

Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX

From: Smith, George AG:EX
Sent: Monday, April 30, 2018 1:16 PM
To: Eby, David AG:EX
Subject: Draft statement

For your review and edits:

s.13

Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX

From: Smith, George AG:EX
Sent: Monday, April 30, 2018 6:00 PM
To: Eby, David AG:EX
Subject: proposed edits
Attachments: Statement-May1.edits.docx

Thea and Dulcy had a few suggestions. Please see attached for track changes (or plain text below).
Please send me approval on a final version so that we can give it to CBC under embargo.

s.13

Page 03 to/à Page 04

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX

From: Eby, David AG:EX
Sent: Monday, April 30, 2018 6:44 PM
To: Smith, George AG:EX
Subject: Re: proposed edits

Can go to CBC but I will edit final version before posting tomorrow morning.

On Apr 30, 2018, at 6:00 PM, Smith, George AG:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

s.13

Page 06

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX

From: Smith, George AG:EX
Sent: Monday, April 30, 2018 6:57 PM
To: Eby, David AG:EX
Subject: Re: proposed edits

Understood.

-George

On Apr 30, 2018, at 6:43 PM, Eby, David AG:EX <David.Eby@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Can go to CBC but I will edit final version before posting tomorrow morning.

On Apr 30, 2018, at 6:00 PM, Smith, George AG:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

s.13

Page 08

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX

From: Eby, David AG:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 6:45 AM
To: Anderson, Dulcy LASS:EX; Smith, George AG:EX
Subject: Posted version of statement

Thank you to all of the volunteers and registered attendees for our scheduled Town Hall for tonight. I have some difficult news.

As you know, my job is to represent my constituents. I can only do that if I can hear from constituents. Hearing from community members is critically important to me, regardless of whether the feedback is positive or negative.

I have been meeting with constituents and I have heard the opposition and the concerns associated with an increase in the school tax that will impact those with homes valued over \$3M in my constituency of Vancouver Point Grey.

I have also heard from many others in our community about their appreciation for government funding the seismic upgrade at Bayview Elementary, increasing funding for chronically understaffed schools, and for helping them to reduce overwhelming childcare costs and MSP premiums.

I thought it would be beneficial to have a community discussion about the school tax, including accurate information about the policy, while giving people a chance to provide feedback directly to government. When tickets sold out, we considered a telephone town hall, but settled on a live streaming of the event.

In response, ads were run by two separate real estate agencies encouraging non-constituents and people without tickets to attend the event. The leader of the BC Liberals personally wrote a letter and distributed it, encouraging individuals to attend “whether you have a ticket or not.”

We pressed on, knowing the importance of the event to many community members. But the tactics of the opponent groups ramped up.

The final straw was the rescheduling of the protest for “angry” people to “march on in” to the event an hour and a half before the event itself, making it impossible for us to secure the venue in advance.

We were no longer able to ensure only those with tickets could attend, which meant we could not ensure safety. We had, as we always do, scheduled high school students and seniors to help us staff the event as volunteers – not as security guards to hold the line against people trying to “march on in” without a ticket, or to escort guests with tickets through crowds of angry people to get them to the front door.

If that wasn’t difficult enough, my constituency staff, as well as those identified as supporters of the tax, have now become a personal target of some individuals.

For the first time in my career of hosting literally hundreds of community events on difficult topics of all kinds, I have decided to postpone the town hall until we can ensure we can hold it safely. We have a proud five-year tradition of community events in Vancouver Point Grey without incident, and I will find a way to continue this tradition.

In the meantime, I will continue to engage and meet with constituents on this and many other matters, and find a way to hear from constituents in a group while assuring that this can be done in a welcoming way for everyone.

Hon. David Eby, QC

Attorney General for British Columbia
Minister responsible for ICBC, Liquor and Gaming

Room 232, Parliament Buildings
PO Box 9044 Stn Provincial Govt
Victoria, BC
V8W 9E2
AG.minister@gov.bc.ca

Office: (250) 387-1866
Fax: (250) 387-6411

This communication (both the message and any attachments) is confidential and may be protected by solicitor-client privilege. It is intended only for the use of the person or persons to whom it is addressed. Any distribution, copying, or other use by anyone else is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please destroy the email message and any attachments immediately and notify my office by telephone or by email.

Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX

From: Smith, George AG:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 7:01 AM
To: Milne, Gala AG:EX; Harder, Derrick AG:EX; Scott, Samantha AG:EX
Subject: Fwd: Posted version of statement

Final version

-George

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Eby, David AG:EX" <David.Eby@gov.bc.ca>
Date: May 1, 2018 at 6:45:13 AM PDT
To: "Anderson, Dulcy LASS:EX" <Dulcy.Anderson@leg.bc.ca>, "Smith, George AG:EX" <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: **Posted version of statement**

Thank you to all of the volunteers and registered attendees for our scheduled Town Hall for tonight. I have some difficult news.

As you know, my job is to represent my constituents. I can only do that if I can hear from constituents. Hearing from community members is critically important to me, regardless of whether the feedback is positive or negative.

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event as volunteers – not as security guards to hold the line against people trying to “march on in” without a ticket, or to escort guests with tickets through crowds of angry people to get them to the front door.

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Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX

Subject: Media - TENTATIVE - CBC Early Edition
Location: 604-669-3733

Start: Tue 2018-05-01 8:10 AM
End: Tue 2018-05-01 8:25 AM
Show Time As: Tentative

Recurrence: (none)

Meeting Status: Not yet responded

Organizer: Togneri, Cassandra GCPE:EX
Required Attendees: MINCAL, JAG JAG:EX; Eby, David AG:EX; Robins, Shawn GCPE:EX; Smith, George AG:EX; Milne, Gala AG:EX; Harder, Derrick AG:EX; Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX

Topic: Speculation Tax, School Tax

Host: Stephen Quinn

Style: Live radio interview with the host, no call ins

Time: 8:10-8:25 am

Call: 604-669-3733

Note: Early Edition will confirm around 7 AM if they can do the 8:10 am slot with the Minister.

Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX

From: Anderson, Dulcy LASS:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 8:35 AM
To: Eby, David AG:EX
Subject: Re: Posted version of statement

CBC online has wrong # for the tax (\$2M not \$200M)- and says its going for seismic upgrades--they have the basic facts about the tax wrong.

From: Eby, David AG:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 6:45 AM
To: Anderson, Dulcy; Smith, George AG:EX
Subject: Posted version of statement

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Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX

From: Smith, George AG:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 9:32 AM
To: Eby, David AG:EX
Subject: Fwd: PRIORITY REQUEST: AG Media Request: Townhall Cancellation

Thoughts?

-George

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Togneri, Cassandra GCPE:EX" <Cassandra.Togneri@gov.bc.ca>
Date: May 1, 2018 at 9:07:53 AM PDT
To: "Smith, George AG:EX" <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, "Milne, Gala AG:EX" <Gala.Milne@gov.bc.ca>, "Harder, Derrick AG:EX" <Derrick.Harder@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: "Robins, Shawn GCPE:EX" <Shawn.1.Robins@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: **PRIORITY REQUEST: AG Media Request: Townhall Cancellation**

Priority Request

- CTV News – townhall cancellation

Reporter

Scott Roberts, Reporter
CTV News (BC)
Scott.Roberts@bellmedia.ca
604-340-5495

Deadline ASAP

Request

The reporter is requesting an interview to follow up on MDE's Facebook post about the cancellation of the townhall re: school tax
Style: short on-camera interview.
Time: flexible - reporter will come to MDE.

Question:

What caused your decision to cancel the townhall?

Background

Recommendation

Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX

From: Eby, David AG:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 9:34 AM
To: Smith, George AG:EX
Subject: RE: PRIORITY REQUEST: AG Media Request: Townhall Cancellation

Sure.

From: Smith, George AG:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 9:32 AM
To: Eby, David AG:EX
Subject: Fwd: PRIORITY REQUEST: AG Media Request: Townhall Cancellation

Thoughts?

-George

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Togneri, Cassandra GCPE:EX" <Cassandra.Togneri@gov.bc.ca>
Date: May 1, 2018 at 9:07:53 AM PDT
To: "Smith, George AG:EX" <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>, "Milne, Gala AG:EX" <Gala.Milne@gov.bc.ca>, "Harder, Derrick AG:EX" <Derrick.Harder@gov.bc.ca>
Cc: "Robins, Shawn GCPE:EX" <Shawn.1.Robins@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: PRIORITY REQUEST: AG Media Request: Townhall Cancellation

Priority Request

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Time: flexible - reporter will come to MDE.

Question:

What caused your decision to cancel the townhall?

Background

Recommendation

Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX

From: Smith, George AG:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 10:08 AM
To: Eby, David AG:EX
Subject: FW: PRIORITY REQUEST: AG Media Request: Townhall Cancellation as of 9:53

Please review the below requests.
For CTV, where would you like to meet the camera?

From: Togneri, Cassandra GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 9:58 AM
To: Smith, George AG:EX; Milne, Gala AG:EX; Harder, Derrick AG:EX
Cc: Robins, Shawn GCPE:EX
Subject: PRIORITY REQUEST: AG Media Request: Townhall Cancellation as of 9:53

3 Priority Requests

- CKNW – townhall cancellation
- News 1130 – townhall cancellation
- CTV News – townhall cancellation - scheduling in progress

Note: Sent take over request to Finance for CBC Almanac. They are considering it but they already have an On the Coast request. Will update ASAP.

Sara Hyde, Producer
CKNW AM 980
Sara.hyde@corusent.com
604-725-0810
Deadline ASAP

Request

The Lynda Steele Show is requesting a live interview with MDE to discuss the cancellation of the townhall, the tactics used by the opposition in driving push back on this.

Host: Lynda Steele
Time: Options - 3:05 pm, 3:35 pm, 4:05 pm, or 5:07 pm - 8 minutes.
Style: live, no callers
Call in: 604-331-2774
Or in studio: 700 West Georgia, 20th Floor.

Reporter

Marcella Bernardo, Reporter
News 1130
marcella.bernardo@vancouverradio.rogers.com
604-877-4400

Deadline ASAP

Request

Request for a short pretape interview with MDE regarding concerns that led to cancellation of townhall.

If the Minister is available before 11 AM, ask for Dave White.

If the Minister is available after 11 AM, ask for Marcella Bernardo

Call in number: 604-877-4400

Reporter

Scott Roberts, Reporter

CTV News (BC)

Scott.Roberts@bellmedia.ca

604-340-5495

Deadline ASAP

Request

The reporter is requesting an interview to follow up on MDE's Facebook post about the cancellation of the townhall re: school tax

Style: short on-camera interview.

Time: flexible - reporter will come to MDE.

Question:

What caused your decision to cancel the townhall?

Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX

From: Smith, George AG:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 10:45 AM
To: Eby, David AG:EX
Subject: FW: PRIORITY REQUEST: AG Media Request: Townhall Cancellation as of 9:53

Importance: High

Updated list

From: Togneri, Cassandra GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 10:40 AM
To: Smith, George AG:EX; Milne, Gala AG:EX; Harder, Derrick AG:EX
Cc: Robins, Shawn GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: PRIORITY REQUEST: AG Media Request: Townhall Cancellation as of 9:53
Importance: High

5 Priority Requests

- CP – Interview request - NEW
- Global News – townhall cancellation – on camera - NEW
- CKNW – townhall cancellation
- News 1130 – townhall cancellation
- CTV News – townhall cancellation - scheduling in progress

Note: Finance is doing On the Coast and is still considering Almanac.

Reporter

Dirk Meissner, Reporter
Canadian Press (BC Bureau)
dirk.meissner@thecanadianpress.com
250-384-4912 c: s.22
Deadline ASAP

Request

The reporter would like to speak to the Minister about the townhall cancellation and the German report if there is any update.

Style: by phone, 15 minutes
Call: Dirk's cell 250-384-4912

Reporter

Nadia Stewart, Reporter
Global TV | BC
nadia.stewart@globalnews.ca
604-603-7587
Deadline ASAP

Request

The reporter is request an interview with MDE to discuss his townhall cancellation.

Style: On-camera, 15 minutes.

Time: flexible - will send camera to the Minister

Sara Hyde, Producer

CKNW AM 980

Sara.hyde@corusent.com

604-725-0810

Deadline ASAP

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News 1130

marcella.bernardo@vancouverradio.rogers.com

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Scott.Roberts@bellmedia.ca

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school tax

Style: short on-camera interview.

Time: flexible - reporter will come to MDE.

Question:

What caused your decision to cancel the tonwhall?

Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX

From: Eby, David AG:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 10:47 AM
To: Smith, George AG:EX
Subject: RE: PRIORITY REQUEST: AG Media Request: Townhall Cancellation as of 9:53

News 1130 done

From: Smith, George AG:EX
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Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 9:58 AM
To: Smith, George AG:EX; Milne, Gala AG:EX; Harder, Derrick AG:EX
Cc: Robins, Shawn GCPE:EX
Subject: PRIORITY REQUEST: AG Media Request: Townhall Cancellation as of 9:53

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- CKNW – townhall cancellation
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Style: short on-camera interview.

Time: flexible - reporter will come to MDE.

Question:

What caused your decision to cancel the townhall?

Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX

From: Eby, David AG:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 10:48 AM
To: Smith, George AG:EX
Subject: RE: PRIORITY REQUEST: AG Media Request: Townhall Cancellation as of 9:53

I'll call Dirk. I'm at Canada Place office today so media can come by as scheduled.
D.

From: Smith, George AG:EX
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Importance: High

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Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 10:49 AM
To: Eby, David AG:EX
Subject: RE: PRIORITY REQUEST: AG Media Request: Townhall Cancellation as of 9:53

Ok, we will book a time for both CTV and Global

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The Lynda Steele Show is requesting a live interview with MDE to discuss the cancellation of the townhall, the tactics used by the opposition in driving push back on this.

Host: Lynda Steele

Time: Options - 3:05 pm, 3:35 pm, 4:05 pm, or 5:07 pm - 8 minutes.

Style: live, no callers

Call in: 604-331-2774

Or in studio: 700 West Georgia, 20th Floor.

Reporter

Marcella Bernardo, Reporter

News 1130

marcella.bernardo@vancouVERRADIO.rogers.com

604-877-4400

Deadline ASAP

Request

Request for a short pretape interview with MDE regarding concerns that led to cancellation of townhall.

If the Minister is available before 11 AM, ask for Dave White.

If the Minister is available after 11 AM, ask for Marcella Bernardo

Call in number: 604-877-4400

Reporter

Scott Roberts, Reporter

CTV News (BC)

Scott.Roberts@bellmedia.ca

604-340-5495

Deadline ASAP

Request

The reporter is requesting an interview to follow up on MDE's Facebook post about the cancellation of the townhall re: school tax

Style: short on-camera interview.

Time: flexible - reporter will come to MDE.

Question:

What caused your decision to cancel the townhall?

Nanninga, Tanera AG:EX

From: Eby, David AG:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 10:58 AM
To: Smith, George AG:EX
Subject: RE: PRIORITY REQUEST: AG Media Request: Townhall Cancellation as of 9:53

Lynda Steele ok for either of the 3pm times.

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Subject: RE: PRIORITY REQUEST: AG Media Request: Townhall Cancellation as of 9:53

I'll call Dirk. I'm at Canada Place office today so media can come by as scheduled.
D.

From: Smith, George AG:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 10:45 AM
To: Eby, David AG:EX
Subject: FW: PRIORITY REQUEST: AG Media Request: Townhall Cancellation as of 9:53
Importance: High

Updated list

From: Togneri, Cassandra GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 10:40 AM
To: Smith, George AG:EX; Milne, Gala AG:EX; Harder, Derrick AG:EX
Cc: Robins, Shawn GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: PRIORITY REQUEST: AG Media Request: Townhall Cancellation as of 9:53
Importance: High

5 Priority Requests

- CP – Interview request - NEW
- Global News – townhall cancellation – on camera - NEW
- CKNW – townhall cancellation
- News 1130 – townhall cancellation
- CTV News – townhall cancellation - scheduling in progress

Note: Finance is doing On the Coast and is still considering Almanac.

Reporter

Dirk Meissner, Reporter
Canadian Press (BC Bureau)
dirk.meissner@thecanadianpress.com
250-384-4912 c: s.22
Deadline ASAP

Request

The reporter would like to speak to the Minister about the townhall cancellation and the German report if there is any update.

Style: by phone, 15 minutes
Call: Dirk's cell 250-384-4912

Reporter

Nadia Stewart, Reporter
Global TV | BC
nadia.stewart@globalnews.ca
604-603-7587
Deadline ASAP

Request

The reporter is request an interview with MDE to discuss his townhall cancellation.

Style: On-camera, 15 minutes.
Time: flexible - will send camera to the Minister

Sara Hyde, Producer
CKNW AM 980
Sara.hyde@corusent.com
604-725-0810
Deadline ASAP

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Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 11:20 AM
To: Eby, David AG:EX
Subject: RE: PRIORITY REQUEST: AG Media Request: Townhall Cancellation as of 9:53

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Scott.Roberts@bellmedia.ca

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To: Smith, George AG:EX
Subject: Re: PRIORITY REQUEST: AG Media Request: Townhall Cancellation as of 9:53

I'll go outside

On May 1, 2018, at 11:19 AM, Smith, George AG:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

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Style: short on-camera interview.

Time: flexible - reporter will come to MDE.

Question:

What caused your decision to cancel the townhall?

Page 40 to/à Page 42

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.13

ADVICE TO MINISTER

<p>CONFIDENTIAL GCPE-FIN ISSUE NOTE</p> <p>Ministry of Finance RECORD OPR:</p> <p>Date: March 5, 2018</p> <p>Minister Responsible: Carole James</p>	<p>Increased School Tax</p>
---	------------------------------------

RECOMMENDED RESPONSE:

- **We believe in a fair, progressive tax system where everyone pays their fair share.**
- **By asking the top 2% to pay a little bit more, we can ensure that we have the kinds of schools, hospitals, housing and other services that British Columbians need.**
- **We are asking those who have benefited the most from skyrocketing housing prices to pay just a little bit more.**
- **The school tax on the top 2% of homes will increase by 0.2% on values between \$3 million and \$4 million and 0.4% on values over \$4 million. This kind of progressivity is the cornerstone of a fair tax system.**

If asked: Does this increased school tax apply to apartment buildings?

- **The Province has been clear that rental apartment buildings are not the subject of changes to the school tax.**
- **That's why the budget bill tabled on Feb. 20, 2018 includes this exclusion.**
- **The Ministry of Finance is available to answer technical questions if individuals or organizations require assistance in interpreting or understanding legislation.**

BACKGROUND:

Starting in 2019, the Province will be increasing the school tax on homes assessed over \$3 million. A news release by Goodman Report sent Feb. 27 2018 mischaracterized the application of the tax, claiming that rental apartment buildings would be subject to the tax, creating confusion with stakeholders and in the media.

Effective 2019, the Province is introducing a province-wide increased school tax on high valued residential properties. This increased tax applies to the portion of a residential property's taxable assessed value that exceeds \$3 million. In the case of a mixed use property, only the residential portion is subject to the tax.

The new tax rates are as follows:

0-\$3 million	Rate varies with school district
Value over \$3 million	0.2 per cent
Value over \$4 million	0.4 per cent

The Province estimates the increased school tax will raise an additional \$50 million in 2018/19.

The tax will be administered through the existing school tax system, with municipalities and the Province's Surveyor of Taxes responsible for tax collection.

The budget bill tabled on Feb. 20, 2018 is clear that apartment buildings are not subject to the increased school tax. The increased school tax applies to dwelling properties. A dwelling property is defined as a property used as a residence for 3 or fewer families. Therefore, **properties with 4 or more families are not subject to the tax.** Stratified condos and townhomes are subject to the tax if the unit is valued over \$3 million.

For the exact definition see "dwelling property" in the budget bill: <https://www.leg.bc.ca/parliamentary-business/legislation-debates-proceedings/41st-parliament/3rd-session/bills/first-reading/gov02-1>

Communications Contact:	Melissa Peters	250 356-5698
Program Area Contact:	Steve Hawkshaw	250
	Duncan Jillings	
	Tim Godfrey	
File Created:	February 13, 2018	
File Updated:	February 28, 2018	
File Location:		

Program Area	Comm. Director	Deputy	Minister's Office
DJ	SZ		

Questions and Answers – School Tax Increase

What is the B.C. government doing with all these new property taxes?

- We believe in a fair, progressive tax system where everyone pays their fair share.
- By asking the top 2% to pay a little bit more, we can ensure that we have the kinds of schools, hospitals, housing and other services that British Columbians rely on.
- That's why we're asking those who have benefited the most from skyrocketing housing prices to pay just a little bit more.
- The school tax on the top 2% of homes will increase by 0.2% on values between \$3 million and \$4 million and 0.4% on values over \$4 million. This kind of progressivity is the cornerstone of a fair tax system.

What is the school tax?

- The school tax is the provincial portion of residential property taxes and applies to all residential properties in B.C.
- It is calculated based on each property's assessed value.
- School tax rates vary by school district, according to an existing formula.

Is the school tax just for schools? If yes, why does someone with no kids have to pay it? If not, what's it for?

- The school tax applies to all residential properties in B.C. It is one of the taxes on the annual property tax notice and has existed for decades.
- Revenue raised from the school tax goes into general provincial revenue, to fund schools, hospitals, housing and the services we all rely on.

What is the history of the residential school tax?

- s.13

Why is the government increasing the school tax on residential property over \$3 million?

- For too long, housing prices in B.C. have soared unchecked, driving a housing affordability crisis and creating an increasing inequality gap in our province.
- Our plan is tackling the housing crisis and making the system more progressive.

- We're asking those who have benefited the most from soaring prices to pay just a little bit more.

Why was \$3 million chosen as the threshold for the school tax increase?

- This is about making the province more progressive. This change applies to the top 2% of residential properties in BC.
- We're asking those that have benefited the most from rising housing prices to contribute a little bit more.

Who has to pay the increased school tax? Does it matter if I'm a British Columbian or a foreigner?

- The additional school tax applies to the portion of a residential property's value that exceeds \$3 million.
- In the case of a mixed-use property, only the residential portion is subject to the tax.
- The tax is applied to the property, based on the assessed value. It does not take into account the homeowner's citizenship or residency.
- We have taken additional measures to decrease housing demand from BC non-residents, including expanding and increasing the foreign buyers tax and moving forward with a speculation tax.

I have a property worth \$2.99 million. Do I have to pay the tax?

- The owner of a residential property with an assessed value of \$2.99 million would not pay additional tax.
- The increased school tax only applies to property value that exceeds \$3 million.

I have a property worth \$5 million. How much tax do I have to pay?

- The owner of a property with an assessed value of \$5M would pay additional school tax at the following rate:
 - 0.2% on the value between \$3M-\$4M (\$1M) = \$2,000
 - 0.4% on the value that exceeds \$4M (\$1M) = \$4,000
 - Total additional school tax = \$6,000
- This tax can be deferred through the existing system if needed.

I'm a developer with a residential property worth more than \$3 million. Do I have to pay the tax?

s.13

-
-

I have vacant land that is classed as residential. Do I have to pay the increased school tax?

- s.13

What are the new school tax rates?

- The additional school tax rates, which apply on top of the general school tax rates, are as follows:

Value over \$3 million	0.2 per cent
Value over \$4 million	0.4 per cent

When does the increase come into effect?

- The increased school tax is effective for the 2019 tax year and subsequent tax years.

What analysis did you do to determine this rate/threshold?

- Ministry staff did extensive analysis on housing across British Columbia.
- This included consideration of housing demand and supply, housing starts and inventory, housing prices, house market behaviour and trends, interest rates, economic growth, rising population due to in-migration and geographic trends.

Does this increase unfairly impact homeowners in larger cities?

- Homeowners in urban areas such as Metro Vancouver have greatly benefitted from rising housing prices.
- Increasing the school tax helps improve the progressivity of the property tax system.

Does this increase unfairly impact people who have lived in their homes for a long time?

- Homeowners such as seniors who may have lived in their homes a long time are still able to defer their property taxes, including the increased school tax.
- Further, these individuals will have seen the greatest appreciation in home values as a result

of the housing crisis.

Can the increased school tax be deferred? Who can defer?

- Yes, eligible homeowners (seniors and families with children) can defer their property taxes, including the increased school tax if their property is assessed over \$3 million.
- The property tax deferment program is a low interest loan that allows eligible citizens and permanent residents to defer paying all or part of their property taxes on their principal residence.

Will you increase the Home Owner Grant to help offset this increase?

- Owners of the most expensive 7% of homes do not receive a grant.

Does the increased school tax apply to apartment buildings?

- The government has been clear that rental apartment buildings are not the subject of changes to the school tax.
- That's why the budget bill tabled on Feb. 20, 2018 includes this exclusion.
- The Ministry of Finance is available to answer technical questions if individuals or organizations require assistance in interpreting or understanding legislation.

I have a property worth over \$3 million comprised of 3 rental suites. Do I have to pay the increased school tax?

- A property with 3 or fewer families is subject to the increased tax.
- A dwelling property is defined as a property used or intended to be used as a residence for 3 or fewer families.
- Properties for 4 or more families are not subject to the tax.

How does the rate reflect assessed value?

- Property owners see their tax change, depending on the change in their home's assessed value and its location.

What is the history of rate changes on school tax?

- Successive governments have chosen a policy that sets residential school tax rates to increase by the previous year's provincial inflation rate (generally, before HOG).
- This policy has been in place since 2003. Tax rates are set using a formula that is based in equal part on:

- The total number of residential properties in the school district; and
- The total residential assessed value in the district.

How much revenue will this increase raise for the government?

- Budget 2018 estimates that the increased school tax will raise \$50 million in 2018/19 and \$200 million in 2019/2020.

What will the government do with this increased revenue?

- The revenues from the increased school tax will help fund the health, education, housing and other services we all depend on.

How does the increased school tax fit into the 30-point housing plan?

- Increasing the school tax on B.C.'s top 2% of homes helps improve the progressivity of the property tax system and will help stabilize the market.
- We're asking those who have benefitted the most from soaring property values to give a little bit more for the services we all rely on.

From: [Milne, Gala AG:EX](#)
To: [Harder, Derrick AG:EX](#); [Smith, George AG:EX](#)
Cc: [Arora, Jasleen MCF:EX](#)
Subject: Fwd: MLA David Eby Newsletter April 2018
Date: Thursday, April 19, 2018 7:41:54 AM

FYI

Gala

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: Gala Milne <[s.22](#)>
Date: April 19, 2018 at 12:24:50 AM PDT
To: gala.milne@gov.bc.ca
Subject: Fwd: MLA David Eby Newsletter April 2018

Begin forwarded message:

From: David Eby, MLA for Vancouver-Point Grey <david.eby.mla@leg.bc.ca>
Date: April 18, 2018 at 1:59:28 PM PDT
To: <[s.22](#)>
Subject: MLA David Eby Newsletter April 2018
Reply-To: David Eby, MLA for Vancouver-Point Grey <david.eby.mla@leg.bc.ca>

Vancouver-Point Grey Community Office April 2018 Newsletter

[View this email in your browser](#)

Page 51 to/à Page 58

Withheld pursuant to/removal as

Copyright

From: [Smith, George AG:EX](#)
To: [Milne, Gala AG:EX](#); [Harder, Derrick AG:EX](#); [Scott, Samantha AG:EX](#)
Subject: Fwd: Posted version of statement
Date: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 7:00:45 AM

Final version

-George

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Eby, David AG:EX" <David.Eby@gov.bc.ca>
Date: May 1, 2018 at 6:45:13 AM PDT
To: "Anderson, Dulcy LASS:EX" <Dulcy.Anderson@leg.bc.ca>, "Smith, George AG:EX" <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca>
Subject: Posted version of statement

Thank you to all of the volunteers and registered attendees for our scheduled Town Hall for tonight. I have some difficult news.

As you know, my job is to represent my constituents. I can only do that if I can hear from constituents. Hearing from community members is critically important to me, regardless of whether the feedback is positive or negative.

I have been meeting with constituents and I have heard the opposition and the concerns associated with an increase in the school tax that will impact those with homes valued over \$3M in my constituency of Vancouver Point Grey.

I have also heard from many others in our community about their appreciation for government funding the seismic upgrade at Bayview Elementary, increasing funding for chronically understaffed schools, and for helping them to reduce overwhelming childcare costs and MSP premiums.

I thought it would be beneficial to have a community discussion about the school tax, including accurate information about the policy, while giving people a chance to provide feedback directly to government. When tickets sold out, we considered a telephone town hall, but settled on a live streaming of the event.

In response, ads were run by two separate real estate agencies encouraging non-constituents and people without tickets to attend the event. The leader of the BC Liberals personally wrote a letter and distributed it, encouraging individuals to attend "whether you have a ticket or not."

We pressed on, knowing the importance of the event to many community members. But the tactics of the opponent groups ramped up.

The final straw was the rescheduling of the protest for "angry" people to "march on in" to the event an hour and a half before the event itself, making it impossible for us to secure the venue in advance.

We were no longer able to ensure only those with tickets could attend, which meant we could not ensure safety. We had, as we always do, scheduled high school students and seniors to help us staff the event as volunteers – not as security guards to hold the line against people trying to "march on in" without a ticket, or to escort guests with

tickets through crowds of angry people to get them to the front door. If that wasn't difficult enough, my constituency staff, as well as those identified as supporters of the tax, have now become a personal target of some individuals. For the first time in my career of hosting literally hundreds of community events on difficult topics of all kinds, I have decided to postpone the town hall until we can ensure we can hold it safely. We have a proud five-year tradition of community events in Vancouver Point Grey without incident, and I will find a way to continue this tradition. In the meantime, I will continue to engage and meet with constituents on this and many other matters, and find a way to hear from constituents in a group while assuring that this can be done in a welcoming way for everyone.

Hon. David Eby, QC

Attorney General for British Columbia

Minister responsible for ICBC, Liquor and Gaming

Room 232, Parliament Buildings

PO Box 9044 Stn Provincial Govt

Victoria, BC

V8W 9E2

AG.minister@gov.bc.ca

Office: (250) 387-1866

Fax: (250) 387-6411

This communication (both the message and any attachments) is confidential and may be protected by solicitor-client privilege. It is intended only for the use of the person or persons to whom it is addressed. Any distribution, copying, or other use by anyone else is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please destroy the email message and any attachments immediately and notify my office by telephone or by email.

From: [Togneri, Cassandra GCPE:EX](#)
To: [Smith, George AG:EX](#); [Milne, Gala AG:EX](#); [Harder, Derrick AG:EX](#)
Cc: [Robins, Shawn GCPE:EX](#)
Subject: RE: Priority Request AG Media
Date: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 2:59:36 PM

Will do.

From: Smith, George AG:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 2:57 PM
To: Togneri, Cassandra GCPE:EX; Milne, Gala AG:EX; Harder, Derrick AG:EX
Cc: Robins, Shawn GCPE:EX
Subject: RE: Priority Request AG Media
Can you please pass on to Finance that Bailey asked a question after the interview:
Where (if at all) was the schools tax in the campaign platform?

From: Togneri, Cassandra GCPE:EX
Sent: Tuesday, May 1, 2018 11:52 AM
To: Smith, George AG:EX; Milne, Gala AG:EX; Harder, Derrick AG:EX
Cc: Robins, Shawn GCPE:EX
Subject: Priority Request AG Media

1 Request

- **Globe and Mail – short interview**
-

Reporter

Ian Bailey, Reporter
Globe and Mail - BC Bureau
ibailey@globeandmail.com
604-631-6652 c: s.22

Deadline Tuesday, May 1, 2018 12:00 PM

Request

The reporter is requesting a short interview with the Minister regarding the cancellation of his townhall meeting.

Time: anytime - **suggest 1:15 pm**

Call in: **s.22**

From: [Togneri, Cassandra GCPE:EX](#)
To: [Smith, George AG:EX](#)
Cc: [Milne, Gala AG:EX](#); [Harder, Derrick AG:EX](#); [Robins, Shawn GCPE:EX](#)
Subject: Re: PRIORITY REQUESTS: CBC national, National Post
Date: Wednesday, May 2, 2018 11:17:10 AM

No problem. Are we confirmed going forward with Minister Eby?

On May 2, 2018, at 11:16 AM, Smith, George AG:EX <George.Smith@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Ok. Thanks for checking.

On May 2, 2018, at 11:15 AM, Togneri, Cassandra GCPE:EX
<Cassandra.Togneri@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Just called her back - they want to talk about the cancellation of the event itself, the anger within his constituency, and why the tax itself is needed. So it is a mix.

On May 2, 2018, at 11:12 AM, Smith, George AG:EX
<George.Smith@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

Can we get some clarity on what exactly As It Happens is looking to discuss?
Is their focus the town hall & protest? Or is their focus the schools tax?
If it's the latter, I would recommend the Minister responsible take this interview but I have not yet discussed this with the AG.

-George

On May 2, 2018, at 10:22 AM, Togneri, Cassandra GCPE:EX <Cassandra.Togneri@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

I'm sorry to nag on this, I know the AG is in meetings – we are overdue for the 10 am response and if the Minister is interested in the AIH interview, they need some notice to prep the host.

Thanks!

Cass

2 Priority Requests

<!--[if !supportLists]-->•<!--[endif]--
>**CBC As It Happens – interview
request – townhall**
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>**National Post – statement – due
at 10 AM - overdue**

Reporter

Katie Geleff, Producer
CBC As it happens
katie.geleff@cbc.ca
416-205-2660

Deadline Wednesday, May 2, 2018 12:00 PM

Request

The reporter is requesting an interview with Minister Eby for CBC Radio's national evening program As It Happens to discuss the school tax and the cancellation of yesterday's town hall.

Style: Pretape, no callers. 10-12 minutes, edited for air to about 6 minutes

Host: Carol Off

Time: Before 2 pm PST. Suggestion: 12: 15pm PST.

Call-in number: 416-205-2660

Reporter

Douglas Quan, Reporter
National Post - BC
dquan@postmedia.com
604-742-8883 c: s.22

Deadline Wednesday, May 2, 2018
10:00 AM

Request

The reporter is requesting an interview with Minister Eby.

Time: any time today, or before 10 AM Wednesday morning.

Questions:

Can the Minister comment on the creation of the BC RCMP's new position "Financial Criminal Special Adviser"?

Could amplify on a few of the comments he made to the federal finance committee in Ottawa? What evidence the province has of a direct link between illicit money being

channeled through casinos and illicit money in our real estate market?
Can the Minister comment further on his comments re: FINTRAC and its lack of enforcement mechanisms?

Follow-up questions:

What's Mr. Eby's reaction to the RCMP creating this special advisor position on financial crimes?

Money laundering obviously exists across the country. For the benefit of our readers outside of BC, can Mr. Eby explain what makes the situation in BC stand out?

During his testimony in Ottawa Mr Eby stated: "Money laundering is not a victimless crime. It's also connected to the fact that we have big problems in our real estate market." Can he more precisely connect the dots? How is the laundering of money in casinos intertwined with soaring prices of real estate? Is it that drug ("dirty") money is being funnelled into casinos and then people walk out with "clean" money that is then used to purchase real estate? Where are the biggest gaps in enforcement? Is it with RCMP lacking financial crime experts? Is it FINTRAC requiring casinos and realtors to report stuff but there's no follow-up enforcement? Is it casinos/realtors not doing their part in reporting suspicious activities in the first place? All of the above?

Background: The position RCMP position the reporter is referring to is described here:

<https://buyandsell.gc.ca/procurement-data/tender-notice/PW-18-00826294>

The federal government plans to directly award the contract to John Ahern (currently a senior legal counsel at his own firm, previously worked for the Criminal Justice Branch and the RCMP).

Have been unable to identify any information about the BC-RCMP position through GPEB.

Statement has been drafted from the AG's speech to the federal finance committee, as

well as some of German's verbatim recommendations for that meeting.

Recommendation – provide statement from the Attorney General

Statement from Attorney General David Eby

“The issue in British Columbia is so notorious, and so severe, that at least one international intelligence community now calls a model of money laundering the “Vancouver model.”

“In the Vancouver model of money laundering, a wealthy individual from China, a country with strict currency export controls, wants to gamble. A gangster will meet that gambler at a Casino, offering cash in amounts as high as hundreds of thousands of dollars. The cash is the proceeds of gang crime. To pay for the cash, the gambler agrees to transfer money in China from his bank account into a bank account under the control of the gang. The gambler walks the illicit cash into the casino, completes a FINTRAC reporting form, buys chips, gambles, and on leaving, either cashes out, receiving a cheque, or carries the chips out of the casino.

“In sum, the criminal gang has successfully laundered difficult-to-manage twenty dollar bills, moving the money out of Canada while keeping their names off FINTRAC forms. Those involved in the transaction can truthfully report that everyone is following all of the reporting rules.

“In terms of gaps in enforcement, there are a range of factors at play. A major issue I raised with the federal committee in Ottawa was the need to dedicate federal RCMP resources to B.C. to support us in this fight against money laundering and trans-national crime. It's a bigger issue than just B.C. It's an international issue and we need that support to deal with it.

“FINTRAC does a very good job of collecting reports and entering them into a database that's available to law enforcement. However, FINTRAC, the RCMP and Revenue Canada need the resources to

follow up on these reports. There is no question there has been a massive failure here.

“In Ottawa, I asked the federal finance committee to investigate why all these reports go to FINTRAC without seeing any prosecutions for money laundering. I asked the committee give FINTRAC and the RCMP the powers that they need to be able to investigate and prosecute this kind of activity.

“Other factors include:

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>The absence of reporting by lawyers to FINTRAC is a significant gap in Canada and is a significant impediment to police investigations involving the movement of money through real estate and other financial sectors.

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>Law enforcement officials do not work within FINTRAC, due to privacy concerns. Any opportunity to broaden the use of the intelligence housed within FINTRAC would be a benefit.

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>In 2012, the RCMP eliminated its national Proceeds of Crime and Commercial Crime Sections, in favour of a new task force orientation to investigations. Although indications are that the RCMP is now rebuilding its financial crime expertise, the gap in federal policing in this important area between 2012 and 2017, displaced responsibility for ‘white collar’ crime to provincial and municipal police, who generally did not have the resources or expertise to take on these complex files.

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>Finally, the defunding of B.C.’s integrated casino policing team in 2009 allowed suspicious transactions

to climb in B.C. casinos. Large, suspicious transactions continued unabated from 2009 until late 2017, when our new government instructed B.C. casinos not to accept large cash transactions unless they could confirm the legitimate source of the funds.

“Further details about enforcement will be available when we publicly share Dr. Peter German’s report on British Columbia’s anti-money laundering policies and practices in Lower Mainland casinos.

“At this time we don’t have any details on the B.C. RCMP’s new financial criminal special adviser position, but we are encouraged to hear that efforts are being taken to increase enforcement.

“Recent media reports of money laundering through real estate in British Columbia are very serious and deeply troubling. Our government will work to determine the scope of this issue, and what must be done to appropriately address it.

“Dr. German was directed to explore what connection, if any, the issue has with other areas of B.C.’s economy. We are in the process of reviewing his report and will provide government’s response in due course. However, given the severity of the issue, I have asked Dr. German to take on a second round of investigation specifically around money laundering through real estate.”

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