

[REDACTED]

From: Christine Blair [REDACTED]
Sent: April 12, 2022 2:35 PM
To: Office of the Legislative Counsel
Subject: FW: Nova Scotia Non Residents Property Tax
Attachments: Letter to NS Premier Houston April 11-22.docx

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Please see the attached, as requested, and with my apologies.

Christine Blair, Mayor
Municipality of the County of Colchester

From: John Pattillo [REDACTED]
Sent: April 11, 2022 1:40 PM
To: premier@novascotia.ca
Cc: legc.office@novascotia.ca; Tom Taggart <Tom.taggartmla@gmail.com>; Christine Blair <CBlair@colchester.ca>; pattillo, kim <b.kimmy.p@gmail.com>; susancorkumgreekmal@gmail.com; mlamacmaster@bellaliant.com
Subject: Nova Scotia Non Residents Property Tax

Dear Premier Houston,

We have attached a letter outlining our opposition to this new tax which we feel is not only discriminatory but unfair to us as non resident property owners in Colchester County, Nova Scotia.

Thanks for reviewing and look forward to your response.

Regards

John and Kim Pattillo

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11 April 2022

The Honourable Tim Houston, M.L.A.
Office of the Premier
P.O. Box 726
Halifax NS B3J 2T3

By email:premier@novascotia.ca

Re: The Nova Scotia Non Residents Property Tax

Dear Premier Houston,

We are writing to you as concerned Canadian citizens who have been invested in Colchester County, Nova Scotia. We wish to share our story in order for you to realize what Nova Scotia has meant to my family and what we thought we meant to Nova Scotia.

I was born and bred in Truro as was my father, my grandfather and great grandfather. We summered at Folly Lake in the Wentworth valley since the late 1800's. I left Nova Scotia following my graduation from Acadia University to find my way after my father sold the 3rd generation family business. However, I returned every summer as a tourist to see my family and friends. In 1996, my uncle sold me a piece property he inherited from his wife, my Aunt Joan, which was also my grandfathers at Folly Lake. I bought the property because I thought my career might bring me back to NS, to remind me of great memories and to provide a summer vacation for my children and grandchildren so they could also experience the beauty of Nova Scotia, spend time with friends and relatives, learn about family history and develop great memories if I didn't return permanently.

This seasonal cottage was pulled over the ice from one side of the lake to the peninsula where it now sits in the winter of 1935 so you can imagine the investment I have made into this little cottage.

Every season starting in 1996, my family and friends have purchased building materials from Truro, Tatamagouche, Halifax and Debert businesses, purchased food and liquor from Truro and Glenholme businesses, enjoyed dinners in restaurants and plays in local theaters all over Nova Scotia as we traveled to visit friends and family. We have hosted "People from Away" at our cottage over the years who have also spent their hard earned out of province cash in your beautiful province. We have purchased fire wood from local wood lot owners and frequented local craft people. We have played many of Nova Scotia and Cape Breton's fabulous golf courses. We have hired local contractors, plumbers, electricians from Truro. And of course I have always paid my out of province tax bill which penalizes and discriminates me from the local citizens with its annual increase.

To review the significant tax increase that is proposed with no notice and for no apparent reason other than to strong arm a non-voter base for a quick cash grab is outrageous. As a Nova Scotia land owner yourself and one that also lived out of province I wonder how you can justify such an increase to your friends and family.

I ask that you seriously reconsider this new law and either rescind it altogether or provide a grandfather clause of allow me and my fellow 27,000 out of province land owners to consider what next steps are prudent.

We thank you for your attention and would appreciate a reply at your earliest convenience.

John and Kim Pattillo

Wasaga Beach, ON.