

To: Secondary Suites
Subject: RE: WV secondary suite

2515-02-03

-----Original Message-----

From:)
Sent: September 17, 2009 8:43 AM
To: Secondary Suites
Subject: WV secondary suite

(15)

Dear West Vancouver Council

I am strongly not in favour of expanding the regulations on secondary suites. The current situation enables family members to live in a suite. This works for seniors not wanting to leave their home, adult children returning to live with their parents, as well as other family members such as nieces/nephews requiring accommodation to return to school, plus many other family situations.

Our neighbours are using their garage as accommodation for a nanny who is not a family member. This has impacted us in many ways. Noise regularly now comes from a second direction through out the day and night; people are walking/talking/gathering in the lane right beside our back gate changing our sense of security and peace; where we used to sit in the back yard, we now sit next the the back door; there are lights at the "garage" that are on through the evening and at night (shining into our kitchen) including a very bright "security" light; someone who is not a neighbour (plus their acquaintances) can see into our yard as well as the windows/doors at the back of our house.

The results of having someone living in the garage range from subtle to extreme. We have personally occurred additional expense to counteract the noise, light, lessening of sense of, as well as actual security coming from the presence of people living at the back of the yard next door.

We have never complained about the nanny suite (it has been several years now) and probably never will. We have just accepted the impact to our comfort level in our own home, spending money were we could to mitigate the consequences, adjusting our own living habits and increasing our awareness for security reasons. Perhaps we have been fortunate to be able to have the ability to make these changes. Perhaps we have been fortunate that the girls living in the the garage have not created any significant problems yet. But if we had been given the choice to have someone living in the garage, we would definitely have said NO. In addition, not all secondary suites will have relatively quiet single girls living there.

Yes, accommodation in West Vancouver is expensive, but this is not sufficient reason to allow these suites. The negative impact on the immediate neighbours and the neighbourhood as a whole can not be ignored. I am sure the police would suggest that there would be increased criminal activity resulting from these suites.

Sincerely,

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