

April 16, 2025

Mayor and Council  
City of White Rock  
15322 Buena Vista Avenue  
White Rock, B.C.  
V4B 4A9

Dear Mayor and Council,

**Re: Deteriorating Conditions of City Hall and Annex Building – Urgent Need for a New, Accessible Civic Facility**

On behalf of the employees represented by the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 718 (“CUPE 718”), I am writing to express our increasing concern regarding the deteriorating conditions of City Hall and the Annex Building. We urge Mayor and Council to prioritize the development and construction of a new, purpose-built, accessible civic facility that ensures the safety and well-being of all your employees and the public.

City Hall, originally constructed in 1963, and the adjacent Annex Building have far exceeded their intended operational lifespans. According to information available on the City’s website and recent consultant reports, City Hall has been designated a High Risk (High 1) building under the Seismic Retrofit Guidelines. Alarming, it meets only 20% of the lateral load capacity required by the 2018 British Columbia Building Code. In the event of a major seismic event, this structural deficiency poses a serious and unacceptable risk to both employees and the public who rely on these facilities.

Beyond seismic vulnerability, the buildings suffer from numerous chronic issues including poor ventilation, inadequate heating and cooling, water damage, outdated infrastructure, rodent infestation and insufficient space that severely impacts day-to-day operations and employee’s well-being.

Equally troubling is the failure to meet modern accessibility standards. As civic buildings are intended to serve all members of the community, City Hall and the Annex Building fail to provide a barrier-free and inclusive environment. Individuals with mobility challenges or health concerns face daily obstacles in accessing these spaces, which is unacceptable in a modern, equitable public service setting.

A new, safe, and fully accessible City Hall is not a luxury; it is a critical and long overdue investment in civic infrastructure. It will protect your employees, enable high-quality service delivery, and demonstrate the City’s commitment to safety, inclusion, and good governance.

Accordingly, we respectfully urge Mayor and Council to move forward expeditiously with the construction of a new City Hall that is safe, inclusive, and built to serve the evolving needs of the community for decades to come. We also welcome the opportunity to be actively involved in discussions during the construction phase, to ensure the needs of frontline staff are incorporated in the new facility to better serve the community.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and welcome the opportunity for ongoing engagement as this project progresses.

Yours sincerely,



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cc: City Clerk  
CAO