



PRESS RELEASE: Historic Vancouver City Council vote calls on BC to end immigration detention

For Immediate Release

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Vancouver, BC - Unceded Coast Salish territories—Yesterday, a coalition of concerned organizations, groups, and citizens welcomed a historic Vancouver City Council vote calling on the Province of British Columbia to end its immigration detention agreement with the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA).

By passing this motion, Vancouver becomes the first municipality in Canada to send a clear message to a provincial government to end its agreement with CBSA, which allows for the incarceration of migrants and refugee claimants in provincial jails. The coalition hopes that BC’s government considers this motion as part of its review of the provincial agreement with CBSA and cancels the contract.

The [campaign](#) to end immigration detention in BC jails has been supported by individuals personally impacted as well as by concerned groups and organizations who made submissions to the province’s review of its agreement with CSBA. These include:

Centre for Gender & Sexual Health Equity
 Amnesty International
 Human Rights Watch
 BC Civil Liberties Association
 Rainbow Refugee
 BC Poverty Reduction Coalition
 SWAN Vancouver Society

Community Legal Assistance Society
Immigration and Refugee Legal Clinic
Migrant Workers Centre BC
Vancouver Association for Survivors of Torture (VAST)
Migrante BC
West Coast LEAF
Justice for Girls
BC Prisoners' Legal Services
Pivot Legal Society
BC General Employees Union

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