TOWN OF AJAX



65 Harwood Avenue South Ajax ON L1S 3S9 www.ajax.ca

Ajax Provincial Constituency Office ajax@pc.ola.org

Sent by E-Mail

April 20, 2022

Re: Ending Unfair Rent Increases for New Builds

The following resolution was passed by Ajax Town Council at its meeting held on April 19, 2022:

WHEREAS there have been dramatic price increases in Ontario's rental housing market with bidding wars becoming normal practice due to a shortage of rental houses and hot housing prices, and without rent increase limits many Ajax residents will be at risk of being priced out of their homes;

AND WHEREAS Ontario's Residential Tenancies Act, 2006, imposes yearly guidelines on rent increases based on the Ontario Consumer Price Index, however rental units being occupied for the first time after November 15, 2018 are exempt from these guidelines. There is no limit to how much a landlord can increase the rent each year for these units;

AND WHEREAS approximately 13.75% of Ajax households are renters, according to Statistics Canada's 2016 census data, and average rents have increased 4.3% in two-bedroom units and 12.9% in 3-bedroom units between 2018 and 2021, according to the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation;

AND WHEREAS Ajax is in the process of developing a Housing Strategy to further identify housing and affordable needs and propose recommendations to support our community;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- Ajax Council requests the Province of Ontario to eliminate the rules exempting rental units occupied for the first time after November 15, 2018 from annual rent increase guidelines; and
- 2. This motion be circulated to the Ajax Provincial Constituency Office, the Regional Municipality of Durham, lower-tier municipalities in Durham Region, and the Ontario Big City Mayors.

If you require further information please contact me at 905-619-2529 ext. 3342 or alexander.harras@ajax.ca.

Sincerely,

Alexander Harras

Manager of Legislative Services/Deputy Clerk

Copy: Regional Councillor M. Crawford

Councillor R. Tyler Morin

Region of Durham

All Durham Region municipalities

Ontario's Big City Mayors