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**From:** Marian R. Cameron [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** April 19, 2022 11:43 AM  
**To:** Premier  
**Cc:** Finance Minister; Economic Development Minister; susancorkumgreekmla@gmail.com; Office of the Legislative Counsel; Bignell, Laura M; garyburrill@gmail.com  
**Subject:** Property Tax

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To : Premier Tim Houston,

Re: SeasonalResident/Cottage Taxes

This letter from MLA Susan Crock-Greek, is now showing exactly the motive for the new property tax. It is **Social Cleansing** and it is deeply un-Canadian. Nova Scotia is saying that the new tax policy is specifically designed to push out the undesirable seasonal residents and have their property sold below value to “...Nova Scotia’s own”. Really, this is just so disappointing. I now have to cancel local service to pay these extortionate **Seasonal Resident/Cottage Taxes**, I will still be contributing to Nova Scotia’s economy

I take particular objection to Ms Corkum-Greeks depiction of Kingsburg as a place where “...even a decade ago there were full time residents, including families...” I have been in Kingsburg since the mid 1990’s and built my little cottage there 17 years ago. There were mostly boarded up deserted houses owned by “Nova Scotia’s Own”, local families who were sitting on their inherited land until they got the highest price, selling as much of their land and old houses as they could. They are **Nova Scotia’s own Land speculators**.

Instead of “Social Cleansing” experiments, why is your government not coming up with **innovative solutions and incentives** so that as Hon Susan Corkum-Greek states...“young Nova Scotians, as well as working-age people from other areas of the country and abroad, are finally seeing opportunities here for good jobs and a great life.” Surely you can come up with a better solution than forcing out the very people who did come to Nova Scotia from Canada, the USA and all parts of the world. we did have the vision and did make it a great place to be even when “Nova Scotia’s Own” were only too happy to sell at a substantial profit.

I have very old and long family roots in Nova Scotia, I have always prioritised spending time there with my family and introducing my friends to Nova Scotia’s charms. I will return but it will never be the same.

The hurt is going to last for a very long time.

You, Tim Houston, as the Premier of Nova Scotia are a disgrace.

Marian R. Cameron  
[REDACTED]

This is the letter from MLA Susan Corkum-Greek:

Thank you for reaching out to share your feedback on the Non-Resident Provincial Deed Transfer Tax and the

## Nova Scotia Non-Resident Property Tax.

These measures are aimed at cooling the wildly overheated housing market in Nova Scotia that has pushed home ownership beyond the reach of most Nova Scotians, including the future workers we need to grow our economy — even the doctors and nurses we are recruiting to strengthen our health care.

**We expect this legislation will reduce the number of non-Nova Scotians buying houses**, particularly for investment and speculative purposes. At the same time, it may encourage properties owned by non-residents to be offered for rent, providing additional housing options in this critical period.

I realize the timing of this legislation is very unfortunate for you. You were about to embark on your coastal dream cottage and now you must decide whether to proceed. I take no pleasure in that, nor do I diminish the value of new construction and vacation spending.

However what Nova Scotia truly needs right now is to grow our population. Our year-round population. We need to fill labour shortages so that business and industry can seize opportunities for new product development, new export markets, growth and sustainability driven by innovation, and a desire to reduce our environmental impacts and collective carbon footprint.

The clamour for seasonal homes by the sea has had the effect of **squeezing out our own**, at a time when young Nova Scotians, as well as working-age people from other areas of the country and abroad, are finally seeing opportunities here for good jobs and a great life.

This is a significant shift in a province where for too long we collectively bought in to the idea that you had to leave Nova Scotia to prove your mettle, be that your intelligence, professional acumen or business idea. We lost generations to this idea, and the efforts of those individuals - their accomplishments, innovations, jobs or wealth created - were lost to our province.

Kingsburg is absolutely beautiful. A true piece of paradise. And, as you note, it has largely become a vacation community, inhabited during the summer months and weekends in the shoulder season. But this was not always so. Even a decade ago there were full-time residents, including families here.

Moreover non-resident ownership, which has traditionally resided on the coast, has moved inland during the pandemic, crossing Highway 103 where once-affordable homes are scooped up sight unseen amidst bidding wars.

This action is being taken to cool these hurtful trends. A deed transfer tax alone would not be sufficient.

Sincerely,

Susan

Hon. Susan Corkum-Greek

Minister of Economic Development

and MLA for Lunenburg

You can find out more information about the tax measures [here](<https://novascotia.ca/budget/>) .