accomplish so much. She's off to grad school for her next chapter and we wish her the best of luck!



Read the Joint Statement, "In Solidarity with the Families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls"

WTC joined over 70 organizations in response to the "the racism and unfettered violence that has led to the loss of Rebecca Contois, Morgan Beatrice Harris, Mercedes Myran, and the yet to be named fourth victim." We join other organizations in calling for

BC WOMEN'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR NETWORK

Statement in Solidarity with the Families of Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls

"One of the things that makes this National Inquiry unique is that we are not investigating a past wrong, but one that is still ongoing and that is getting worse. Acts of violence stemming from the structures of colonization and coupled with racism, sexism, homophobia, and transphobia are not few and far between, but pervasive, immediate, and urgent. However, this violence is also preventable – if Canadians are willing to change."

– Page 85 of *Reclaiming Power and Place: The Final Report of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls*

"senior levels of government in Canada to take urgent and meaningful action on the calls for justice from the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls."

[Read Full Statement Here](#)

Thanks for coming!

On Wednesday we celebrated the end to another fantastic year with our WTC members, volunteers, board, and staff. Thank you to all of you who came out and we look forward to seeing you at more events in the new year. If you'd like to join our community, we're always looking for more members.



[Become a Member](#)

Upcoming Events

SAY NO TO EXECUTIONS!

DEC 10 11 AM
HUMAN RIGHTS DAY
PROTESTING AGAINST THE DEATH PENALTIES IN IRAN

MARCH WITH US

Start Point:
Vancouver City Hall

End Point:
Vancouver Art Gallery

MOHSEN SHEKARI

Human Rights Day Protest

Join us **tomorrow, December 10 at 11 AM** at Vancouver City Hall as we protest the execution of protesters, like Mohsen Shakeri a 23-year-old who was arrested less than 3 months ago and executed yesterday, in Iran. We'll be marching from City Hall all the way to the Art Gallery, come rain or shine. Follow [Womxn.Life.Freedom](#), a grassroots group of Iranian feminists in Vancouver supporting the liberation movement in Iran for more info.

[More Info Here](#)



Support QTBIPOC Artists & Makers

Looking for that perfect holiday gift? Support local jewellers, sewers, painters, and artists "whose work is rooted in community building and resistance" at Flourish! Head down to Massy Arts Society (23 East Pender) on Saturday, December 17 from 10:30-5:30 PM.

This market features Queer and Trans, Black, Indigenous and Folks of Colour and you won't want to miss it!

[Reserve a Spot](#)



Winter Welcoming Ceremony

Join the Vancouver Aboriginal Health Society and welcome in the winter at Strathcona Park (857 Malkin Ave) on Wednesday, December 21 from 10-11:00 AM. There will be a ceremony led by Sk̓wx̓wú7mesh Hereditary Chief Bill Williams. This event is free and everyone is welcome!

[More Info Here](#)

Read, Watch, & Learn

- Follow [Distro Disco](#) who organizes donation drives and distributes resources to our unhoused neighbours in the DTES.

- Read the Hua Foundation's [Asian Community Convener Project Report](#) about anti-racism work in BC by Asian community organizations to learn how to create deeper and more direct connections between Asian communities.
- Explore [Colour of Violence: Race, Gender & Anti-Violence Services](#), "a report placing racialized survivors at the center of anti-violence work."
- Read and reference the [Overview of Encampments Across Canada - A Right to Housing Approach](#).



www.womentransformingcities.org

[Donate to support our work](#)

Women Transforming Cities acknowledges that our work takes place on the stolen, unceded, ancestral territories of the Skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), Stó:lō and Səlílwətaʔ/Selilwítulh (Tsleil-Waututh) and xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam) Nations.

Questions? Email us at:

info@womentransformingcities.org

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [unsubscribe from this list](#).