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14 Oct 2014 The Vancouver Sun

Solution to empty houses 8

Renting to temporary tenants provides aff ordable housing, protects property

Re: Let's not haunt these ghost houses, Oct. 7

In The Netherlands, owners of empty property dislike squatters, just like they do here.

Squatters can cause considerable damage, and the money may be hard to recover. Therefore, many owners have their empty properties managed by companies who find suitable temporary tenants.

The tenants sign a contract that they will leave whenever they are requested to do so, with two months' notice. They are liable for damages, and have to prove they have the resources to pay if such occurred. The rents are very low, as the temporary tenants accept the accommodation as is, and have to move out at short notice.

If this were done in Vancouver, it would provide a lot of affordable housing, even if it is temporary. MARGOT GRANT Gibsons

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