How are people holding up with the rent prices in Vancouver?

If I have to move, I am homeless.

I just cannot afford it.

Myself as well. I'm genuinely terrified of anything that could potentially end with me having to move out

That’s how I feel now!

Yup, I'm in school my husband has a great job and weve set ourselves up well that we can make it by tell I'm done. We have two kids and if anything changes more than it already has we are fucked luckily we also live in a big complex so our apartment is a bit more secure than a suite is

Planning on leaving the province tbh.

It really fucking sucks. My girlfriend and I are at the point where we have to consider it, and I'm definitely not ready to leave my life here behind. My mom and dad are both here. All of my friends are here. However, it's like I don't have a choice because the city is pricing us out.

We were thinking the same when we lived on W Broadway in Kits (left six years ago). But we decided to move to the island as it was a lot cheaper. At that time, we got an awesome loft-style condo - huge place - for $850/month in Nanaimo.

Now, you’d be hard pressed to find a non-meth-lab-ish one bedroom in Nanaimo for less than $1500/1600. Closer to 2,000 for anything nice.

It’s not far off Vancouver prices in smaller cities on the island now, which is just crazy.

I’d leave BC but I lived in Alberta (2 yrs) and Ontario (1 yr) during my 20’s and I absolutely hated it there. So, I need to tough it out here at home on the coast.

My wife really wants to buy a house and she’s constantly bringing it up, and I feel awful as I just don’t know how I could ever make that happen without being an emergency vet bill or root canal away from being thrust into poverty/crippling debt.

Sounds like you need to have a direct and very clear conversation with your wife about the challenges of buying a house right now.

West End

Moved to Montreal last September, it's wild that life is suddenly affordable.

Such horseshit what's been happening to Vancouver. There's no good reason for it. Regular folks can barely scrape by.

And the kicker is.... I really want to go back eventually. I want to raise kids near my family and friends. I miss the ocean. But it's just too fucking expensive to justify it happening anytime soon.

I mean, there is a very good reason. Absurd zoning laws, rent control, zero government-funded affordable housing, etc etc

My point is our leadership doesn't have good reasons for letting the situation continue in this way.

How’s Montreal otherwise? Easy to find work? Are you bilingual? Does the better art and culture scene add quality to life?

I'm still living with my ex because of this. It sucks.

I'm sorry, know someone like that as well.

I swear I'm pretty much in the same situation. I can't leave my partner because I will not be able to afford paying child support and renting a new place

I have lived in 3 different rentals in the last 3 years (long story) but every time I move out, the landlord puts the unit on the market with a 30%+ increase. Something has to give.

I signed for my studio in a large apartment building at $1350/month. Pet-friendly near Broadway/Main. A few years later, my exact same unit on the same floor is now going for $2600. Literally doubled the rent in a span of 5 years. If I moved out now, there’s no way I could afford living here.

Thankfully they can only increase my rent $30 per year. There is absolutely no way in hell I’m ever moving.God it's the same story here on Van Isl. Can't move and keep the same lifestyle – unless we completely jump ship and vacate the country altogether.

Pretty sure we used to be neighbours. I lived there from when the building opened to May 2022 and when I left my 450sqft unit was going for 2100, which is insanity.

Some guy was selling crows on the street corner out of a cat carrier.

Times are hard.If your unit goes back on to the market quickly without his kids living in it, you are entitled to compensation through the rtb

True, but it can be hard to prove. I pretty much proved my ex-landlord's "for use" eviction of our basement suite was hogwash (got video evidence of him living elsewhere, a video of the new tenant saying "he doesn't live here", a Facebook account for the new tenant's business using our old address, etc.), but the RTB arbitrator ruled, despite all the evidence to the contrary, in his favor.

I did well in a bunch of other cases against him though given he did some dumb shit (like illegal rent increases). Got about $8K from him for his assorted fuckery. Probably not worth it time-wise, and a bit of a crap shoot (given different attitudes of arbitrators), but was satisfying in the end (and bizarrely entertaining in parts).

I just moved here from Germany and honestly, it's blown my mind. I never had to worry about money in Germany even though I was paying higher taxes but here, everything is expensive. Rent, groceries, everything. I'm making 80k a year and I'm still stressed about money. I don't know how people are doing here.

I make around the same, and I don’t have kids/pets even a car!!! That’s why I’m wondering how can people afford these costs! I don’t have a car because then I can’t save any money!

Same! I'm single, no car, kids, or pets. It's brutal!

I’m from Germany too and made the same experience. I love the country and the city but I’m going to move back to Germany.

I've been here 12 years and am heading back to live in Europe in 4 weeks. Hoping for a cheaper life!

It’s very unfortunate timing and I feel bad for anyone moving here now. Because it is fucked. I moved from Ireland 7 years ago and honestly when I landed it was great. Sure downtown was pricey but life in general was SO much more manageable. People were not just getting by but doing more stuff, going skiing taking trips every weekend. You could go out and have dinner and drinks for $50. You could get actual cheap groceries.

There is nowhere to escape the insane price of everything now. Sad.

I couldn’t afford rent after having a baby 5 years ago. It was either pay rent or pay daycare and I need a job to pay rent but needed to pay daycare if I kept my job. So it was an impossible situation. I had to leave Vancouver and decided to do something fun and move overseas. My career was on New Zealand’s Essential Skills list so I got a work visa and I’ve lived here in NZ ever since! My rent here the same as when I LEFT Vancouver 5 years ago, which I know has now doubled, but I rent a 4 bed 2 bath house with a yard and garden in the 2nd biggest city in the country. And my wage went up 200% including the exchange rate… so yeah. Despite missing family and Vancouver itself, I haven’t regretted leaving at all.

I’m living in a friends living room until they have to move in September. Cheap rent for now but holy hot and heavy hell it’s tough out there

Can you take over the lease from them? And when they move get a roommate?

Living in Vancouver is like paying for a Bugatti but driving a Kia

And everyone tries to convince you it's a Bugatti and that's why it's so expensive.

It’s so unbelievably bad, I am also almost thinking of leaving Vancouver, but go where???? So sad 😞

When you say your landlord “asked me to move out”, do you mean they told you informally or did they provide you with all four pages of the RTB’s 2 month notice to take back the unit? They are obligated to give you one month rent as compensation, and you have 2 weeks to file a dispute at the RTB if you have any reason to believe they may not actually have their children move in to reside there for a year

I am asking because i personally know of at least 5 friends/colleagues who were asked to leave by a landlord to take back the unit for a relative only to find the suite on the market for a much higher rent

He gave me the two months notice, I can’t dispute it because I know he has children who live around here. So, I can’t dispute it. My only option is to keep an eye on the ads if posts the place! But he is smart, he’ll probably find a way

It’s a real struggle. If we left our (overpriced) 2BR, we’d need another $1500 a month. And we spend about 70% income already. Something has to give.

We all know what **has** to happen - the gov needs to be the ones to actual build rentals themselves with their own land and own buildings.

So much office space thats never coming back. Affordable rentals in empty commercial space now. Nationwide.

Someone on rebubble or canadahousing broke down the conversion costs and essentially determined that a full tear down and rebuild is cheaper than a retrofit. Even if you got rid of red tape, you still just have basic things like heating, cooling, utilities that cost and insane amount of money (and time!) to do.

There’s a reason those redone “old warehouse flats” from yesteryear are always “luxury” and stupid expensive. The old buildings had to be nearly worthless in order to make it feasible to retrofit.

Also, many of these office spaces act as fantastic tax write offs.

Office space is generally really poorly suited for conversion. At a minimum you’d need to redo electrical and plumbing throughout. Office buildings aren’t designed to get as much natural light as residential ones either. Having a single window in a 2 bed probably isn’t going to fly…

Honestly most of the "cheaper" places have their own way of being expensive too, I say that having grown up in NB and making Vancouver my home.

As an example someone in Quebec making 60k would pay an extra 5k in income tax vs BC.

In NB where I grew up utilities were astronomical vs here, and food was also a lot more coupled with higher sales tax and income tax.

Even in AB the lowest provincial tax bracket is 10% vs 5% in BC. You'd still pay an extra 1.1k on a 60k income, although sales tax is lower in AB.

A lot of these provinces also have weak job markets (big reason why I left NB).

In Vancouver you can also reasonably get by without having a car, unlike most of the cheaper COL areas.

IMO the grass is always greener, Vancouver is expensive for sure but that's mostly true everywhere in Canada one way or another. Maybe not as bad depending on your situation but nowhere is "cheap".

Vancouver is not bad if you are a young professional couple with in demand careers.

Wow, so nice to see someone pointing this out. We moved here from Saskatchewan and haven’t seen our financial position diminish at all. We don’t have to spend money on a car and our travel budget is cut in half, not to mention that jobs pay better here than there. We have a smaller place but overall our quality of life has improved exponentially now that we are in a walkable city with beautiful surroundings and easy access to everything we want and need. The financial hit we were expecting didn’t materialize. The cost of living is out of hand, but it’s definitely not a uniquely Vancouver problem. What you save on rent goes to other things in a less desirable place.

I think ‘we’ is pretty key here though. Being on your own is almost impossible now.

So all of Canada sucks

I think we should be worried about how unattainable social mobility is for anyone who doesn't luck into an in demand career. If so many renters are on the verge of homelessness, something is seriously wrong.

How are millennials going to retire if so many are financially struggling

Perhaps an unpopular opinion but as a younger millennial myself I still think all of Canada is still really good.

We do have social mobility, albeit it's worse than 20 or so years ago. Hell you can see this in many metrics, eg. Canada was once topping the HDI charts and now is still quite high but not at the top.

Even since I was a kid our healthcare system has deteriorated and even in the last 7 years since I've moved to Vancouver I've seen housing skyrocket in price.

But someone born poor in Canada still has a reasonable chance at becoming middle class. Our public education isn't bad, our higher education isn't that expensive, we won't go bankrupt for breaking a leg, we can earn a decent salary doing various non highly specialized jobs that pay pretty poorly in a lot of other places, etc. We also generally have safety, stability, clean water, and pretty high purchasing power overall. You also generally are in a much better spot here vs elsewhere if you are a minority, disabled, non cis, a woman, etc.

I do still think Canada is great and having traveled a bit now as an adult I really appreciate what we have.

It does break my heart to see us declining though and I hope we can correct course before it gets too much worse.

Just went through similar: landlord sold the unit and the new owners are moving in. My rent increased $700/month, and I was already paying 49% of my income toward rent.

The place I ended up signing a new lease for is owned by someone in another province, and they have several condos across the Lower Mainland. Another I was interested in was shown to me by someone on behalf of their employer who lives in another country and had bought two entire floors in the building.

If new supply is being purchased by the same group who already own, then I fail to understand how it is helping to solve our housing crisis. People who don't even live here own multiple properties, while those who do are struggling to find stable shelter. Homes should not be a business opportunity.

I pay to live in my parents house in my baby nursery. I want to move out really badly but my budget is $1400. Didn’t think I’d be this close to 30 and still living at home

How am i holding up with the rent prices?

I’m not. Moving to Alberta in two months. It’s bittersweet because i love vancouver. But enough is enough

Do researches before you move. Jobs are hard to find here; weather sucks; rent’s price is increasing; car dependent, utilities/insurance way higher … and many more. After all, I feel like nothing change after my move, maybe worse. We are going back to Vancouver.

Luckily i have a lot of friends and family in alberta since i used to live there. I own a car that is parked in alberta because i can’t afford to insure it here, i already have a job lined up thats paying me double of what i’m getting paid now. And my best friend has offered me to live with her -rent free- so this decision is well worth it for my situation.

People are working 2 jobs just to barely pay the rent. I have absolutely no idea how they do it. I had a colleague once tell me 1.5 of his paycheques goes to rent!

All I know is when people move away, they talk about how much more of their own money they get to keep at the end of the month.

Something really does have to give. This whole system is broken. Inflation soars and people at the top take a hit, so what do they do? They raise costs for people below them so they don’t actually have to take a hit to their quality of life. That mindset goes all the way down to the landlords who then raise rents so they also don’t have to take a hit.

The renters at the bottom have no one to pass off the added expense too. This is trickle down economics working in reverse. Trickle down never worked. This is bleeding the rock fucking dry. The foundation of society is crumbling, eventually you’d think it’s going to topple.

I've said it before. Government intervention of some kind is necessary, but as of now, they seem content to let things teeter on the absolute edge of collapse. For many, the collapse has already happened. The way things are going you're going to have people who used to be able to comfortably afford a place to live living in shelters

My rent doubled when I had to move. I could afford a mortgage just not the down payment. But now all my extra income goes to rent rather than a house I own or savings.

That sucks! I’ve been trying to save for so long, for everything to become less affordable

this is the sad thing, trapped in a hopeless situation that will suck all of your earnings for the next 25 years and you still will have no home security after all that, not sure how we will be able to survive when we get old

And their audition(?) process is getting out of control too. Like one bedroom suite (NOT STUDIO) but single occupancy only??? And don’t get me started with no pets policy.

The sad truth is at some point just about everyone will be asked to leave their rental for one reason or another. The amount the landlords are missing out on is just too great.

Rental Prices and home are expected to increase significantly further with the amount of immigration. Too many people, too few homes.

Been living in an SRO the last 2 years, and as much as I want to move out for my own safety, I know it's not financially possible. 🤷🏼‍♀️ Oh well.

The only way I'm getting by is because I moved into my 2 bedroom in 2015 and haven't moved. Couldn't survive otherwise, I'm incredibly fortunate - It's horrible out there

I moved to the Upper Sunshine Coast two years ago because the stars aligned and we were able to buy up here.

My house has more than doubled in assessed value but its meaningless. House prices here are ridiculous now. If I wanted to sell this house I couldn't even get another one because of how wild it is here. We got in right as things went over the edge, our realtor says we got the last good deal in town.

With inflation at this point we're looking at getting an apiary and growing some of our own food to supplement ourselves.

I was looking at rentals in North Van yesterday and it's like $2800-$3000 for a 600 sq ft1br... That's double my mortgage and less than a quarter of my house. That's just criminal. It's time to start leaning on the government regarding the housing crisis, demanding rent control and relief. I worry for friends because this will only get worse and there's nowhere left to go.

Upper Sunshine Coast, Powell River or Lund I'm expecting?

Yes! We're two ferries from civilisation, and there's a definite culture difference from living in the city, but it's amazing up here.

Everything feels futile. The anxiety keeps me awake, sometimes for days. My landlord has taken to doing things that make me suspect he's trying to get me to move (such as making a lot of noise and staring at my windows while he does so) which makes me worry he'll attempt to evict me soon enough. After this semester I have one more to go, but my issue is finding housing within a reasonable distance to work, combined with finding work that I can physically sustain (yay chronic illness). This wouldn't be so terrifying if I weren't single and could split rent with someone. I could move into a family member's unfinished basement and pay "low" rent, but it's in the far end of Chilliwack. If it weren't for my cat I'm not sure I could maintain the will to keep going in the face of literally everything trying to hammer us down. I don'I think that’s just it. None of us are wanting anything extravagant. We just want to be able to afford housing and food and live comfortably! These are basis necessities for life and a good portion of us can’t even do that.

I remember in 2012-2019 I was making the same money but doing amazing financially. I could pay rent and bills and still have extra to save or treat myself. Now I’m behind on so many bills and have to modify what I eat so I can budget food in.

Short answer not well......

Long answer its situational. As of last year rent has reached ridiculous levels. By no means can low-high middle class earners afford rent right now. Most have locked in a place long ago when it was still expensive but not as crazy as it is now. Or have roommates.

Its a big shit mix of problems involving too many air bnbs, greedy land lords and low supply of physical housing. Unfortunately there is enough upper class/rich willing to take these rentals resulting in less availability and higher prices.

I'm thankful I chose a rental from a rental company that owns the building. I pay $1450/mo with my partner for a smaller 1 bedroom. It's not the perfect place, but the chance of us being forced to move out is slim. We'll probably live here for a year or 2 longer at this rate if prices stay high for condos.

I wasn't able to hold at all. Last year I had to move back into my mom's place in the Yukon because I couldn't afford to live alone with an elderly dog. No rent, no PST, and gas is on par with Van prices, so at least I can attempt to save.

And yet I miss that big, stupidly expensive city.

Shit is going to get more and more dystopian so quickly.

On disability "support" without the help of family or friends I'd be homeless. Who knows how long this current help will last but after it it seems a bleak future! I'm probably intended to choose MAID at some point rather than find a home.

I used to pay 1500$ / month for a 5 bedroom house in white rock around 2016-2017 now my buddy just rented a studio in mission for 1350 @ 350sq ft i dont know how anybody does this shit anymore

I moved into my Chinatown condo in August 2022. Same unit one floor below is already going for $200/month more now. I’m accepting the fact that I can’t move from here by the time my one year is up because I simply cannot afford anything else. The one person I know who was born and raised downtown has been priced out of his own city due to the fact that there is no daycare or affordable 2 bedrooms anywhere. He’s going to Alberta. It’s sad to see the true reality of this city and how little fucks the government(s) give about affordability. It’s too far gone, there’s no stopping it now

Honestly, looking at it makes me incredibly depressed. It feels like the autonomy that I should have... is gone. Currently my relationship is doing fine, but if it was not, I don't know what I would do. I make pretty decent money, but seeing rooms go for 1700plus or studio apartments for 2100 just makes things so hopeless. Yes there are cheaper options, but you basically need to catch them 10 mins after they are posted. I really feel sorry for anyone looking for a place ATM. It must be incredibly stressful.

The only way to make change is through collective action. That’s why strikes work

make sure he is not just pulling a fast one to get you out so he can charge more rent, you can get a full year of rent paid by him if he doesn't

I’ll keep an eye on ads! But unfortunately I have to move, no way to know for sure!

Really do keep an eye out, yeah? It's worth it. And don't let yourself "feel bad" if you end up going after him. A year's worth of rent can really help you with that next place

Currently "houseless" (living out of an airbnb) in Edmonton. Got the same news as you 2 months ago.

I have chosen to live in my semi truck. If I rented in Vancouver u would not be able to put any money away for retirement and I'm getting older. This is my "living in. Cardboard box" prevention plan. It's not ideal or convenient, but the prices here are crazy

I think the real question is how is the BC government allowing this to happen and why is nothing being done about it?

By staying in the same place as long as possible. In my opinion this is fundamentally unfair for those who have to move for some reasonslike family, business, job… immigration. Also it punishes people for seeking new opportunities, exploring different careers, trying lifestyles etc.

Asked my landlord to double my rent cause my grind is different

I'm in the same boat and it looks like I'll need an extra grand a month for anything decent. The new builds are also nice looking but holy smokes are they small. $2700 for the 500 sq ft boxes with teeny closets and no storage. They're more like hotel rooms/dorms. I'm pretty frustrated.

That's why a lot of people move to cities like Edmonton and Calgary..

Right but then Edmonton or Calgary. (source: I was born there)

We are not.. we are moving out of the city. Just got evicted.. tried to find a place.. gave up.. I’m not paying any scum sucking landlord 4000/month for a two bedroom. Fuck you! I am a Senior Tech Lead and make good money. The fact that I can’t afford to live here is a real problem. Calgary here I come.. fuck you Vancouver

That's insane, I pay less than $4000 per month all in with my mortgage for a two bedroom and I bought at the peak last spring.

Calgary is nice, enjoy the outdoors and being so close to the Rockies!

Thank you stranger :) I grew up in Calgary and I really like the city.. so I’m looking forward to a change of scenery. Vancouver is overrated.. it’s been fun.. but not worth it given all the issues these days.

I moved in 2020 and now my partner and I are stuck here. Forever I guess.

Same! I was renovicted in 2020 (legally, and I still am actually friends with my previous landlords). I moved to a basement suite with tons of issues. My roommate floated the idea of moving a few months ago. One look at the rental market shut that down. Now, I'm stuck here either until rents go down or something happens that requires me to move. In the case of the second, I'm absolutely fucked because I can barely afford rent as it is

Right? Now I’m regretting not getting a nicer place back in 2020!

It’s ridiculous that as law abiding, tax paying citizens this is what we are being subjected to. Rent jail.

Same, we jumped apartments in 2020 to a place closer to work. Although I wasn't expecting the "new normal" would mean getting laid off!! Life is...fu**l**

I'm moving ! Can't handle it! Gonna try the island

The island isn’t much better. Unless your thinking about Duncan and further up.

Still not much better unless past Campbell River or maybe in Port Alberni... But ya. Something's gotta give eventually.

If you come to the Island. Victoria, Langford (and surrounding areas)are almost as expensive as Van.

The further north you go the cheaper rent generally is. Unless nowhere is safe from rent hikes.

Moving to Alberta, this city is absurd

If you're experience new rates as you've been at a place for a long time then you're in for a world of hurt. For the rest of the people who have been renting at near market rates, well its just a tad bit more expensive then the old expensive price.

I honestly only recently became aware of how bad it is. My place is absolutely awful, and my roommate floated the idea of finding a new place when our lease comes up. I took a look at Craigslist and didn't even bother past that. We are now deathly afraid of anything that could potentially affect our tenancy

I moved to Quebec. About 45 (driving) minutes from downtown MTL. I have a 5 1/2 and I pay 850.

Vancouver was just too much. My wife and I were living in a tiny studio apartment and were barely able to make ends meet even though we are both working professionals with decent success in our fields.

It was insanity

I’m not sure when it will happen or how it will happen, but Vancouver is going to have a wild housing market crash that will be unreal. Proves are absolutely out of control. When Burnaby is the third highest rental marketing the country, you know things are out of control.

I fucking hate this city with all my heart

Expect regular rent increases, evictions or rental to be sold - there is no place for local people in Metro Vancouver

Did we local millennials ever expect to have to move provinces or immigrate in order to afford the cost of living in BC? We were robbed.

I honestly don’t know where people are expected to live. I recently checked prices too and was blown away at how expensive it is. It’s unsustainable

Will provincial governments bring in rent control when we are all living out of our cars & tents?

I'm going to have to work 2 full-time jobs to survive and might have to take in a roommate in my 1 bedroom suite.

I shouldn't have to live like this 7 years away from retirement.

Retirement is NOT an option. I will be working until I'm in the dirt.

With a horrible amount of debt.

I’ve been in my spot, same owner, same manager, for about ten years, mice silver fish and all. Zero effort from management on any issue., Now they act like they have been oppressed. Somehow they have been victimized buy there own choices and investments? I’ve never seen such a bunch of fear mongering bitches like I have the last few months. They are not the same people anymore. I’m starting to regress back into the place that only exists when I’m unbalanced and afraid. It totally sucks! And everyone knows it’s never going to look like a sustainable venture., so WTF is up with our selves????? But hey? What the fuck has ever been?????

The same thing happened to me. I got a month's notice that my apartment was being sold, and suddenly my life was completely turned upside down and there were strangers in my house every other day. I got scolded by the property manager for not having my apartment clean enough for when the rich fucks came in and trounced all over my living space for the last three years. I had a breakdown and ended up back with my parents, and while I'm slowly getting better, every time I look at prices to move back to the city, I start freaking out all over again. Housing prices combined with 'living' wage combined with rising grocery cost combined with the frankly appallingly low disability payments...I know I'm only speaking from the experience of a partially disabled person, but I can't imagine things are going much better for anyone else either. My heart goes out to you and anyone else struggling with this absolutely ridiculous financial climate.

I've been looking for over a year. Nothing really works with what I need. It's all too freaking expensive

Keep an eye on the place for a) when someone else moves in and b) if they relist the space with 6 months. You could be entitled to compensation if the landlord breaches the residential tenancy act

I moved out of that shit hole last year. What's the point of living in such a beautiful city if I can't afford to do anything?

**Are you having to move into smaller units or shared living arrangements because of the high rents in Vancouver? If yes, how does it affect your life?**

I have to continue living with my ex because I can't afford to move out

Horrible

Fuck that

The housing crisis only impacts people who are in the position of needing to move (or are experiencing a mortgage rate increase).

Most people aren’t leaving their existing housing and opting for a smaller place because it’s cheaper. That’s smaller place is often as expensive as their current unit.

I went from a large 3 bedroom suite for $1500 to a 2 bedroom apartment for $1700 and now most of the 1 bedroom apartments are $2400. In only a span of 4 years.

It's nuts. I had a 1 bed near kits beach, $1750 for a 750sqft 1 bed with a nice living room & big windows. I signed that lease in 2020. Biggest mistake of my life so far was moving back in with my parents to save money lmao. I had a diamond.

It's still surprising how many people move up though, even with these prices. I have a rental property, nothing big, 1200 Sq feet and in the 7 years I've been renting it I've had 6 tenants.

Everyone just "wants more room". One because of work from home, another because of kids etc

I know how much money they make. I can't believe they still find room in their budget to pay even more for housing!

Was the overall experience as a landlord a good one. Any of those 6 tenants cause any serious damage?

I've been lucky in that all the tenants were very nice, respectable people. I'd like to think they think the same of me as a landlord.

But having said that, I would still say the overall experience was not an enjoyable one for me. I just don't enjoy dealing with people and I find it incredibly frustrating with the number of idiots one must go through to find a good applicant.

Don't Iike listening to people's sob stories. Don't like arranging viewing times only for people to never show up. Don't like saying no to people. Etc.

Profitable? Yes. Enjoyable? No!

I am currently freaking out.

I have slowly been trying to unload stuff, but as a confessed hoarder and collector, had gotten a notice a couple of months ago and have to be out on April 30th.

It has been a full time job reducing what I have and I am no where I need to be.  
At this point I am coming to the realization I will have to take a room and storage for a while until I can find something I can afford to set up again.

I love Vancouver, been here for almost 38 years, and I am starting to think I may not be able to afford to stay here any longer.

Where to ? All of Canada is expensive ..

It’s $200k for a house in 100+ towns/cities in Canada.

Small towns bro. Look beyond the major Metro areas

We had to move 12 hours away and it was honestly for the better. We live off a major highway and can get things delivered from most major outlets (Walmart, Costco etc) Instead of neighbors we have birds and wildlife. Campsites are free and well maintained. Healthcare is functional. Physio and councillors are free and available. There are some sacrifices, sure, but our quality of life is generally better. It can be lonely but it can also be peaceful. Vancouver IMO has become too competitive for comfort

Where is 12 hours away. And had work ?

Prince George area, plenty of work but you have to know where to look (mostly Facebook and corkboards)

Gotcha. Yeah. That’s a hike for sure.

A lot of people are considering that area now, it won't be affordable for too much longer..

There’s loads of space and plenty of new development. Also new fiber optic lines for great internet being installed. I’m optimistic for the future here. I’m trying to advocate to anyone that will listen. I hope I can help people who used to be in my position as the city almost drained me completely. Even coming to visit now is overwhelming but my general day to day is rather peaceful.

To anyone on the fence, there’s still hope, and yes, you can do it too

I’m moving to Kelowna where rentals are more affordable and pet friendly

Nope, own my own house so all is good.

Nope, same unit as before.

just bought a house while I still can

Got “ for family “ evicted the day after an argument I didn’t even start.

I’m back at my parents at 39.

Mom is a hoarder and never leaves the house. Sis never left. It’s cramped but the only option I have other than the streets

First, my adult niece was gonna be homeless and had to move in with me.

Now, our building will be torn down and we can't afford anything with the new rates, so I, my fiancee, and my niece will be moving into my mother's tiny townhouse. If not for my mom, we would be facing homelessness.

I'm on disability, but without also working full time it's impossible to make rent, never mind other bills or food. I lost my job as well. If not for my mom (again) we would be starving.

I require a special diet in order to stay out of the hospital and I can't afford to keep up with that either, so now my health is getting worse, because the rental market has made it extremely difficult to buy proper food.

When we call the housing crisis a crisis, that is not an exaggeration! People are living in RVs, including ones who have a job, because many jobs don't pay enough for rental rates. People are living in tents. Abandoned properties are filling up with squatters who have nowhere to go.

My neighbour who just moved out decided to buy a small boat to live in, because rent is so crazy he could afford to pay off the boat, marina fees etc for less than a bachelor apartment.. Except too many other people are thinking like him, so the marinas are full up and getting more expensive by the day.

It's absolutely appalling what's happening here.

My adult son and I bought a 5th wheel and live in that. Rent is simply too much otherwise. I felt like there were no longer any other options. We live with little now and in a small place but I like it. In my park theres 120 or so of us.

I have to move my daughter and I in with my father because I can't afford the rent prices. It's soul crushing.

Yes I had to move back in with my mom at 35, I’m still here. Now 39. She’s about to retire and I feel bad for being in her space. She understands and I help with rent. But the fact that I can’t even find a roommate here that won’t cost 60%+ of my income is insane. Not that I even want a roommate. Most my adult life ive been able to afford to live on my own - now close to my 40’s I can’t find a place of my own? I’m sorry I’m not in college anymore. I don’t party. I’m an adult. I don’t want to live with other people.

We've bought a travel trailer. Been able to travel, but still small from a 2 bar suite

It’s awful I’ve had to raise the rent of my ten apartments 200% just so I can stay within market value. I hate it but if I don’t do it. Someone else will I think

That explanation doesn’t really make any sense. If you don’t raise the rent amount on your apartments someone else will?…no they won’t, they’re your apartments, you can charge as little as you like lol

Landlord sold the place I’d been living in for nearly 6 years the exact same month I got approved for disability assistance - I had to quit a career I’d spent 8 years building due to my disabilities. Gave me a day’s notice before the sign went up and insisted I’d be able to continue living there when it sold but I knew how unrealistic that would be. Sold the next week and I was evicted immediately because “family was moving in.”

Needless to say my living expenses went up by about a grand and my income is about a third what it was before. Disability doesn’t even cover my rent. Now somehow I’m working TWO jobs (one under the table because of the income cap) when I’m barely supposed to even be working one but I would be homeless if I didn’t. My fiancé is American and we will absolutely not be staying in Canada.

Moving to Vancouver

Housing is diabolical and nobody can afford the rent anymore, everyone's just festering in their current situations and praying they don't get evicted. But sure, come on over.

1 bedrooms in the suburbs are going for $2500. People are asking $1500 for shared accommodation. Its not great here right now.

Don’t recommend moving here. Not only is it extremely expensive, lots of people are having a challenge finding sustainable work here as well (my friend couldn’t find work for 5 months) and you’ll want to make over $25 an hour to afford a cheaper rental(lower end for a studio or 1br is anywhere between $1500-$2000). If you’re set on moving this way, find roommates, otherwise it can be very challenging here.

I love this city, I hope I die in this city.

I don't recommend coming to this city right now.

Rentals are at 0.5% availability, all the time, and the wages just are not enough to cut into it.

I work with a girl from Ireland actually, about your age, and she's struggling. She's had a hard time getting a job, she's been conned. We've both just recently been hired and it's a good company, but she's been behind. She has a hard time eating enough in the week.

I'm a bit more established, I've got family and friends here, a network of people. Watching her alone, far fThere are lots of resources for Irish people who come here. I believe there are agencies which advertise there? A crazy amount of young Irish people here. Every bartender and server in town. Most have multiple jobs and live in awful conditions.

Some would say not much worse than in Ireland lol

There are a few construction contracting places that hire primarily Irish people, A few good lads is one of them.

**1**

**Reply**Plan and budget - work the IT angle for jobs and find some decent recruiters to help - Procom, Teema etc. Some things are cheaper, some not, and rent is pretty crazy these days. DM if you want to ask specifics

It's horrible right now and with 3 million more people expected over the next 2 years it's only going to get worse

I’m so sorry but I don’t recommend coming here. Somewhere else in Canada, Montreal or Calgary or Halifax.. That is definitely feasible!

I was born and raised here and I am trying to get out as soon as I can. It’s too expensive for locals. It’s only going to get worse :(

Halifax is more expensive for renters than Vancouver. Highest income and sales taxes in the country. To the tune it will cost the average income earner and extra $600 a month. Electricity costs triple what it does in Vancouver and food, flights, purchases are all higher priced. Rent is the same or more than Toronto in many cases. Lower vacancy rate than Vancouver and full blown housing crisis (tent cities in every city park). I'm sure there's places in Canada OP could go but Halifax is just a smidge cheaper than Vancouver for renters, if cheaper at all.

I actually just moved back to Vancouver from Halifax, found Halifax so much cheaper. But it’s always good to get other opinions, I may have just gotten lucky haha

I moved a year ago from Victoria to the country outside Halifax and it’s about 3x the cost of living in NS as it was in BC.

Man fuck Vancouver. Born and raised here. Vancouver changed A LOT in the past 5 years. More significantly than ever. High cost of living, everything is fucking expensive, roads and infrastructures aren't up to date to support the new influx of population, and housing has become the biggest issue ever.

Grew up in the 2000s and 2010s. Was a good city back then. But now it's just a place for the wealthy global elites to come and spend their money lol. After about 2016 onwards, Vancouver has become a shitty city to actually reside in, but masked in a grail by visitors and tourists who only see the pros, and not the cons lol.

Also Toronto

Vancouver is now completely void of all culture unless you have someone with family money spinning pottery on Granville island the artisans are all gone, even the buskers have mostly packed it in. You can’t fit 5 people in a 1 bdrm artists den anymore because landlords have gotten shitty about occupancy. Rent will be $2000 for a 350sqft bachelor if it’s truly available and it won’t be. All the shops of any interest have closed so if you’re exited about shopping good luck, you basically have a high end mall to choose from or a bunch of chain stores you could go to on any strip mall. The galleries are barely open and seem to be just a tax shelter with how often I’ve walked by and they are closed, if you dare go inside you are followed like you’re about to pull a Thomas Crown affair type heist. (Ps boring white woman here who knows I’m not being profiled, it’s just how they are with everyone, no one is welcome unless they’re clearly dripping in money) I used to go to Vancouver often and go to little shops and collective artist places. Now there is no life there unless you want a big corporate stamp on it. No one who lives in the city goes out much anyways, they are always working.

Prices actually fell in Vancouver form 2016 to 2019.

Do not move to vancouver without a well paying job lined up already. It is beyond expensive. The wages do not meet the demand for living expenses unless you have a side hustle. If you are determined to move here then I suggest staying away from downtown. Get somewhere close to a skytrain closer to maple ridge or surrey.

The price difference for a 30 minute commute can be up to $3000 saved.

go on facebook; join the giant group "Irish and New In Vancouver"

Just stay away man. Minimum wage won’t get you far in Vancouver. An average CHEAP room is $1000/month. A decent room will be $1200+. Expect lots of roommates and not a lot of space to yourself. Rooming with randoms can be hit or miss, sometimes they’re great, sometimes they don’t clean the shared bathroom.

There’s not many minimum wage jobs that will guarantee a 40hr week for you, so be prepared to be working 30-40 hours instead. Minimum wage is pretty low at 16.75. Your gross take home at best is 670 a week, 2680 a month. BEFORE TAXES. Once taxes and deductions come into play you’re looking at a lot less.

This means half your pay is going to be going to rent. The other half will be used on food and other expenses. The cost of living is crazy here, everything is 10%-20% more than it should be. Expect a minimum of $100/week in food costs.

It’s just, this city isn’t meant for people who can barely get by. It’s meant for the rich and the delusional. I would pick a different city to live, Calgary/Edmonton/Anywhere in America/Etc.

Not gonna happen. Right now people are taking second jobs which are mostly entry level so that they can keep up with their mortgage payments. There aren’t jobs anywhere right now.

Not even to keep up with mortgage payments, a lot of people I know and even myself are taking second jobs just to live lollll

I took a third job to afford to breathe!

Yeah wish that we have a mortgage to pay lolll that means we are home owners loll

I recommend getting into a time machine and going back 15 years to make your move. Otherwise, it isn´t worth it.

My most sage piece of advice is that there are a lot of scams positioned to target specifically people moving to Canada from overseas. If you do choose to move here, it can be difficult to line up housing and employment in advance, for example if someone wants a "housing deposit" without meeting you or letting you see the place that is basically guaranteed a scam.

In that note, I would recommend having $10K+ Canadian in savings before coming over. Because chances are likely you will have to AirBNB or Hotel for one month or more if you don't have friends/family to stay with.

Most housing/moving happens on the 1st of the month. We don't really have weekly rental here. That may also factor in to your decision what time of the month to move to the city to be more cost effective in finding a place to live.

Good luck!

Well… it’s not a good idea to ask on vancouverhousing sub. The sub is designed to complain on housing, so no way you can expect a positive response here. I know many people who moved to Vancouver and doing great!

Good point. But at the same time he needs to know what he’s facing. I would want to have a decent paying job confirmed before moving to such an expensive place.

The downside to this wise advice is that unless you’re a higher level employee and/or in a specialized field being headhunted almost no companies will recruit/hire you without you living here first. It’s a catch 22 I experienced moving here where I wanted to have a job secured first but nowhere would move me past the phone interview stage until I’d actually moved to the city. I thought things might be better now but my younger sister just went through the same thing, told time after time to resubmit her application once she was actually here. Apparently even though we just spent 3 years running businesses and only interacting with our coworkers over zoom, hiring managers are still pretending it’s not a thing they can do.

Go to Vancouver jobs to see how much people are struggling. It’s very difficult (but not impossible) to get a job without Canadian experience. I just moved home to Ireland after being there 12 years. It’s so so expensive. Did you join the Irish and new in Vancouver Facebook page? That should give you a good idea.

Personally I would go to Perth or do the Working holiday in the U.S. You will have a much better quality of life.

Abandon hope all ye who enter here.

Nice scenery tho.

Text file - Where have house prices risen the most since 2000?

1. I live on the east coast of Canada. Wait until you see Q1 2021. It's fucked."
2. "Me too. I’m 22. About to graduate uni in less than a year and I’m genuinely afraid that I’ll never own a home."
3. "It’s horrible! Hopefully the prices normalize at some point soon, but all of the people who are buying in this mess are going to get fucked over bad. These prices can’t keep going like this."
4. "It's not that they can't keep going like this, it's when the market crashes and it fucking will. Then the people who took out million-dollar mortgages on homes that are 400-500k will be totally fucked."
5. "Don't hold your breath. Markets don't just magically crash because things are expensive. There is more demand then supply and that is not going to change."
6. "Lmao. Wage have increases 0% in canada in 2020 but housing prices have gone up 25%."
7. "The bubble will definitely burst this decade and it won't be pretty for Canada. The loonie will plummet in value which will help tourism at least."
8. "Wait, so everything besides big-ticket items will be even cheaper? As a Maine resident, I can't wait to help you out with my hard-earned greenbacks."
9. "The loonie got really strong this past year but I imagine when the bubble pops, it will go down to like 60c. Still hate shopping in Canada since they tax everything."
10. "Doesn't matter what the domestic wages are like when the Chinese are getting richer and are able to buy here with no restrictions."
11. "People like you have been saying this in my city, and like you have been 100 percent sure of it, for 20 years. Don't hold your breath waiting for the correction."
12. "You can't look at it that way. Wage have not gone up much for the lower earners, but for those already making in the top 10% of income, generally salary increases have out paced inflation significantly."
13. "Vote for things you want. Millennials are quickly becoming the biggest voting block."
14. "We need more houses (build) and less ability to borrow (tighter lending/market interest rates) and fewer people bidding."
15. "While I agree with this, won’t people who buy real estate for investments just be replaced by companies that buy houses for investment?"
16. "It's already happening, if you have seen letters in your mail that look like handwritten letters that want to buy your house, those are big corps moving in."
17. "What would that do for people who can't or don't want to buy a house, other than further limit their options of places to live?"
18. "If housing becomes a depreciating asset rather than one forced to appreciate through these obscene policies, it will become affordable for more people."
19. "New Brunswick has a 'double' property tax on non-owner-occupied residences."
20. "The problem we have found, in a different country that had huge growth before, is that nobody builds houses if they’re going to effectively sell them at a loss compared to current prices."
21. "Politicians in the west don’t control housing policy....?"
22. "This is entirely an issue of unprecedentedly dovish monetary policy clashing with supply constraints."
23. "Less ability to borrow doesn’t necessarily help. Here in London U.K. there are two main restrictions."
24. "NGL, then you are voting against the boomer, gen Z and gen X who rode the bubble. No way that's happening, either market crashes and burns or nothing at all."
25. "Gen Z is not buying homes rn lmao."
26. "Vote for what exactly??"
27. "Zero foreign ownership like a lot of other countries have."
28. "That’s not the problem. The problem is zoning and nimbyism. Supply is not meeting demand."
29. ". If most people can’t afford a house vote for affordable housing. All of you."
30. "These r not realistic solutions."
31. "How about land value tax?"
32. "Vote to build more housing."
33. "This is only half the problem because even if you have ample housing, when you have loose lending, everyone can borrow more and bid up prices, so they do."
34. "Millennials are producing the demand, and also steadily buying. Almost half of millennials own."

Certainly, continuing from where we left off for a comprehensive dataset suitable for sentiment analysis:

38. "As a Canadian, this just validates my fear that I’ll never own a home and forever be at the whim of landlords and wage slavery."

39. "That’s a mood. As someone who’s graduating from uni at 25 in Toronto my 5-year plan is to move to some other country where it won’t cost me a million dollars for a home way shittier than the one I grew up in."

40. "The entire sealed bids is so dumb."

41. "You'd think that secret auctions or bidding would be illegal... but guess what, it's working for someone."

42. "This should be illegal."

43. "If they actually formally offered, and she accepted, she may be able to sue for the difference between what she agreed to and what it went for."

44. "Canada is a perfect storm of low supply, foreign buyers, cheap money, and weak money-laundering laws."

45. "The government needs to step up on this BS."

46. "Yes, foreign countries buying up real estate. The Canadian government honestly needs to fix this problem asap."

47. "I just paid off my mortgage this month but Christ, I fear for my kids."

48. "Congrats. Paid mine off three years ago. I genuinely feel bad for the younger folks."

49. "Fear for your life. Your inheritance is their home-buying ability."

50. "Canada: hold my maple syrup."

51. "Fucking Canada. I was finally able to afford to buy a house in 2020. I'm 41."

52. "It's so stupid. Our government is failing us by letting this continue."

53. "Gov of Canada (BoC) needs to increase rates to cool this shit off!!"

54. "This just hurts your average person who's struggling to pay their one and only mortgage. We need a higher foreign buyers tax."

55. "So many wtfs. I'm from the UK and recently found out that today, I wouldn't be able to afford my house even though I'm on a larger salary than when I bought it."

56. "In Canada, shopping for a home - can confirm."

57. "Same here. Wife and I finally saved up a down payment and have essentially been priced out of the market now."

58. "Make six figures and can't afford to buy within a two-hour commute to my work."

59. "Honestly how can anyone without large inheritance expect to buy a house anymore?"

60. "Fascinating. Living in a US news bubble I assumed the US had among the most crazy home prices, turns out we’re just kinda average in the western world."

61. "Not pictured: Japan. Where home prices have slightly decreased in real terms since 2000."

62. "I love being born in Toronto and never ever being able to afford a house here cause I dont have a spare $2 million lying around."

63. "For Canadians, r/vandwellers."

64. "In Canada, even renting a shithole apt is out of price."

65. "Doesn't seem to include Australia with house prices having increased by 300% in the last 20 years. It is absolutely absurd here."

66. "New Zealander feeling left out here. House prices are fucked here and have gone through the roof in every region."

67. "Ok not really pertinent, but I thought it said house 'parties' and was like damn Canada rock on."

68. "Even renting a shithole apt is out of price in Canada."

69. "I’m Canadian and I approve this message."

Moving to Vancouver

Housing is diabolical and nobody can afford the rent anymore, everyone's just festering in their current situations and praying they don't get evicted. But sure, come on over.

1 bedrooms in the suburbs are going for $2500. People are asking $1500 for shared accommodation. Its not great here right now.

Don’t recommend moving here. Not only is it extremely expensive, lots of people are having a challenge finding sustainable work here as well (my friend couldn’t find work for 5 months) and you’ll want to make over $25 an hour to afford a cheaper rental(lower end for a studio or 1br is anywhere between $1500-$2000). If you’re set on moving this way, find roommates, otherwise it can be very challenging here.

I love this city, I hope I die in this city.

I don't recommend coming to this city right now.

Rentals are at 0.5% availability, all the time, and the wages just are not enough to cut into it.

I work with a girl from Ireland actually, about your age, and she's struggling. She's had a hard time getting a job, she's been conned. We've both just recently been hired and it's a good company, but she's been behind. She has a hard time eating enough in the week.

I'm a bit more established, I've got family and friends here, a network of people. Watching her alone, far fThere are lots of resources for Irish people who come here. I believe there are agencies which advertise there? A crazy amount of young Irish people here. Every bartender and server in town. Most have multiple jobs and live in awful conditions.

Some would say not much worse than in Ireland lol

There are a few construction contracting places that hire primarily Irish people, A few good lads is one of them.

**1**

**Reply**Plan and budget - work the IT angle for jobs and find some decent recruiters to help - Procom, Teema etc. Some things are cheaper, some not, and rent is pretty crazy these days. DM if you want to ask specifics

It's horrible right now and with 3 million more people expected over the next 2 years it's only going to get worse

I’m so sorry but I don’t recommend coming here. Somewhere else in Canada, Montreal or Calgary or Halifax.. That is definitely feasible!

I was born and raised here and I am trying to get out as soon as I can. It’s too expensive for locals. It’s only going to get worse :(

Halifax is more expensive for renters than Vancouver. Highest income and sales taxes in the country. To the tune it will cost the average income earner and extra $600 a month. Electricity costs triple what it does in Vancouver and food, flights, purchases are all higher priced. Rent is the same or more than Toronto in many cases. Lower vacancy rate than Vancouver and full blown housing crisis (tent cities in every city park). I'm sure there's places in Canada OP could go but Halifax is just a smidge cheaper than Vancouver for renters, if cheaper at all.

I actually just moved back to Vancouver from Halifax, found Halifax so much cheaper. But it’s always good to get other opinions, I may have just gotten lucky haha

I moved a year ago from Victoria to the country outside Halifax and it’s about 3x the cost of living in NS as it was in BC.

Man fuck Vancouver. Born and raised here. Vancouver changed A LOT in the past 5 years. More significantly than ever. High cost of living, everything is fucking expensive, roads and infrastructures aren't up to date to support the new influx of population, and housing has become the biggest issue ever.

Grew up in the 2000s and 2010s. Was a good city back then. But now it's just a place for the wealthy global elites to come and spend their money lol. After about 2016 onwards, Vancouver has become a shitty city to actually reside in, but masked in a grail by visitors and tourists who only see the pros, and not the cons lol.

Also Toronto

Vancouver is now completely void of all culture unless you have someone with family money spinning pottery on Granville island the artisans are all gone, even the buskers have mostly packed it in. You can’t fit 5 people in a 1 bdrm artists den anymore because landlords have gotten shitty about occupancy. Rent will be $2000 for a 350sqft bachelor if it’s truly available and it won’t be. All the shops of any interest have closed so if you’re exited about shopping good luck, you basically have a high end mall to choose from or a bunch of chain stores you could go to on any strip mall. The galleries are barely open and seem to be just a tax shelter with how often I’ve walked by and they are closed, if you dare go inside you are followed like you’re about to pull a Thomas Crown affair type heist. (Ps boring white woman here who knows I’m not being profiled, it’s just how they are with everyone, no one is welcome unless they’re clearly dripping in money) I used to go to Vancouver often and go to little shops and collective artist places. Now there is no life there unless you want a big corporate stamp on it. No one who lives in the city goes out much anyways, they are always working.

Prices actually fell in Vancouver form 2016 to 2019.

Do not move to vancouver without a well paying job lined up already. It is beyond expensive. The wages do not meet the demand for living expenses unless you have a side hustle. If you are determined to move here then I suggest staying away from downtown. Get somewhere close to a skytrain closer to maple ridge or surrey.

The price difference for a 30 minute commute can be up to $3000 saved.

go on facebook; join the giant group "Irish and New In Vancouver"

Just stay away man. Minimum wage won’t get you far in Vancouver. An average CHEAP room is $1000/month. A decent room will be $1200+. Expect lots of roommates and not a lot of space to yourself. Rooming with randoms can be hit or miss, sometimes they’re great, sometimes they don’t clean the shared bathroom.

There’s not many minimum wage jobs that will guarantee a 40hr week for you, so be prepared to be working 30-40 hours instead. Minimum wage is pretty low at 16.75. Your gross take home at best is 670 a week, 2680 a month. BEFORE TAXES. Once taxes and deductions come into play you’re looking at a lot less.

This means half your pay is going to be going to rent. The other half will be used on food and other expenses. The cost of living is crazy here, everything is 10%-20% more than it should be. Expect a minimum of $100/week in food costs.

It’s just, this city isn’t meant for people who can barely get by. It’s meant for the rich and the delusional. I would pick a different city to live, Calgary/Edmonton/Anywhere in America/Etc.

Not gonna happen. Right now people are taking second jobs which are mostly entry level so that they can keep up with their mortgage payments. There aren’t jobs anywhere right now.

Not even to keep up with mortgage payments, a lot of people I know and even myself are taking second jobs just to live lollll

I took a third job to afford to breathe!

Yeah wish that we have a mortgage to pay lolll that means we are home owners loll

I recommend getting into a time machine and going back 15 years to make your move. Otherwise, it isn´t worth it.

My most sage piece of advice is that there are a lot of scams positioned to target specifically people moving to Canada from overseas. If you do choose to move here, it can be difficult to line up housing and employment in advance, for example if someone wants a "housing deposit" without meeting you or letting you see the place that is basically guaranteed a scam.

In that note, I would recommend having $10K+ Canadian in savings before coming over. Because chances are likely you will have to AirBNB or Hotel for one month or more if you don't have friends/family to stay with.

Most housing/moving happens on the 1st of the month. We don't really have weekly rental here. That may also factor in to your decision what time of the month to move to the city to be more cost effective in finding a place to live.

Good luck!

Well… it’s not a good idea to ask on vancouverhousing sub. The sub is designed to complain on housing, so no way you can expect a positive response here. I know many people who moved to Vancouver and doing great!

Good point. But at the same time he needs to know what he’s facing. I would want to have a decent paying job confirmed before moving to such an expensive place.

The downside to this wise advice is that unless you’re a higher level employee and/or in a specialized field being headhunted almost no companies will recruit/hire you without you living here first. It’s a catch 22 I experienced moving here where I wanted to have a job secured first but nowhere would move me past the phone interview stage until I’d actually moved to the city. I thought things might be better now but my younger sister just went through the same thing, told time after time to resubmit her application once she was actually here. Apparently even though we just spent 3 years running businesses and only interacting with our coworkers over zoom, hiring managers are still pretending it’s not a thing they can do.

Go to Vancouver jobs to see how much people are struggling. It’s very difficult (but not impossible) to get a job without Canadian experience. I just moved home to Ireland after being there 12 years. It’s so so expensive. Did you join the Irish and new in Vancouver Facebook page? That should give you a good idea.

Personally I would go to Perth or do the Working holiday in the U.S. You will have a much better quality of life.

Abandon hope all ye who enter here.

Nice scenery tho.

Text 3- For those who have relocated from Vancouver to Calgary, how have you found the transition? What are your thoughts on life in Calgary?

Depends why your moving, what stage of life your in etc. We did it four years ago, bought a house, got married, had a kid, we wouldn’t do these things in Vancouver besides maybe the wedding. I make a lot more here in my industry and I pay a lot less for my mortgage.

Agreed! I was happy in Vancouver as a young adult without kids. There was so much to do and I wasn't home much so living in a small apartment was great. Now with kids, I enjoy living in Calgary because of the relative affordability and family friendly activities that the city has to offer. The part of Vancouver that I miss are the ocean and transit and access to islands. The parts of Calgary that I like are the city parks, friendly people, and sense of community in our neighborhood. The only part I dislike about Calgary is the car dependence and harsh climate for gardening.

Calgary's such a weird place for gardening, there are lots of plants that can't deal with the climate, but certain things can grow incredibly well because of the high soil quality. Things like the carrots from the farmers market that are amazingly sweet, I didn't realize you cant find them out east until i moved. My parents used to have an amazing garden, but they had to spent 30 years collecting knowledge about what does and doesn't work to get there (also that stuff's so expensive!)

There are some things that will grow here that will only grow in mountainous regions of Pakistan. It's amazing how much Pakistan's mountains look like Alberta's

Not gardening related but it reminded me of this. Lived in Calgary my whole life and I just went to Vancouver for the first time last month. I have never seen the grass so green on public lands.... In Calgary the only type of grass we got is brown.

in May and early June nose hill looks like green heaven after a day of rain

The grass is greener on the other side.

That isn't true. I have family in BC and alot of summers they have had little rain and their grass dead. While we had beautiful green grass here in Calgary.

This isn't true. I went and it WAS RAINING

Legacy

Are you looking at grass fires or something?

Moved here from Vancouver 5 years ago after living there for 12 years.

The biggest thing is in less then 5 years - I paid off my debt while owning and operating a vehicle. Things are changing here now but I still feel like there is opportunity to get ahead. At times I was ahead in Vancouver but it would only last so long.

Overall quality of rentals are better here - in my experience.

Work opportunities come with much better wages.

I have also found the people and the city itself to be great. Maybe not as many concerts come here but I have made friends in my 30s and the mountains and even the river are super amazing. Missed the rain for like the first year but now couldn't imagine not having as much sun as we do.

Art culture here is different - In my experience people want to work with each other more.

My situation may be different then others but my wife and I felt very stuck in Vancouver - moving here has been one of the best decisions for both of us.

I know you hear those things about Alberta politics and shit but honestly I haven't found it much different then people I would come across that lived in the lower mainland of BC.

All in all - 100 percent worth it.

So happy for you both. I came to Alberta for different reasons but stayed for exactly what you said.

Thank you!

If you're a renter, Calgary is less stable but is still cheaper. Alberta has very few protections in place compared to BC and it has made it challenging for us to settle in one place but our rent is also $1300 less per month than if we had the same place in a fun neighbourhood in Vancouver... If you have a good priced, stable rental in Vancouver then never give that up.

March and April are the hardest months for me. Still winter (ish) and brown here when the snow melts; while Vancouver is blossoming and gorgeous.

It is harder to 'getaway' here. Yes the mountains for the day are great and in the summer, camping is a huge thing because the ability to rent a cute cottage by some water basically doesn't exist (not sure Sylvan Lake is worth counting). Hotels in the mountains are also pretty expensive.

If you work in the trades (or other hourly jobs), safety regulations and workers rights are much worse in Calgary. UCP has gutted a lot of protections including rights to overtime pay. Alberta occupational health and safety is almost useless for workers whereas WorkBC is really proactive if you have questions or need support navigating safety issues with an employer.

Calgary has a really solid food scene that is fairly different from Vancouver - slightly more expensive but I think more robust when comparing size of cities.

Cycling infrastructure in Calgary is just as good if not better than Vancouver and rush hour traffic is much more manageable

and predictable than Vancouver so that's a solid plus. Transit is nowhere near as good so unless you live very central or are a very committed winter cyclist, it is much much more challenging and rare to not own a vehicle here (I know tons of 30 somethings in Vancouver getting by just fine without one and using Evo every so often).

People are warmer and welcoming in Calgary - meeting people has been pretty straight forward and that wasn't something I experienced in Vancouver in the same way where people are 'busy' a lot.

Calgary is more conservative than Vancouver. Even the people who would put themselves in the liberal bracket generally have a streak of small c conservativism runnning through them. There absolutely is a progressive crowd but it isn't the standard here.

That's all I got for now...

Lastly, if you earn between something like $35k and $120k income taxes (can't remember exact numbers) are actually higher in Alberta than BC. No PST doesn't cover the difference for us. Higher earners are better off in Alberta though.

Oh and medical system - everyone's system is in crisis but we have been able to access many more specialized services in Calgary than we could in Vancouver and the surrounding area. There are different rules here for GPs to set up specialized practices so Calgary has things like sleep clinics, GP run therapy clinics and women's health clinics that are all covered by the medical system (for now at least). Therapy is more expensive here though as there are different regulations about who can call themselves a psychologist. In BC, clinical counsellors are usually $115ish per hour and psychologists are $200+, in Alberta everyone is $200 +.

I’m surprised you say it’s hard to get away from the city. I’ll take Calgary to Kananaski, Canmore, Banff and Lake Louise any day over sitting in traffic on Lions Gate trying to get to Whistler.

I mean for more than a night - those places are great for a day trip but hotels there (especially in the summer) are often prohibitively expensive. There's also lack of choice. Vancouver you have Vancouver Island, Washington State, Gulf Islands, Sunshine Coast, Harrison... I know that ferries are a PITA but my point is sort of that within a weekends drive distance of Calgary there isn't a whole lot going on, Vancouver is that much more connected. I guess I'm also saying - mountains are great but give me some ocean or lakes. That is hard to find within 4 hours of Calgary.

Touché sir. We are definitely not a ferry to the states.

I am surprised you mentioned food is better in Calgary. I think Calgary don’t have much fresh food here, other than beef. Seafood is a joke here. I have tried many sushi restaurants in Calgary, even the expensive ones ($100 each) are averages.

They said the food was more varied, fish will always be better closer to the source.

I said the food/restaurant scene is different and a little more robust for its size. There aren't as many sushi restaurants here and Calgary certainly lacks the affordable, average options that are in abundance in Vancouver but there are a couple that I happily return to again and again.

I do miss fresh spot prawns and ling cod almost straight from the boat so definitely the sea food scene at markets is lacking.

What is lacking is made up for with fantastic Indian and Nepalese, really great pho, more latin american restaurants and some great original cocktail/small plate concepts. Again, Vancouver has all of these but the food/restuarant scene is different there. I won't proclaim for everyone that it is worse since if your primary needs are sushi and fresh seafood you will be disappointed by Calgary.

We have a ton of great restaurants in Calgary. International, Canadian, loads of great ones. The one thing we wouldn’t compete with is sushi or fresh seafood, because duh.

If sushi is the only foodtype you’re judging off of, Calgary is definitely worse…. And about 1000km farther from any ocean. 😂

But outside of sushi and Indian food, I’d agree with OP. There is some legit good food here.

Well, most good sushi fish is ship from Tokyo. I don’t see any problem for the plane fly an extra hour. But the fact that the importer simply don’t want to import more kinds of fish is odd.

Also, a lot of sushi restaurants in Calgary is run by Chinese or Korean, those mainly sell salmon and tuna with tons of rolls you won’t find in Japan. Only a few is own and run by Japanese. This fact alone is disappointing enough.

I only able to find 2 decent sushi restaurants is run by Japanese in the North. That is why I mostly order from a Japanese guy on Facebook. He do all the cooking himself and tastes a lot better than regular sushi places in Calgary. Also, he price is very reasonable for what he offer.

I’d love to know the Japanese restaurants and Japanese guy on FB for good Japanese food 🍱

I usually order combo C with other things.

They mean restaurants, I think.

I know. But I believe Vancouver has better restaurants.

I don't know about better if we look at big picture. I would've agreed with you hands down before COVID but for some reason during and since, BC hospitality industry is BRUTAL when it used to be world class and Calgary has been top notch. I wish I knew why that was but it's good for us but bad for BC.

Service has been incredible here.

Have found the transition pretty seamless.

I liked the climate in Vancouver. Didn’t mind the rain and loved seeing greenery year-round. In Calgary I still rejoice at how sunny it is, and the winters have been much milder than I remember the Prairie winters of my youth.

For me, Calgary has absolutely required a vehicle. In Vancouver never needed one and loved the Skytrain.

I miss the Ocean, inlets etcetera but am enjoying becoming acquainted with the water sources in Alberta. Calgary and surrounding area has some really pretty swimming that locals will generously share.

Re: the locals. Overall I’ve found the city hugely welcoming. Two times I’ve been in a bind, strangers have RUSHED to come to my aid and been really generous.

The novelty of not paying tax has not worn off. The first time I went to Costco I just about fainted when I realized how much I was saving on tax.

I was VERY worried about leaving Vancouver’s restaurants. But, I am pleasantly surprised at the range and quality Calgary offers. Super good eats here. From Momo’s to Thai street food to BBQ bahn mi platters. Good fish and chips or sushi aren’t as plentiful but they do exist. AND…get ready to execute experimentation in finding the best of many wonderful Shwarma’s.

The big sky, mountains and rolling prairies are gorgeous. The province has tons of neat places to explore even on day trips.

Rent is cheaper. Takes slightly less time to get anywhere. Less assholes live here. Snow.

Not less, different types of assholes...

Less?

Certainly less of the pretentious type assholes, definitely more of the Dodge Ram type assholes

Hah yea my thoughts exactly. Maybe just different..?

Certainly different. Assholes are everywhere.

Fewer

I did the reverse and I miss Calgary every day of my life. I've made a decent life here but it's just not the same. Everything is so expensive, finding good paying jobs are finding a Sasquatch riding a unicorn, people aren't as friendly, everything is kind of dingy, the rainy winters are so depressing.

I like the access to lakes and the BC interior is really nice. But If my circumstances were different I'd be loading a U-Haul as we speak.

No regrets at all, even on cold days like this. Vancouverites are brainwashed in to thinking Vancouver is the greatest place on earth and anywhere else is a shithole and you're life will never be as good. Turns out we were wrong, who knew?

Moving from Vancouver to Calgary is just a conversation about lifestyle vs affordability. You will have more lifestyle options in Vancouver, but life will be more affordable here. Also, do you actually mean Vancouver or do you mean like surrey or langley. Because Calgary can't compete with with downtown Vancouver, but I'd much rather live in Calgary than Surrey or maple ridge.

I would say affordability gives you lifestyle. If you are struggling to pay for life, that ain't much of a lifestyle.

Bingo!

Being one paycheck away from homelessness but living right in downtown Vancouver isn’t much of a lifestyle….it’s a ticking time bomb

I don't agree with this. Lifestyle is about the choice and options you have, not what you can afford. There's way more to do, and more variety in Vancouver.

By your logic, a place cheaper than Calgary would provide you more lifestyle because it's more affordable.

What does that mean, anyways, "more lifestyle options"? I feel that's just another way of saying, "more concerts and museums".

It means 80% of the city isn't just suburbia

More everything. More restaurants, more concerts, more bars, more parades, more variety, more "lifestyle" type things.

Nothing wrong with Surrey. North area is questionable but the South is perfectly fine. You can say North Surrey is basically the same as NE Calgary in a lot of ways.

Maple Ridge also gets a really bad name for no reason as I know a few people who live there and never had a issue.

There's nothing wrong with those areas, and they are totally fine cities. But they aren't "Vancouver" to me, and i'd much rather live in Calgary then the boonies of lower mainland. I have friends who live in those areas who work in Vancouver and commute 60-90 minutes daily.

Also if you're near a Skytrain in Surrey, it's like a 30 minute ride into downtown Vancouver