

Reporter

Jesse Ferreras, Reporter
Global TV | BC
jesse.ferreras@globalnews.ca
604-818-0634

Deadline Monday, January 29, 2018 1:00 PM

Request

Reporter is seeking ministry comment since the Minister is in Asia. He is publishing his story on Monday and has asked for our response on Monday. **Reporter is asking if we do not provide a response, would it be accurate to say that we have no comment?**

Reporter is seeking general comment on The Quebec Investor Program and the resulting impact the people who've gone through that program, (who are now permanent residents), have had on Vancouver real estate prices.

New Questions:

Any measure to curb demand will not affect people who have come to B.C. through the Quebec Immigrant Investors Program - and yet, a "significant amount" of money has come, and likely into Vancouver's housing market, according to a UBC economist I spoke to. Since any measure to curb demand in the February budget can't touch investor immigrants, what does the B.C. government plan to do to stem the tide of money coming into the province through this program

Background

This is a follow-up to a media request from January 18, 2018.

REQUEST:

Reporter requesting interview from Minister Robinson (referred to JTT from Housing).

Similar to December request: <https://hub.gcpe.gov.bc.ca/MediaRequests/request/970bef8a-6a6f-419f-9cfe-097e38e5d080>

Request: I'm doing a story about the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program (QIIP). The story is that I have received some data from Statistics Canada that indicates just how many investor immigrants have come to Vancouver through the QIIP.

There are strong concerns that concentrating so many high net worth individuals in Vancouver is helping to drive up housing prices in the city, and even the region.

My findings are as follows:

QIIP applicants in Canada, 1980 to 2016: 57,935
Principal applicants in Canada through the QIIP, 1980 to 2016: 13,635

QIIP applicants in Quebec, 1980 to 2016: 6,050
Principal applicants in Quebec through the QIIP, 1980 to 2016: 1,445

QIIP applicants in B.C., 1980 to 2016: 27,995

Principal applicants in B.C. through the QIIP, 1980 to 2016: 6,800

QIIP applicants in Vancouver CMA, 1980 to 2016: 27,080

Principal applicants in Vancouver CMA through the QIIP, 1980 to 2016: 6,580

My questions for Minister Selina Robinson are as follows:

o In 2016, then-premier Christy Clark said she was working with the Quebec government to ensure that QIIP applicants stayed in that province, instead of coming to B.C. and spending their money here. What kinds of efforts has the NDP government made to ensure that this so-called loophole is closed, and applicants stay in Quebec instead of coming to B.C.?

o How often has the B.C. government spoken with the Quebec government about this?

o When was the last time the B.C. government spoke with the Quebec government about this?

o How much has the B.C. government urged Quebec to shut this program down, much as it was done with the federal program?

o The data I've obtained shows that 46.7 per cent of QIIP applicants between 1986 (when the program started) and 2016 ended up in Vancouver. This is a group that gets permanent residency – and because of that, the foreign buyers tax does not apply to them. What will the B.C. government do to stop the tide of high-net-worth people coming to B.C. through Quebec?

RESPONSE:

Declined to Comment

We couldn't get response by reporter's deadline. Minister off to Asia.

Reporter

Jesse Ferreras, Reporter

Global BC

Jesse.Ferreras@globalnews.ca

Deadline ASAP - Reporter is hoping to finish story by end of this week. His hours are 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday

Request

Request originally came in through MAH. Reporter has asked for a phone interview with Min. Robinson:

Dear Ms. Byers,

Jesse Ferreras, online journalist with Global BC here.

Basically, I'm doing a story about the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program (QIIP). The story is that I have received some data from Statistics Canada that indicates just how many investor immigrants have come to Vancouver through the QIIP.

There are strong concerns that concentrating so many high net worth individuals in Vancouver is helping to drive up housing prices in the city, and even the region.

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1. In 2016, then-premier Christy Clark said she was working with the Quebec government to ensure that QIIP applicants stayed in that province, instead of coming to B.C. and spending their money here. What kinds of efforts has the NDP government made to ensure that this so-called loophole is closed, and applicants stay in Quebec instead of coming to B.C.?
2. How often has the B.C. government spoken with the Quebec government about this?
3. When was the last time the B.C. government spoke with the Quebec government about this?
4. How much has the B.C. government urged Quebec to shut this program down, much as it was done with the federal program?
5. The data I've obtained shows that 46.7 per cent of QIIP applicants between 1986 (when the program started) and 2016 ended up in Vancouver. This is a group that gets permanent residency – and because of that, the foreign buyers tax does not apply to them. What will the B.C. government do to stop the tide of high-net-worth people coming to B.C. through Quebec?

I'm hoping to get this story finished this week. My hours are 4 p.m. to midnight on Wednesday, and 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and I am hoping to speak with the minister about this over the phone.

I hope to hear from you as soon as you have an opportunity.

Jesse

Recommendation

s.13

From: Mukasa, Kate GCPE:EX
To: Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX; Leslie, Lisa GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: IN ASSIGNMENT: Immigrant Investor Program
Date: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 3:02:53 PM
Attachments: IN_HSG_Quebec Immigrant Investor Program (QIIP) DRAFT.docx

Thank you Lindsay. Attached with a couple edits and some questions to flesh out the background a wee bit.

Thanks!

-----Original Message-----

From: Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 12:51 PM
To: Leslie, Lisa GCPE:EX
Cc: Mukasa, Kate GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: IN ASSIGNMENT: Immigrant Investor Program

Attached is the IN on the QIIP. Background information provided by JTT.

Approved by Greg.

Lindsay Byers | Media Relations
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Government Communications and Public Engagement
P: 250-952-0617 | C: 778-678-5539
E: Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca

-----Original Message-----

From: Leslie, Lisa GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2018 5:22 AM
To: Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX
Cc: Mukasa, Kate GCPE:EX
Subject: IN ASSIGNMENT: Immigrant Investor Program

Morning Lindsay,

Can you please put together an IN today based on the issue covered in this story and the statement you sent to media yesterday? Please work toward getting it signed off by Greg today. You will need to give him the context that we already responded to a media request and include the story below. Then we can share with Fin and JTT for good measure. Let me know if you need any further direction.

Thank you.

<https://globalnews.ca/news/3886743/quebec-immigrant-investor-program-vancouver/>

ADVICE TO MINISTER

<p>CONFIDENTIAL</p> <p>ISSUES NOTE</p> <p>Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Date: Jan. 30, 2018 Minister Responsible: Hon. Selina Robinson</p>	<p>Quebec Immigrant Investor Program (QIIP)</p>
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ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

s.13

- We have committed \$208 million over four years to support the construction of more than 1,700 new units of affordable rental housing province wide.
- We have set an ambitious target of 114,000 new units of affordable housing, which will take an unprecedented level of partnership between governments and the housing sector.

s.13

s.13

ADVICE TO MINISTER

KEY FACTS:

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Successful candidates are granted an unconditional Canada Permanent Resident Visa, giving them the opportunity to immediately start living, working and doing business anywhere in the country. Children of new investor immigrants may also immediately begin studying in Canada and can apply to local schools and universities as a Canadian resident as opposed to a foreign student.

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In 2016, Quebec received 4,425 immigrants through the Immigrant Investment Program (includes principal investors and spouses/dependents), a decrease from 5,110 in 2015.

Publicly available data that links program principal applicants to their tax files show that about 30-40% claim residence in BC by the time they file their taxes. This represents about 250 to 300 principal applicants from this program moving to BC each year. s.13

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Media Interest: Media is reporting on this due to the ongoing issue of housing affordability/ availability.

Communications:	Lindsay Byers	250 952-0617
Program:	Greg Steves, ADM	250 361-7145

ADVICE TO MINISTER

CONFIDENTIAL ISSUES NOTE Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Date: Jan. 30, 2018 Minister Responsible: Hon. Selina Robinson	Quebec Immigrant Investor Program (QIIP)
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ADVICE AND RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

s.13

- We have committed \$208 million over four years to support the construction of more than 1,700 new units of affordable rental housing province wide.
- We have set an ambitious target of 114,000 new units of affordable housing, which will take an unprecedented level of partnership between governments and the housing sector.

s.13

IF PRESSED

s.13

KEY FACTS:

The Quebec Immigrant Investor Program (QIIP) is offered to qualified individuals with a net worth of over \$1.6 million who make a five-year, \$800,000 interest-free loan to the province. The loan is paid back by the Province after five years. Program requirements also include an intent to reside in Quebec and several years' experience in managing a business that employs at least two other staff, s.13

s.13

Successful candidates are granted an unconditional Canada Permanent Resident Visa, giving them the opportunity to immediately start living, working and doing business anywhere in the country. Children of new investor immigrants may also immediately begin studying in Canada and can apply to local schools and universities as a Canadian resident as opposed to a foreign student.

s.13

In 2016, Quebec received 4,425 immigrants through the Immigrant Investment Program (includes principal investors and spouses/dependents), a decrease from 5,110 in 2015.

Publicly available data that links program principal applicants to their tax files show that about 30-40% claim residence in BC by the time they file their taxes. This represents about 250 to 300 principal applicants from this program moving to BC each year. Some may move to Vancouver but not buy property; any permanent resident, citizen, or foreign national can buy property in Vancouver even if they do not reside in BC.

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The previous B.C. government raised concerns about the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program and secondary migration through intergovernmental channels several times in 2015 and 2016. The federal government cannot easily restrict or terminate the program without the agreement of Quebec due to the constitutional nature of the Quebec Accord s.13

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Although there is no data, or evidence, to show how many immigrants from this program purchase property in Vancouver, several recent media stories allege that the Quebec Immigrant Investment Program is a loophole for wealthy investors to obtain permanent residence, and then move to Vancouver and purchase homes, driving up housing prices while their initial investment stays in Quebec.

Media Interest: Media is reporting on this due to the ongoing issue of housing affordability/ availability.

Communications:	Lindsay Byers	250 952-0617
Program:	Greg Steves, ADM	250 361-7145

From: [Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX](#)
To: [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#)
Cc: [Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX](#); [Harbord, Darren GCPE:EX](#); [Leslie, Lisa GCPE:EX](#); [Densmore, Brad GCPE:EX](#)
Subject: RE: JTT Media Request: Immigrant Investor Prgm/Quebec Immigrant Investor Prgm
Date: Monday, December 11, 2017 1:10:00 PM

Thanks Tasha

Lindsay Byers | Media Relations
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Government Communications and Public Engagement
P: 250-952-0617 | C: 778-678-5539
E: Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca

From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2017 1:06 PM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Cc: Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX; Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX; Harbord, Darren GCPE:EX; Leslie, Lisa GCPE:EX; Densmore, Brad GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: JTT Media Request: Immigrant Investor Prgm/Quebec Immigrant Investor Prgm

Updated with more background info and we'll share our response with you.

From: Tasha Schollen [<mailto:Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Monday, December 11, 2017 1:00 PM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Cc: Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX; Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX; Mukasa, Kate GCPE:EX
Subject: JTT Media Request: Immigrant Investor Prgm/Quebec Immigrant Investor Prgm

Reporter

Jesse Ferreras, Reporter
Global TV | BC
jesse.ferreras@globalnews.ca
604-818-0634

Deadline Wednesday, December 13, 2017 4:30 PM

Request

Reporter would like to know how many foreign residents have come to Vancouver under the Immigrant Investor Prgm and Quebec Immigrant Investor Prgms between 1998-2016. His larger focus is their impact on the housing market. Reporter notes he spoke to academic David Lee who wrote the book "Millionaire Migrants" That book estimates that immigrants accessing either of the above noted programs were worth an estimated \$2.2 Million per person based on 1994-97 data from BC Stats.

Reporter notes that these immigrants do not pay the foreign investor tax. He wants to try to establish the impact of this wealth on the BC housing/real estate market.

Background

Since 2010, Quebec has been working on implementing policy and program measures in order to increase the number of QIIP immigrants who stay in Quebec and don't migrate to other provinces. In 2013, they implemented two specific measures including putting limits on the number of QIIP investors who can apply from China, and increasing the importance of speaking French in the program application criteria. s.13,s.16
s.13,s.16

Cross-referencing of publically available data that links QIIP applicants to their tax files show that about 30% claim residence in B.C. by the time they file their taxes. This represents about 250 to 300 QIIP principal applicants moving to B.C. each year since 2011 and demonstrates that the scale of arrivals through the QIIP is much smaller than media articles allege. Annually, around 4,000 immigrants who originally landed in another province file their taxes with B.C. as their province of residence.

The QIIP is the only remaining option in Canada for business immigrants with a high net worth (\$1.6M or more) that want to secure permanent residence on the basis of passive investment, meaning the program requires successful applicants to provide an investment of \$800,000 CDN into an authorized government guaranteed investment. All successful applicants must also intend to settle in Quebec and are issued a selection certificate which allows them to obtain Canadian permanent residence. During the investment program's latest subscription period – May 30, 2016 to Feb. 28, 2017 – Quebec will accept a maximum of 1,900 applicants under the program.

Questions

Between 1998-2016, what was the total net worth of each immigrant that came to B.C. (Vancouver) through each of the Immigrant Investor Program and the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program?

Recommendation

From: [Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX](#)
To: [Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX](#)
Subject: FW: B.C. and the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program
Date: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 1:53:00 PM

Is this something you want to tackle?

Lindsay Byers | Media Relations
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Government Communications and Public Engagement
P: 250-952-0617 | C: 778-678-5539
E: Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca

From: Jesse Ferreras [<mailto:Jesse.Ferreras@globalnews.ca>]
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 1:36 PM
To: Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX
Subject: B.C. and the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program

Dear Ms. Byers,

Jesse Ferreras, online journalist with Global BC here.

Basically, I'm doing a story about the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program (QIIP). The story is that I have received some data from Statistics Canada that indicates just how many investor immigrants have come to Vancouver through the QIIP.

There are strong concerns that concentrating so many high net worth individuals in Vancouver is helping to drive up housing prices in the city, and even the region.

My findings are as follows:

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My questions for Minister Selina Robinson are as follows:

- In 2016, then-premier Christy Clark said she was working with the Quebec government to ensure that QIIP applicants stayed in that province, instead of coming to B.C. and spending their money here. What kinds of efforts has the NDP government made to ensure that this so-called loophole is closed, and applicants stay in Quebec instead of coming to B.C.?
- How often has the B.C. government spoken with the Quebec government about this?
- When was the last time the B.C. government spoke with the Quebec government about this?
- How much has the B.C. government urged Quebec to shut this program down, much as it was done with the federal program?
- The data I've obtained shows that 46.7 per cent of QIIP applicants between 1986 (when the program started) and 2016 ended up in Vancouver. This is a group that gets permanent residency – and because of that, the foreign buyers tax does not apply to them. What will the B.C. government do to stop the tide of high-net-worth people coming to B.C. through Quebec?

I'm hoping to get this story finished this week. My hours are 4 p.m. to midnight on Wednesday, and 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and I am hoping to speak with the minister about this over the phone.

I hope to hear from you as soon as you have an opportunity.

Jesse

From: Jesse Ferreras
To: [Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX](#)
Subject: RE: B.C. and the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program
Date: Thursday, January 18, 2018 12:25:50 PM

Hi Lindsay,

Just wondering about my request to speak with the minister about this?

Thanks,

Jesse

From: Jesse Ferreras
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 1:36 PM
To: 'lindsay.byers@gov.bc.ca' <lindsay.byers@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: B.C. and the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program

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Jesse

From: [Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX](#)
To: [Densmore, Brad GCPE:EX](#)
Cc: [Stewart, Courtney GCPE:EX](#); [Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX](#)
Subject: RE: B.C. and the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program
Date: Thursday, January 18, 2018 12:32:00 PM

It's not in the hub, sorry. I was so busy and to be honest it kinda fell off my radar after I initially emailed you!

Thanks for taking it 😊

Lindsay Byers | Media Relations
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Government Communications and Public Engagement
P: 250-952-0617 | C: 778-678-5539
E: Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca

From: Densmore, Brad GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2018 12:30 PM
To: Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX
Cc: Stewart, Courtney GCPE:EX; Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: B.C. and the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program

Hi Lindsay, thanks for this – I can take it over – is it in the hub? Sorry for the delay here

From: Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2018 12:27 PM
To: Densmore, Brad GCPE:EX
Cc: Stewart, Courtney GCPE:EX; Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: B.C. and the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program

Hi Brad,

Following up on this. I haven't heard anything back from your shop and the reporter has just come back to me.

Can you let me know if you guys are taking this request.

Thanks in advance.

Lindsay Byers | Media Relations
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Government Communications and Public Engagement
P: 250-952-0617 | C: 778-678-5539
E: Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca

From: Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 2:02 PM
To: Densmore, Brad GCPE:EX

Cc: Stewart, Courtney GCPE:EX; Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: B.C. and the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program

Hi Brad,

I think this falls to you guys. Would you please keep Sonja at FIN in the loop as well.

Thanks so much.

Lindsay Byers | Media Relations
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Government Communications and Public Engagement
P: 250-952-0617 | C: 778-678-5539
E: Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca

From: Jesse Ferreras [<mailto:Jesse.Ferreras@globalnews.ca>]
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 1:36 PM
To: Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX
Subject: B.C. and the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program

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From: Brad Densmore
To: Densmore, Brad GCPE:EX
Cc: Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX; Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX; Mukasa, Kate GCPE:EX
Subject: JTT Media Request: Quebec Immigrant Investor Program entry into B.C.
Date: Thursday, January 18, 2018 12:39:56 PM

Reporter

Jesse Ferreras, Reporter
Global TV | BC
jesse.ferreras@globalnews.ca
604-818-0634

Deadline Friday, January 19, 2018 12:00 PM

Request

Reporter requesting interview from Minister Robinson (referred to JTT from Housing)

Request: I'm doing a story about the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program (QIIP). The story is that I have received some data from Statistics Canada that indicates just how many investor immigrants have come to Vancouver through the QIIP.

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Recommendation

From: [Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX](#)
To: [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#)
Cc: [Densmore, Brad GCPE:EX](#); [Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX](#)
Subject: RE: B.C. and the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program
Date: Thursday, January 18, 2018 2:02:00 PM

As far as the housing market, FIN would be best to address that topic. ,s.13
s.13

Lindsay Byers | Media Relations
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Government Communications and Public Engagement
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From: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Sent: Thursday, January 18, 2018 1:56 PM
To: Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX
Cc: Densmore, Brad GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: B.C. and the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program

Hi Lindsay,

Will Housing be providing some messaging for this? The focus of the story is housing prices. s.13
s.13

We'll share our response....I will probably have to call you.

From: Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 2:02 PM
To: Densmore, Brad GCPE:EX
Cc: Stewart, Courtney GCPE:EX; Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: B.C. and the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program

Hi Brad,

I think this falls to you guys. Would you please keep Sonja at FIN in the loop as well.

Thanks so much.

Lindsay Byers | Media Relations
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Government Communications and Public Engagement
P: 250-952-0617 | C: 778-678-5539
E: Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca

From: Jesse Ferreras [<mailto:Jesse.Ferreras@globalnews.ca>]
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2018 1:36 PM

To: Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX
Subject: B.C. and the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program

Dear Ms. Byers,

Jesse Ferreras, online journalist with Global BC here.

Basically, I'm doing a story about the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program (QIIP). The story is that I have received some data from Statistics Canada that indicates just how many investor immigrants have come to Vancouver through the QIIP.

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My questions for Minister Selina Robinson are as follows:

- In 2016, then-premier Christy Clark said she was working with the Quebec government to ensure that QIIP applicants stayed in that province, instead of coming to B.C. and spending their money here. What kinds of efforts has the NDP government made to ensure that this so-called loophole is closed, and applicants stay in Quebec instead of coming to B.C.?
- How often has the B.C. government spoken with the Quebec government about this?
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- How much has the B.C. government urged Quebec to shut this program down, much as it was done with the federal program?
- The data I've obtained shows that 46.7 per cent of QIIP applicants between 1986 (when the program started) and 2016 ended up in Vancouver. This is a group that gets permanent residency – and because of that, the foreign buyers tax does

not apply to them. What will the B.C. government do to stop the tide of high-net-worth people coming to B.C. through Quebec?

I'm hoping to get this story finished this week. My hours are 4 p.m. to midnight on Wednesday, and 12 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and I am hoping to speak with the minister about this over the phone.

I hope to hear from you as soon as you have an opportunity.

Jesse

From: Jesse Ferreras
To: [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#)
Cc: [Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX](#)
Subject: Quebec Immigrant Investor Program
Date: Friday, January 19, 2018 1:16:53 PM

Dear Ms. Schollen and Ms. Byers,

Jesse Ferreras at Global BC online here, I hope you're both doing well.

On Tuesday I put in the below request to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing with regard to a story that I'm working on about the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program, and its effect on B.C.'s housing market.

I set a deadline for the end of the week and only found out yesterday that I had contacted the wrong ministry, that I should have directed my inquiry to the Ministry of Jobs, Trade and Technology.

Given it's Friday now, I'm wondering when I'll be hearing from Min. Bruce Ralston with answers to my questions.

Hope to hear from you when you have a chance.

Thanks!

Jesse – (778) 945-9109

Here's the request I made:

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My questions for Minister Selina Robinson **(now the request is of Bruce Ralston)** are as follows:

- In 2016, then-premier Christy Clark said she was working with the Quebec government to ensure that QIIP applicants stayed in that province, instead of coming to B.C. and spending their money here. What kinds of efforts has the NDP government made to ensure that this so-called loophole is closed, and applicants stay in Quebec instead of coming to B.C.?
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From: [Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX](#)
To: [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#)
Subject: Re: JTT Follow-up Media Request: Quebec Immigrant Investor Program entry into B.C.
Date: Sunday, January 28, 2018 12:47:29 PM

Hi Tasha,

Do you need anything from
Me?

Lindsay Byers

Media Relations, GCPE
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
P: [250.952.0617](tel:250.952.0617) C: [778.678.5539](tel:778.678.5539)

On Jan 28, 2018, at 10:02 AM, Tasha Schollen <Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Reporter

Jesse Ferreras, Reporter
Global TV | BC
jesse.ferreras@globalnews.ca
604-818-0634

Deadline Monday, January 29, 2018 1:00 PM

Request

Reporter is seeking ministry comment since the Minister is in Asia. He is publishing his story on Monday and has asked for our response on Monday. Reporter is asking if we do not provide a response, would it be accurate to say that we have no comment?

Reporter is seeking general comment on The Quebec Investor Program and the resulting impact the people who've gone through that program, (who are now permanent residents), have had on Vancouver real estate prices.

New Questions:

Any measure to curb demand will not affect people who have come to B.C. through the Quebec Immigrant Investors Program - and yet, a "significant amount" of money has come, and likely into Vancouver's housing market, according to a UBC economist I spoke to. Since any measure to curb demand in the February budget can't touch investor immigrants, what does the B.C. government plan to do to stem the tide of money coming into the province through this program?

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o How often has the B.C. government spoken with the Quebec government about this?

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Background

This is a follow-up to a media request from January 18, 2018.

REQUEST:

Reporter requesting interview from Minister Robinson (referred to JTT from Housing).

Similar to December request:

<https://hub.gcpe.gov.bc.ca/MediaRequests/request/970bef8a-6a6f-419f-9cfe-097e38e5d080>

Request: I'm doing a story about the Quebec Immigrant Investor Program (QIIP). The story is that I have received some data from Statistics Canada that indicates just how many investor immigrants have come to Vancouver through the QIIP.

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I hope to hear from you as soon as you have an opportunity.

RESPONSE:

Declined to Comment

We couldn't get response by reporter's deadline. Minister off to Asia.

Recommendation

From: [Leslie, Lisa GCPE:EX](#)
To: [Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX](#)
Cc: [Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX](#)
Subject: FW: JTT Follow-up Media Request: Quebec Immigrant Investor Program entry into B.C.
Date: Monday, January 29, 2018 10:26:57 AM

Tasha – do you have what you need? Hard to tell from the trail on the weekend.

From: Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX
Sent: Monday, January 29, 2018 9:41 AM
To: Leslie, Lisa GCPE:EX
Subject: FW: JTT Follow-up Media Request: Quebec Immigrant Investor Program entry into B.C.

FYI,

Flagging this for you. Do we want to weigh in? Tasha and I spoke briefly yesterday and she wasn't looking at this until today.

Lindsay Byers | Media Relations
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Government Communications and Public Engagement
P: 250-952-0617 | C: 778-678-5539
E: Lindsay.Byers@gov.bc.ca

From: Tasha Schollen [<mailto:Tasha.Schollen@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Sunday, January 28, 2018 10:02 AM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Cc: Zoeller, Sonja GCPE:EX; Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX; Mukasa, Kate GCPE:EX
Subject: JTT Follow-up Media Request: Quebec Immigrant Investor Program entry into B.C.

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Recommendation

From: Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX
To: "Jesse Ferreras"
Subject: RE: Quebec Immigrant Investor Program
Date: Monday, January 29, 2018 1:21:40 PM

Hi Jesse,

In response to your request on Quebec Immigrant Investor Program, please find the following statement from Minister Selina Robinson,

The previous government ignored the affordability crisis in BC for far too long, allowing homes prices to skyrocket by \$600,000 in two years, and rents to increase by 45% in only 10 years. They refused to address speculation, close loopholes or address skyrocketing housing prices.

In our upcoming budget, we will take real action to make life more affordable for all British Columbians, including by addressing domestic and foreign speculation in the housing market.

Kind Regards,

Lindsay Byers | Media Relations
Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Government Communications and Public Engagement
P: 250-952-0617 | C: 778-678-5539
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From: Jesse Ferreras [<mailto:Jesse.Ferreras@globalnews.ca>]
Sent: Friday, January 19, 2018 1:16 PM
To: Schollen, Tasha GCPE:EX
Cc: Byers, Lindsay GCPE:EX
Subject: Quebec Immigrant Investor Program

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