
From: todd langmuir [REDACTED]
Sent: April-05-19 2:45 PM
To: secondarysuites; Clerks; Keithley, Joe
Subject: Request for Reimbursement for Decommissioning Fees from [REDACTED]
[REDACTED], Burnaby

Mr. Rowley, Councillor Keithley, and the Mayor's Office:

We reside at [REDACTED], Burnaby (tel # [REDACTED]). Before we purchased our home in 2008, there was a basement suite on the ground floor. However, once we moved in, our child took over the space, and we have never rented any part of our home to anyone. In 2016, we received a letter from the City regarding a new tax for homeowners with secondary suites. As you know, this tax was even collected from those who had no intention of renting out to others. We phoned City Hall, and it was confirmed to us that the only way to avoid the tax was to have our suite "decommissioned". We had no choice but to hire an electrician to apply for a permit so that we could be decommissioned. We were forced to destroy the breaker and electrical plugs and lost the ability to use our second oven and range hood. Only then were we allowed to apply to avoid paying the tax on something that we had no connection to. This not only deprived us of the use those outlets for other electric appliances on our own property, but it also left an ugly, gaping hole in the wall that we had to repair. We were upset by this action because we felt it to be very unfair. We still feel this way.

Now the city has decided to abolish this tax and return the taxes to those who paid it. We would also like to recover the damages that the City forced on us. We do not consider it fair that other owners are having their tax money returned in full and the City has not offered to compensate us for the damage that has been done to our property. At this point, we are the only ones suffering a loss in this matter. We would like to request the City to reimburse us the cost to recover our property, which includes city permits, an electrical materials, electrician fees, our kitchen appliances, and the damage to our wall.

Thank you for your attention.

Todd Langmuir &
Shin Ju April Lai

[REDACTED], Burnaby
[REDACTED]

On Friday, April 5, 2019, 1:49:51 PM PDT, April Lai [REDACTED] wrote:

To Mr. Rowley & To the Mayor's office,

Referred to:

Planning and Development Committee (2019.04.30)

Copied to:

City Manager, Dir. Corporate Services, Dir. Planning and Building, Dir. Public Safety and Community Services

We're the owner of the property at [REDACTED], Burnaby. Tel # [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

We have a basement suit but have never rented it out since moving in in 2008. As in 2016 we received the letter from the city regarding taxing owners of the secondary suits even they're not rented, we phoned the city hall and followed the instructions to decommissioning the suit by hiring an electrician to apply for a permit and to rid of the breaker and plugs for the oven and kitchen hood. We also got rid of the oven and kitchen hood. By doing that, we wouldn't be taxed the new taxes, but it deprived us of the use those outlets for other electric appliances in our own property, which we feel unfairly deprived. This was one of the reasons I voted for the new mayor who advocated for this issue. Now the city decided to abolish this tax and return the taxes to ppl who paid. We'd like to recover our suit. As an equal treatment as other owners who will get the tax return, We would like to request the city to reimburse us the costs of decommissioning and recovering our suit because of the changes of bylaw which caused the unnecessary back and forth work at the citizens' expenses.

Thank you for your attention.

Todd Langmuir &
Shin Ju April Lai

[REDACTED], Burnaby
[REDACTED]

Sent from my iPad