
From: J SCOTT [REDACTED]
Sent: April 8, 2022 8:04 PM
To: Office of the Legislative Counsel
Subject: Fwd: Property tax increase for out of Province owners

**** 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

Attention: Chairperson - Law Amendments Committee

Dear Sir or Madam:

I am forwarding below a letter sent to the Nova Scotia Property Tax office which I would ask you to consider with regard to proposed changes in property taxation for non-residents of Nova Scotia.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Scott (Dexter)

Sent from my iPad

Begin forwarded message:

From: J SCOTT [REDACTED]
Date: April 8, 2022 at 7:02:03 PM EDT
To: nspropertytax@novascotia.ca
Subject: Property tax increase for out of Province owners

Dear Sir or Madam,

I am responding to the proposed property tax increase for Nova Scotia properties owned by out of Province residents.

Our family first settled and has a long history in Queens County, going back to the 1700's. In fact, Isaac Vincent Dexter became the Honorable I.V.D and served as an M.L.A of Nova Scotia during his life (1884-1887). I have always been so very proud to say I am a descendant from a long held Nova Scotia family. My grandfather, Joseph Harris Dexter, born in Brooklyn (1892-1977), built our family cottage with his own hands in 1932 on one of the first properties purchased in Summerville. Along with my grandmother, Francis Tupper, (born in the Valley in Tupperville in 1892) both enjoyed this cottage as we all now do.

This cottage has stayed in our family since 1932 and each generation has continued to find rest, peace and solace at our precious cottage every single year since then. Every summer we love reconnecting with our summer community, our family and the beautiful village of Summerville. It truly is our second home. While we are there we contribute to the economy in general with living and general upkeep and operating expenses. We buy gas, groceries, go out to eat, attend church, maintain bank accounts, and support all local business. When friends and guests visit they do the same. In my 63 years we've had to go to the ER once, and of course we paid for that service as we've done with several doctor visits over the years when children became ill. I don't see that as stressing the services or economy. I believe we contribute to the local economy, and have done so for many, many years.

We want the best for our Summerville community, and Nova Scotia, as much as anyone else that lives there, whether year round or part time...affordable housing, an unburdened healthcare system, environmental awareness and care, conservation and more.

Our cottage is just that. A cottage. Not insulated. Owned now, by inheritance, by my sister, brother and I. We are not rich landowners. We are everyday, hard working people. Our property is not a place that could be used for full year residence. We stay as long as possible, but again, a cottage, not insulated, no heat other than a wood stove, and not prepared for extreme weather.

I can't imagine not being in Summerville, Nova Scotia. Our simple cottage has been my most consistent home throughout my life. At 63 yrs now, my forever plan has always been to spend more than my 3 weeks vacation there upon retirement in several years. Just as my father did, just as my grandfather as well.

This kind of tax increase is not something I will be able to maintain, and will force me to have to make some very hard decisions. Is there to be some kind of "grandfather clause" Or maybe a gradual increase? Something for long time family owners, that were originally born in Nova Scotia?

I wonder how my grandfather, or great, great, great grandfather for that matter would feel knowing this kind of property tax will make it very hard for me to continue my yearly respite?

Where, when and how can I and my family participate in voicing our thoughts and questions on this issue?

Will there be a public meeting or information session on this issue?
I'd appreciate any other information you can provide.

Thank you,

Jennifer Scott (Dexter)
Summerville Centre, NS

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Marmora, NJ [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad