



DISTRICT OF STEWART

Office of the Mayor

January 13, 2016

Mr. David Keough
Deputy Assessor
100, 4545 Lazelle Avenue
Terrace BC V8G 4E1

Dear Mr. Keough,

RE: Property Assessment Increase for Stewart

Council of the District of Stewart has been made aware of concerns from property owners that some assessments went up over 30% when the overage is usually only 13%.

At the Regular Meeting of January 11, 2016, Council made a motion to express concern to BC Assessment regarding the increase in some of the property assessments in the District of Stewart and to request that the maximum increase not be higher than 13%.

The District will encourage property owners to appeal individually, but we would like to ask BC Assessment to consider that our town is a resource town (logging, mining exploration and concentrate shipment) with a very unstable economy. Our community's population is shrinking along with our services. The new Port is not in the production phase yet and with a world market crisis there are no indications when it will work to full capacity. With this in mind, large increases in the assessments could potentially bring the financial burden on some families in our community.

For those property owners that initiate the appeal process, the District requests your support to reduce the property value.

If I can assist by providing additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Galina Durant
Mayor