



Council corresp.

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Her Worship Mayor Pamela Goldsmith-Jones
District of West Vancouver
750 17th Street
West Vancouver, British Columbia
V7V 3T3

Dear Mayor Goldsmith-Jones:

On November 1, Premier Gordon Campbell announced that effective immediately and for 2009 only, assessments will be frozen for all property classes at their July 1, 2007 levels. This measure will provide property owners with certainty and confidence in the property assessment system.

As a result of the current economic crisis, British Columbia's real estate market has experienced a downturn. By taking the initiative to freeze assessments at last year's levels, the B.C. government will ensure that assessments reflect current market realities rather than the peak experienced close to July 1, 2008.

The provincial government is committed to fair and equitable treatment for all property owners. This action builds on the B.C. government's steps to ensure the province's competitiveness and to provide stability and predictability for property owners and taxpayers in the wake of the current global economic slowdown.

BC Assessment, in consultation with the Ministry of Small Business and Revenue, will work closely with your administrator and financial staff to address questions related to the roll freeze at the earliest opportunity.

The Ministry of Small Business and Revenue will also work closely with the Ministries of Finance and Community Development to ensure there is clear and coordinated communication between government ministries, local governments and other taxing jurisdictions regarding the implementation and details of the freeze.

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Ministry of
Small Business and Revenue
and Minister Responsible
for Regulatory Reform

Office of the
Minister

Mailing Address:
PO Box 9065 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria BC V8W 9E2
Telephone: 250.356-6611
Facsimile: 250.356-8294

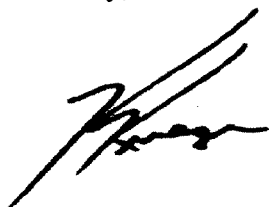
Location:
Room 124
Parliament Buildings, Victoria
website:
www.sbr.gov.bc.ca

I have been in close contact with BC Assessment's Board of Directors and Executive Committee to discuss this decision, and they are working on addressing the various and complex policy impacts, including working closely with the Ministry of Small Business and Revenue in drafting legislation that will bring these proposed changes into force during the fall legislative session.

In closing, I am seeking your support and involvement to work cooperatively with the provincial government and BC Assessment to implement this decision, to benefit property owners and taxpayers in your community.

Should you have any questions, I or staff would be pleased to discuss this matter with you in more detail. Further information is available online at http://www2.news.gov.bc.ca/news_releases_2005-2009/2008OTP0264-001663.htm.

Sincerely,



Kevin Krueger
Minister of Small Business and Revenue and
Minister Responsible for BC Assessment

cc: Honourable Gordon Campbell
Premier

Honourable Colin Hansen
Minister of Finance

Honourable Blair Lekstrom
Minister of Community Development

Connie Fair, President and CEO
BC Assessment

Lillian White, Chair
Board of Directors
BC Assessment

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THE CORPORATION OF THE
DISTRICT OF WEST VANCOUVER
ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT