

[REDACTED]

From: Claudia Franz [REDACTED]
Sent: April 11, 2022 12:13 PM
To: Office of the Legislative Counsel
Subject: complaint about the Property tax surcharge on non-resident homeowners
Attachments: Scan_0022.pdf

**** EXTERNAL EMAIL / COURRIEL EXTERNE ****

Exercise caution when opening attachments or clicking on links / Faites preuve de prudence si vous ouvrez une pièce jointe ou cliquez sur un lien

Dear Committee Members,

you find enclosed a letter that my husband and I wrote to the Prime Minister of Nova Scotia in regard of the above mentioned matter. Needless to say that we are devastated and feel treated condescendingly and discriminated.

We have never taken away a home from a Nova Scotian, we bought a property that was on sale for years in Blue Rocks and no one was interested in. We built a little house/cottage and since than we spent a few month annually in the Lunenburg Municipality, taking part in community life , paying taxes , living costs and not complaining when your government closed the borders for all out-of-province home owners because of the pandemic but claimed the property tax without any reduction. Even worse, when we finally were allowed to visit our property again in September 2021, we were charged additional fees and had additional costs for regular affairs (car, license, gardening etc.) that we couldn't take care of involuntary. We paid it all, never said a word.

Now we feel unwelcomed , cheated on. Honestly, together with the 2 years ban of not being allowed to sell our property to out-of- province buyers, we are partly expropriated. Canadian homes only for Canadians is the the saying of your most important politicians. Is this the new attitude towards foreigner, even the own Canadian people?

Please reconsider these unfair plans and remind yourself of the economic and social effects on the long run.

For sure we as foreigners, Germans and not even Canadians are of no influence to the future elections but you know very well that we bring a lot of money to Nova Scotian communities each year that is urgently needed by small businesses, associations, church communities.

We would appreciate receiving an short acknowledging receipt of this email. Thank you.

Sincerely yours
Claudia and Rudolf Franz

RUDOLF W. FRANZ

- Germany -

[REDACTED]

Germany April 4th 2022

- Canada -

[REDACTED]
Blue Rocks / Lunenburg
[REDACTED]

Delivered via Email

The Honourable Tim Houston, Premier of Nova Scotia
The Honourable Allan MacMaster, Deputy Premier, Minister of Finance and
Treasury Board
The Honourable Susan Corkum-Greek, Minister of Economic Development,
MLA for Lunenburg

Dear Sirs / Madame

I am writing to urge you to reconsider your governments plan to levy
a property tax surcharge on non-resident homeowners.

Please find our arguments in short words as follows:

- In 2013 we became owners of a site in Blue Rocks with help of local
real estate agents
- In 2015 we started to build our own house with local companies and the
help of a local lawyer
- In 2017 we moved in.
- In 2020 / 2021 we where not allowed to visit NS due to the Covid Pandemie
- In 2022 we visited our house in NS the first time after two years

Tax payments:

- Assessment value tax on our site from 2013 till 2015
- Assessment value tax on site and house under construction from 2015 till 2016
- Assessment value tax on completed house and site 2017 till 2022

The total assessment tax payment amount 2013 - 2022 is ca. 33.900,00 CAD

The HST tax payment from 2013 - 2022 on our investments is ca. 105.000,00 CAD
(all invoices are available)

The total tax payment amount is 2013 - 2022 ca. 138.900,00 CAD

In addition we spend ca. 2.000 CAD per month for living costs for the
period we have been visiting NS. From 2013 till 2022 ist about 38 month
amounting to 76.000,00 CAD.

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For your information:

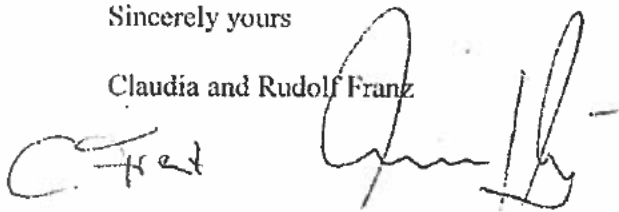
- We investigated the permanent residency with the help of a lawyer in Halifax but we were told it would not be possible due to our age. (my age is 66 and my wifes is 61). So unfortunately we can not move to NS.
- We stay not longer then 6 month a year, but we pay our taxes for 12 month.
- We do not use any health care in NS and if it is necessary we pay those services by ourselves.
- We built our own house for our own use. We are no speculators, just a retired couple who loves to life in NS.
- We paid full taxes on house and site during the construction period, even so we could not live in our house till it was completed.
- We paid full taxes during the Pandemie 2020/2021 and we did not claim any repayment or even complained.
- We are supporting local companies, we employ a caretaker and we support the Anglican Church congregation in Blue Rocks by donation and volunteer work. We are attending sports activities, supporting the Lunenburg Academy, the Opera House and attending events from the Rotary Club and others.

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Short spoken : we take most of our money to a Nova Scotia community.

Sincerely yours

Claudia and Rudolf Franz

Handwritten signatures of Claudia and Rudolf Franz. The signature on the left is 'C. Franz' and the signature on the right is 'Rudolf Franz'.

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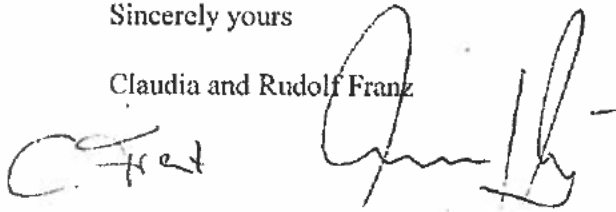
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