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From: Hugh Harper [REDACTED]
Sent: April 13, 2022 6:01 PM
To: Office of the Legislative Counsel
Subject: Bill 149

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

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i did call in to reserve a short time to request a change in this new tax. Haven't heard back on when that will be. My discussion will be centred on the fact that my cottage and many others like it could never be used to help the housing crisis.

The reasons:

- small 2 bedroom cottage with 1 bath totally off grid in the woods on Sherbrooke Lake, Chester Municipality -nearest electric pole is over a mile away -cottage is a 3 season structure at most.
- cottage is located off a 3 kilometre logging road -the road has never been plowed during the winter
- the road is owned by Wagner Forestry

thank you
hugh harper
Chester

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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: April 8, 2022 2:22 PM
To: Office of the Legislative Counsel
Subject: Fwd: New tax on real estate owned by out of province residents

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

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Begin forwarded message:

From: Hugh Harper [REDACTED]
Subject: Fwd: New tax on real estate owned by out of province residents
Date: April 8, 2022 at 12:35:03 PM ADT
To: Robin McAdam <robin.mcadam@emera.com>, john@duckworthrealestate.com, wayne@venor.ca
Cc: Danielle Barkhouse <BarkhouseMLa@gmail.com>

fyi

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Begin forwarded message:

From: Hugh Harper [REDACTED]
Date: April 8, 2022 at 12:25:34 PM ADT
To: PREMIER@novascotia.ca, FinanceMinister@novascotia.ca
Cc: Danielle Barkhouse <barkhousemla@gmail.com>
Subject: Fwd: New tax on real estate owned by out of province residents

Further to my letter below I want to add important detail and another recommendation.

First I pay taxes for my residence in Chester. I also pay taxes on my small cottage on Sherbrooke Lake. It is totally unfair to add \$5000-\$8000 to my cottage tax because my two kids (also owners), visit me once per year, a week to 10 days each. They use no provincial or municipal service for which we pay taxes except a bag or two of trash. \$5000-\$8000 for a couple bags of trash?

Instead they spend their hard earned money on rental cars, restaurants, groceries, attractions, gas and souvenirs.

When I pass, they will not have the income to pay this tax on top of the regular property taxes and expenses to maintain the property.

Please stop pursuing this tax it hurts so many of us in the province and provides no solution for the affordable housing crisis.

I believe the cause to try to improve upon the housing crisis is a good one. However, a different method of raising funds is needed.

Below I suggested a corporate health and welfare tax. Which would in fact benefit corporations and large companies.

Another method might be raising everyone's tax by a little. Instead of singling out non voters why not gain buy in from everyone. While this is much fairer, I'm not sure it's better than the corporate tax. They need employees and more housing would bring it to them.

Thank you for reading through my letter

hugh harper

Chester

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Begin forwarded message:

From: Hugh Harper [REDACTED]
Date: April 7, 2022 at 6:15:09 PM ADT
To: PREMIER@novascotia.ca
Cc: Danielle Barkhouse <barkhousemla@gmail.com>
Subject: New tax on real estate owned by out of province residents

Dear Premier Houston,

My name is Hugh Harper. I drove for Danielle Barkhouse during the campaign and was also her photographer. I have a few great pictures of both of you.

So this new tax is going to crush me emotionally and financially. Even though I am a resident of Chester I own with my son and daughter (they live in the states) a small 2 bedroom, 1 bath cottage on Sherbrooke lake. We bought the land in 1988 and put the cottage up in 2001. My wife of 23 years passed from lung cancer and her ashes are buried near our fire pit. Mine are to be buried their too.

This new tax has absolutely no benefit to me or my kids and grandkids.

In fact it penalizes

our families dreams and experiences over the last 34 years.

I understand from Danielle that it will probably pass.

I plead with you to stop and reconsider. Instead of taxing out-of-province owners, create a health and welfare tax for corporations and Llc's.

The tax would actually benefit them! They would also be much more likely to afford the tax!

Lastly, me and the many retired residents that face this tax burden may actually have to pay for it by taking funds from their retirement savings accounts. Which will be taxed by CRA.

A tax on a tax!!

Thank you for reading my request. Your proposals are great, just please change how you pay for them.

sincerely

hugh harper

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