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HOUSE OF COMMONS
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Elizabeth May

Member of Parliament / Député(e)
Saanich — Gulf Islands

Circonscription

9711, rue Fourth suite 1
Sidney (Colombie-Britannique) V8L 2Y8
Tél. : 250-657-2000
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The Honourable Ravi Kahlon
British Columbia Minister of Housing

October 1, 2024

Re. Purchasing buildings at 9960/9972 Third Street, Sidney

Dear Minister,

I am writing to add my voice to the calls from community members who are asking the provincial government to purchase the buildings at 9960/9972 Third Street in Sidney. These buildings were purchased without ever being listed by High Street Communities for redevelopment, threatening their status as rare affordable housing in the community.

I am troubled by the process taken by the property owner that has neglected the needs of those living at these properties. Many folks have been displaced and pushed into unsafe and/or unsustainable living conditions. High Street Communities has been clear that it will not replace these buildings with new affordable rental properties.

The provincial government needs to intervene to protect these vulnerable evicted tenants and to safeguard affordable housing in Sidney, which is stated as a priority in your mandate letter from January 2024. Please consider purchasing the buildings at 9960/9972 Third Street in Sidney to ensure they continue to serve as affordable housing for the community. The government could do this by using funds from the Rental



Protection Fund, working with a community organisation or working with High Street Communities through the BC Builds program.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth May". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name and last name clearly distinguishable.

Elizabeth May, O.C.
Member of Parliament
Saanich-Gulf Islands

Cc. Adam Olsen, MLA for Saanich North and the Islands
Andrew Hicik, Acting CAO for Sidney

