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West Vancouver homeowner sues neighbours over trees

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A homeowner in a tony West Vancouver area has filed a lawsuit against her neighbours for allowing trees on their property to grow too tall.

Karen Edith Smith of 1855 Orchard Way, which overlooks Dundarave from below Highway 1, filed the civil claim against neighbours Jianping Dong and Luning Yu, who own a house next door at 2303 Palmerston Ave.

In the lawsuit, Smith alleges her neighbours had allowed their trees to grow too tall, obscuring the view from her property, contrary to a restrictive covenant that bans trees or bushes from growing into a specified sightline. Smith alleges in her lawsuit she has asked her neighbours to remove or trim the trees, but they have refused.

Smith is seeking a court order to force her neighbours to comply. The neighbours have not yet filed a statement of defence.

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