



January 21, 2019



Newsletter

ADVOCACY

PROVINCIAL

Speculation Tax Declaration Period Open: Between January 18 and February 28, 2019 owners of residential property in areas subject to the speculation and vacancy tax (SVT) will receive a letter with instructions on how to register and complete the declaration form. Registrations can be completed online at the [B.C. government's website](#), and the deadline for complete all declaration forms in March 31, 2019. A full list of areas subject to the SVT can be found [online](#).

School Tax Application to 2019 Property Assessments: With the 2019 property assessments now available, there has been much confusion about how a number of the Province's new taxes will be applied to development lands. [UDI has drafted a memo](#) for consideration regarding the inconsistent application of the School Tax to properties across the Province. In response to this issue, Burgess Cawley Sullivan (BCS) is bringing forward a mass appeal of the assessment of developments lands. We believe that a coordinated approach will yield the best results and are encouraging our members to consider joining this appeal. If you have further questions please contact [Cassandra McColman](#).

BC Housing 'Build Smart' Workshops: On January 30, 2019, BC Housing is hosting a 3-hour seminar and webinar entitled [Building Smart by Mitigating Thermal Bridging](#). This session provides an overview of thermal bridging and outlines [useful guides](#) and tools to help with the assessment of thermal bridging in new energy codes and standards. To register or for more information please visit [BC Housing's website](#).

The British Columbia Building Envelope Council (BCBEC) in collaboration with BC Housing is also offering a half-day workshop on February 26, 2019 entitled [Building Smart with High Performance Building Design](#) with focus on innovation and building design considerations to achieve higher standards for livability, sustainability and durability. For additional details please visit [BCBEC's website](#).

MUNICIPAL

City of New Westminster

Consultation Meeting on Inclusionary Housing Policy and Rental Replacement: The City of New Westminster staff recently presented City Council with a [draft inclusionary housing policy](#). City staff also plan to present a rental replacement policy later in January to city council. UDI will be attending a consultation meeting with city staff on Tuesday, February 12 at New Westminster City Hall, located at 511 Royal Avenue from 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm to discuss both of these policies. If you would like to attend this consultation meeting, please contact [Marissa Chan-Kent](#).

Multi-Family Residential Rental Tenure Zoning: Council gave [Zoning Amendment Bylaw No. 8078, 2019](#) First and Second Reading on January 14, 2019 that, if passed, would downzone several strata rental properties in New Westminster. The City is using the new power given to local governments to zone for tenure in multi-family areas through Bill 23, the [Local Government Statutes \(Residential Rental Tenure Zoning\) Amendment Act](#). Landowners did not receive notification of the Bylaw before it went to Council on January 14th, and the Public Hearing is on January 28, 2019.

UDI is very concerned that this new zoning power is being used to downzone properties, and with little notice being provided to landowners. We have met with New Westminster staff and written a [letter](#) to City Council. UDI will also be raising industry concerns about this issue with Provincial officials.

District of North Vancouver

Pace of Development Workshop: On January 14, the District of North Vancouver held a Pace of Development workshop to discuss ongoing projects in the District. City staff made a [presentation](#) to Council and there were [discussions](#) on the direction that Council would like to take going forward.

[CAREERS](#) [SPONSOR](#)



© Copyright 2019 URBAN DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE