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Sent: April 14, 2022 5:11 PM
To: Premier; Finance Minister; Office of the Legislative Counsel; LisaLachanceMLA@gmail.com; info@caramkerr.ca; kelly@kellyregan.ca; info@loreleincollmla.ca; suzyhalifaxneedham@gmail.com; info@patriciaarab.ca; Smith, Kent
Cc: NSAR
Subject: Non-resident taxes - please, please vote against it and consider this alternate solution

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

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Dear Members of the Law Amendments Committee,

Nova Scotia is at long last becoming a version of our best selves. This is not the time to become unwelcoming and this is definitely not the time to demand a 'royalty fee' from 'non-residents'. 'Their' money is not the solution. 'They' do not contribute to the problem. They are part time Nova Scotians. *They* are **We!**

In my opinion there is a very simple solution that capitalizes on our momentum, supports the revitalization of communities and contributes to the solution for affordable housing across the province without implementing the new 'non-resident' taxes.

Mandate that each Municipality have the same property tax rate, period. This is not a new idea. It is a concept that has been bantered about for years but sadly not acted upon. As the province seeks ways to increase revenues, to find ways to increase affordable housing, to increase job opportunities and simultaneously support the ambitious goal of increasing our population by 25,000 people each year, this is the time for that change. Then, allow for all surpluses to be used for affordable housing and/or cash incentives for new buyers in each of those communities. It's a win-win for everyone across Nova Scotia! Understandably legislative amendments will be required that would include a change to the Municipalities Act, which currently mandates that municipalities cannot show a profit, but this is doable!

The new part time Nova Scotia resident taxes are both 100% counter productive and even more, discriminatory, especially to our fellow Canadians. Nobody that I know can understand why this province would impose a policy like this. It clearly threatens to slam the door shut on our province. This is not only a violation of our cultural values but it defies logic at a time when Nova Scotia is finally booming after years and years of costly growth paid for by all taxpayers, huge private and public investments and 25 plus years of costly strategic planning specifically targeted at planned growth. Collectively we have contributed to the new threshold of success that we are experiencing today right across the province. Small towns are coming back and are beginning to thrive after decades of a kind of ghost town status. Crime is decreasing across the province as the productive job producing energy, initiatives, innovation and motivation moves in. Young people are finally confident to stay here to start their lives.

Please, please, remove the new non-resident taxes from this budget. Please do not discourage any kind of coast to coast migration - even if it is part time migration. Please do not limit our growth potential and our new opportunities.

Please remember that those 'non-residents', in so many ways, contribute mightily to Nova Scotia now, and into our common future.

Sincerely,
Michele Vyge-Fraser

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