

From: [Ron McLaughlin](#)
To: [Peter DeJong](#); [Council](#); [Pam Rooke](#); [Naizam Jaffer](#); [Lions Bay Office](#)
Subject: Fw: A letter from the District of West Vancouver regarding UBCM - Speculation and Vacancy Tax Resolution
Date: Tuesday, September 22, 2020 2:58:44 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)

On Table correspondence. I will be seeking Council's guidance should I vote at the UBCM.

Ron McLaughlin

Mayor

The Village of Lions Bay

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From: Nancy Henderson <nhenderson@westvancouver.ca> on behalf of Mary-Ann Booth <mbooth@westvancouver.ca>

Sent: Monday, September 21, 2020 1:06 PM

Subject: A letter from the District of West Vancouver regarding UBCM - Speculation and Vacancy Tax Resolution

Dear Mayors and Councillors,

At UBCM this year, the District of West Vancouver will be bringing forward the following resolution and would like your support in allowing municipalities to implement their own vacancy tax as was given to the City of Vancouver.

Speculation and Vacancy Tax Resolution – District of West Vancouver

WHEREAS housing affordability is a key challenge in many municipalities but particularly in the District of West Vancouver with a median house price of \$2.5 million and a rental vacancy rate of 1.2%; and according to the 2016 Census, approximately 1700 homes, or almost 10% of dwellings in West Vancouver, were identified as “unoccupied”;

AND WHEREAS the Province reported that in 2018, \$58 million was collected under the Speculation and Vacancy Tax program, and that \$6.6 million of that was collected from West Vancouver homeowners; and the Province gave the City of Vancouver the power to impose its own vacancy tax, which has provided Vancouver with approximately \$40 million in additional revenue;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Provincial Government provide local governments with the power to levy their own Speculation and Vacancy Tax, so that they too can address housing affordability and other community effects of vacant homes.

More than 98.8% of British Columbians are exempt to the SVT with the majority of SVT tax payers being foreign owners and satellite families. The power to municipalities to levy their own Speculation and Vacancy Tax would allow local governments already affected by vacant homes to secure revenue to address housing affordability, and provide local governments currently unaffected with a proactive tool to prevent similar outcomes in their respective communities.

Thank you for your consideration.

Warm regards,

Mayor Mary-Ann Booth

District of West Vancouver

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In respect and gratitude, I recognize that I live, work and play on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Musqueam, Tsleil-Waututh, and Squamish Nations. I recognize and respect them as nations in this territory and their connection to the lands and waters around us since time immemorial.

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