

Subject: FW: Response to letter from Mr. and Mrs.....

Date: Sat, 13 Apr 2002 13:27:01 -0700

From: Ernie Crist <CristE@dnv.org>

To: "FONVCA (E-mail)" <fonvca@fonvca.org>

> -----Original Message-----

> **From:** Ernie Crist

> **Sent:** Saturday, April 13, 2002 1:25 PM

> **To:** Nathalie Valdes

> **Subject:** Response to letter from Mr. and Mrs.

>

> **Dear Mr. and Mrs.**

>

> **Subject:** Your letter re inspection:

>

> *I have turned your letter over to our Mr. Ferguson who has responded to*

> *the points made in your letter. I am enclosing his report in the hope that*

> *it will clarify the points you have raised as well as allay some of your*

> *fears.*

>

> *Needles to say this is an exceedingly delicate subject. At the outset let*

> *me state that charging for secondary suites is not fair. Municipalities*

> *have found it necessary however, to levy a charge, not because they wanted*

> *to but because of increasing fiscal pressures resulting from the*

> *elimination of all provincial grants which has left municipalities in a*

> *situation where they have to face all the staggering challenges of a*

> *modern society without any assistance from senior levels of government.*

>

> *Not only are senior levels of government not helping as they do in all*

> *other developed countries including the US, but they are robbing*

> *municipalities of the very funds they are collecting on behalf of*

> *municipalities such as the gasoline tax to use as an example.*

>

> *Municipalities have no access to sources of taxation other than the*

> *property tax. This has resulted in a charge against secondary suites as*

> *the lesser of two evils. It was felt that owners of secondary suites will*

> *derive an income from these suites and that levying a charge is fairer*

> *than raising the taxes for people who have no such income.*

>

> *As to the other concerns you have raised, you may rest assured that the*

> *District is not out to create a police state checking every house and*

> *street to see whether any and all bylaws are adhered to. On the other hand*

> *the Municipality is obliged to respond to complaints. In such cases we*

> *have no option but follow up on such complaints.*

>

> *I trust that this will shed some light on the matter you have raised.*

>

> *I thank you for bringing your concerns to my attention.*

>

> *Yours truly,*

>
> *Ernie Crist*

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