

Anja Nurvo

From: Meghan Wylie on behalf of Council
Sent: March-27-18 8:49 AM
To: Anja Nurvo
Subject: FW: "Speculation Tax"

From: Teunis de Jong
Date: March 16, 2018 at 1:17:46 PM PDT
To: <barb.desjardins@esquimalt.ca>
Subject: Re: "Speculation Tax"

Dear Mayor Desjardins;

I am a former BC resident, and currently have a part time recreational residence located at West Bay Marina, where I believe your permanent residence is located. I am retired, but my wife's employment requires us to spend more of our time in Alberta, and we have our primary residence there. I believe that we were at our float home for parts of 7 months last year, a pattern which will hopefully continue until my wife ends her full time employment, and we move permanently to West Bay.

The terms of our lease do not allow short term rentals, and a long term rental would mean that we would longer enjoy the use of our float home. The proposed speculation tax would see an effective tripling of our municipal taxes. I note in passing that liveaboards on boats on our dock pay no tax, nor do the semi permanent mobile homes located in the adjoining trailer park. I note in passing that I am not eligible for the tax discount available to seniors, whose primary residence is BC, and thus, already pay a higher rate of tax than most of my neighbours. I'm happy paying my share of municipal taxes, and spend money here on food, entertainment, furniture, and other services while in BC. I plan to live here permanently in a few years.

I note that several BC mayors are apparently seeking an exemption for their municipalities for their communities. I would be happy if you would consider adding your voice to theirs. I would be happy if you could seek an exemption for mobile homes, float homes and other chattels which are used for recreational purposes, and are presumably, not the sorts of properties in which speculation is a serious problem.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tony de Jong