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District of West Vancouver Mayor P. Goldsmith-Jones,
Members of Council, and
Staff G. McRath, A. Mooi, A. Banks, and G. Reid,
West Vancouver Municipal Hall,
750 17th St.,
West Vancouver, B.C.,
V7V 3T3.

Re: Hollyburn cabins Permit To Occupy fee increase.

A \$1,784.22 bill may seem insignificant to some. But for my extended family, this sudden and unexpected fee increase has created hardship and stress, and forced us into debt that we can ill afford.

Three siblings and families share the cabin built by our grandfather in 1936.

Our three families are supported by, respectively:

- a single parent with seasonal construction work.
- a licensed practical nurse and a part-time health support worker.
- a steel-fabricator, nearing retirement with no workplace pension plan or future benefits.

Most of our children are either still dependent or students facing heavy debt-loads. The one employed full-time is an entry-level, non-union tradesman with his own household to support.

Few of the original pioneers on Hollyburn Mountain in the 1920's and '30's, including our parents, would have had generous means. They risked building cabins on leased land because they were welcomed and fully encouraged to do so by West Vancouver's then-government of the day, which wanted to open up the area and tempted with deliberately paltry fees.

To now potentially exclude, through inability to pay, those descendants and others who have worked hard and given much effort and time in the many years since, seems unfair. It is precisely their dedication that has created the present-day, well-preserved cabin community which so enhances West Vancouver's renowned skiing, snowshoeing, and hiking opportunities.

The Hollyburn cabin area is a heritage-status attribute, for which the District of West Vancouver can be justly proud. Its value, already immeasurable so close to downtown Vancouver, will only increase as the world's population grows and forest wilderness becomes ever more scarce.

Please reconsider this decision, and the impact it has on those affected. A five-fold increase is huge. We accept that fees must rise. However, a more gradual implementation, similar to that in the past, would allow cabin owners room to cope and thus continue to contribute to Hollyburn's history.

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