

Page 001 to/à Page 003

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

NR

Rennert-May, Leya SDSI:EX

From: Simpson.MLA, Shane <Shane.Simpson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: Friday, July 28, 2017 2:56 PM
To: Minister, SDPR SDPR:EX
Subject: FW: SELF EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM: A CRITIQUE

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: REPLY DIRECT (STAFF/CU SIGNATURE)

Hi there,

Thank you for your email. I am passing it on to Shane's Ministerial office.

Best,
Anne

Anne Vavrik | Constituency Assistant | The Hon. Shane Simpson, MLA Vancouver-Hastings
Minister for Social Development and Poverty Reduction
(t) 604-775-2277 | (f) 604-775-2352 | 2365 E. Hastings St. Vancouver BC, V5L 1V6
[www.http://shanesimpson.ca](http://shanesimpson.ca) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Newsletter](#)

**Please Note: From time to time, this office passes on messages from local organizations as a public service.
This office does not warrant or guarantee the services or information described. If you have questions or concerns regarding this information, please contact the originator directly.

From: Krog.MLA, Leonard Eugene
Sent: July 28, 2017 2:48 PM
To: Simpson.MLA, Shane <Shane.Simpson.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Cc: s.22
Subject: FW: SELF EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM: A CRITIQUE

The Hon. Shane Simpson
Minister of Social Development and Poverty Reduction
Member of the Legislative Assembly

Dear Minister Simpson,

I am passing on to you the letter from s.22 one of my constituents, which is addressed to our local Member of Parliament Sheila Malcolmson and Myself and s.22 comments about the Self Employment Program. I have no idea whether you are reviewing program and it success rate, but the suggestion raised by s.22 respecting s.22 own case and the value and the success rate of the program does seem to present an opportunity for Government to review to see that these monies are being wisely spent and producing the bang for the buck.

Please advise if I have sent this to the incorrect Ministry.

Yours very truly,

Leonard Eugene Krog, MLA
Nanaimo

From: s.22

Sent: July 25, 2017 4:59 PM

To: Krog, MLA, Leonard Eugene <Leonard.Krog.MLA@leg.bc.ca>; Sheila.Malcolmson@parl.gc.ca

Subject: Fwd: SELF EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM: A CRITIQUE

Dear Ms. Malcolmson and Mr. Krog,

I am forwarding the email below so that you are both aware of fundamental flaws that exist with the Self Employment Program (SEP) as administered in the province of British Columbia.

Although I feel grateful to have gained knowledge with regard to establishing a successful business plan, my experience s.22 presented challenges that seemed insurmountable forcing me to withdraw s.22 of the SEP.

It seems that I was naive when entering the SEP as I was under the impression that it's intended purpose is to provide financial assistance and business guidance to aspiring entrepreneurs. Now I relate to the SEP as a system that provides work for government bureaucrats and close friendly associates of government.

With all due respect, I ask what if anything can be done to address the concerns contained in the forwarded email?

Very disappointed,
s.22

----- Forwarded message -----

From: s.22

Date: Tue, Jul 25, 2017 at 4:15 PM

Subject: SELF EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM: A CRITIQUE
s.22

As promised please accept this email as notification that I am withdrawing from the 48 week Self Employment Program (SEP) s.22 due to the following reasons:

-Until recently I was not aware that that I was confined to the Nanaimo region which is proving to be detrimental in executing my business plan

-The SEP as currently structured does not reflect the fast changing business realities confronted by participants -- in my particular case, my business requires a bricks and mortar location from which to conduct business. However, the high cost of commercial and residential rates in Nanaimo act as significant barriers to entry. ^{s.22}

^{s.22}

my primary focus shifted away from further developing the business plan, when I created spreadsheets showing reasonable forecasts, to exploring options to implement the plan given high rental costs

-In the past ^{s.22} I have spent a significant amount of my own funds, worked diligently on retraining and skills development. And now to be locked-out of SEP funding by the out-dated Self Employment Program criterion is difficult for me to accept. My business plan needs to find a location that does not have the barrier to entry of high rental costs to the degree that the Nanaimo region does.

In order to ensure the SEP does indeed serve other people like myself in the future, perhaps a more thorough SEP participant screening is necessary if their plans involve holistic health and require commercial rental space? Or perhaps the *SEP needs to change so that it provides functional assistance* for aspiring business owners, i.e. allow greater flexibility to establish their business where it has a greater degree of success. Indeed "If what you are doing does not work then change the plan." ^{s.22}

-A reasonable definition of 'Success' could mean, generating sufficient revenues to sustain the business, pay a salary, pay taxes and contribute to society, I truly feel this is not possible for my business in the Nanaimo region

-I require flexibility in order to succeed in business -- the SEP does not offer me the support to implement the plan elsewhere where a greater degree of success can be found

Further, this past week I heard from ^{s.22} -- she wrote me to say that she is aware of 26 people who have gone through the SEP and "... [N]ot one of them has entered into business that lasted for more than 1 year."

Copies of this email have been sent to various parties who may have an interest in the SEP.

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Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.22

Rennert-May, Leya SDSI:EX

From: Rice.MLA, Jennifer <Jennifer.Rice.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: Saturday, July 29, 2017 11:00 AM
To: Greg Martin; Eby, David
Cc: Queen Charlotte Heritage Housing Society; Lori Wiedeman; Minister, SDPR SDPR:EX; Minister, MAH MAH:EX
Subject: Re: Queen Charlotte Housing Crisis
Attachments: image001.jpg

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: FYI/FILE

Hello Mayor Martin,

I have forwarded your email on to the new Housing Minister (Selina Robinson) as well as the new Social Development and Poverty Reduction Minister (Shane Simpson). Their email addresses (please note they will likely be changing in the near future) are copied above. As you can appreciate MLAs are swamped with wildfire and transition challenges at the moment so your patience for a response is appreciated.

Jennifer

Jennifer Rice | MLA - North Coast
Parliamentary Secretary, Emergency Preparedness

P: 250-624-7734 | TF: 1-866-624-7734

818 3rd Ave West, Prince Rupert, BC

V8J 1M6 |

Newsletter<<http://jenniferrice.us7.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=7fa2de192520fb652617483d5&id=affc7fe4dc>> |
Facebook<https://www.facebook.com/NDPJenniferRice/?modal=media_composer&ref=aymt_homepage_panel> |
Twitter<<https://twitter.com/JenniferRice6>> | Website<<http://jenniferrice.ca/>>

From: Greg Martin <mayor@queencharlotte.ca>

Date: Monday, July 10, 2017 at 2:56 PM

To: "Rice.MLA, Jennifer" <Jennifer.Rice.MLA@leg.bc.ca>, "Eby, David" <s.17>

Cc: Queen Charlotte Heritage Housing Society <seniors@qcislands.net>, Lori Wiedeman <cao@queencharlotte.ca>

Subject: Queen Charlotte Housing Crisis

Dear Jen Rice and David Eby,

In addition to our shortage of market housing and available building lots, I have previously written to you outlining our continuing loss of social housing. Specifically, as Makola and AHMA lose their (CHMC?) operating subsidies, they are selling off their housing inventories and raising rents on those units that they still own.

The note below is from Barb Rowsell, who is the administrator for our local housing society, in which she notes that clients with disabilities will soon be asked to pay rents that exceed their ability to pay. Is there any way that you can help?

Sincerely,
Greg Martin

----- Original Message -----
Subject:

makola houses

Date:

2017-07-10 12:06

From:

Martin Manor <seniors@gcislands.net<<mailto:seniors@gcislands.net>>>

To:

gmartin@gcislands.net<<mailto:gmartin@gcislands.net>>

Hi Greg, I was having a chat with the home care nurse^{s.22} A couple of her clients in Makola houses have been given notice that their rents, currently \$350 will rise to \$900 in Nov. Presumably, when the BCH agreements on them expire. These are people on disabilities.

barb

Mayor Greg Martin
Village of Queen Charlotte
903A Oceanview Drive
Queen Charlotte, B.C. V0T 1S0
250.559.4765
[\[cid:image001.jpg@01D30859.D0FBF0C0\]](#)

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Rennert-May, Leya SDSI:EX

From: Squance, Leah PREM:EX
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 9:36 AM
To: Minister, SDPR SDPR:EX
Subject: RE: SELF EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM: A CRITIQUE

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: REPLY DIRECT (STAFF/CU SIGNATURE)

Yes please go ahead. The Minister will respond to MLA Krog directly to let him know that there will be follow up.

From: Minister, SDPR SDPR:EX
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 8:51 AM
To: Squance, Leah PREM:EX
Subject: FW: SELF EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM: A CRITIQUE

Hi Leah,
I suggest a direct response from program area staff. Please let me know if you have any concerns.

Thanks!

From: Simpson.MLA, Shane [mailto:Shane.Simpson.MLA@leg.bc.ca]
Sent: Friday, July 28, 2017 2:56 PM
To: Minister, SDPR SDPR:EX
Subject: FW: SELF EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM: A CRITIQUE

Hi there,

Thank you for your email. I am passing it on to Shane's Ministerial office.

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Anne Vavrik | Constituency Assistant | The Hon. Shane Simpson, MLA Vancouver-Hastings
Minister for Social Development and Poverty Reduction
(t) 604-775-2277 | (f) 604-775-2352 | 2365 E. Hastings St. Vancouver BC, V5L 1V6
[www.http://shanesimpson.ca](http://shanesimpson.ca) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Newsletter](#)

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Member of the Legislative Assembly

Dear Minister Simpson,

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Nanaimo

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Copies of this email have been sent to various parties who may have an interest in the SEP.

Thank you for your continued assistance ^{s.22}

s.22

Rennert-May, Leya SDSI:EX

From: Conroy.MLA, Katrine <Katrine.Conroy.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: Tuesday, August 1, 2017 12:14 PM
To: Minister, SDPR SDSI:EX
Subject: FW: Disability Earnings Exemption

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Categories: ADD TO EXISTING LOG

Not our constituent, so I thought I'd pass this on to you:

By the way, I got a call from one of our constituents about this same matter with the same suggestion only about a week ago.

From: s.22
Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 5:52 PM
To: Conroy.MLA, Katrine <Katrine.Conroy.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: Disability Earnings Exemption

To the Honourable Katrine Conroy,

With some of the recent discussion of disability rate increases, I found it necessary to share my input on the subject.

I would far prefer a tripling or quadrupling of the Annual Earnings Exemption amount, particularly for families with children. Disability provides us enough to survive, but the exemption gives us the opportunity to thrive.

s.22 is capable of working, but only part time because she has to fill in for what I cannot do like helping at school functions s.22, grocery shopping, doctor's appointments, and so on. She could easily earn double the current annual exemption, but it would still leave us in a state of poverty, especially since we would essentially be cut off from receiving disability. Once the annual limit is reached, there's no incentive to continue working. It is rare to find a job that pays significantly more than disability and is flexible, which is what we would need in order not to rely on disability payments at all.

There are hundreds of daily struggles and disadvantages I already face. Why do governments feel they have to put a cap on our potential? Give enough to survive, leave the door open to thrive!

Sincerely,
s.22

Page 015 to/à Page 038

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

NR

Rennert-May, Leya SDSI:EX

From: Mark.MLA, Melanie <Melanie.Mark.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: Wednesday, November 1, 2017 11:38 AM
To: Minister, SDPR SDPR:EX
Subject: Thank you!

Thank you for your e-mail. This message is sent to assure you that your e-mail has been received by the Vancouver-Mount Pleasant Constituency Office.

Vancouver-Mount Pleasant is a vibrant community with lots of engaged residents. We love hearing from our constituents about the issues that matter most to them, and connecting people to the services they need.

Please be assured that we read every email that comes in, however, we do receive a huge volume of correspondence. We ask that you include your address/postal code in your email, as well as a phone number so that we can follow up with you by phone if needed. Unfortunately, it is not always possible to return every email due to high volume and our limited capacity.

Our mandate is to serve our constituents in Vancouver-Mount Pleasant. If you are not a local resident, we encourage you to reach out to your MLA's office for assistance - they will be your best advocate for Provincial Government issues. To find out which MLA represents your neighbourhood, you can enter your postal code here to get their contact information: <https://www.leg.bc.ca/learn-about-us/members>

Phoning our office is definitely the best way to get in touch with my staff and me. Please feel free to follow up on your email by calling us at 604-660-0707, particularly if your inquiry is time sensitive. If we are busy assisting other constituents, don't forget to leave a message!

If you are writing about the Ministry of Advanced Education, Skills and Training, please send your correspondence to AEST.Minister@gov.bc.ca.

Should you have a situation that requires immediate attention, please call:

-Service BC, toll-free at 1-800-663-7867 or 604-660-2421 and they will connect you to the appropriate government ministry; -BC 211 (dial 211 on your phone or visit <http://www.bc211.ca/>) to receive information and referrals about services in British Columbia; -for Municipal issues with the City of Vancouver, call 311; -For Federal Government issues please contact your local MP (in Vancouver-Mount Pleasant that will be Jenny Kwan at 604-775-5800 or Don Davies 604-775-6263);

-If you are writing about a child in danger, please immediately call the Child Help Line at 310-1234 (no area code required); -If you are in need of child and youth advocacy, please call the Representative for Children and Youth at 1-800-476-3933.

Thank you again for reaching out to my office, and for taking the time to read this message.

Best,

Hon. Melanie Mark | Hli Haykwhl Wii Xsgaak | 馬蘭妮 |

Member of the Legislative Assembly, Vancouver-Mount Pleasant Minister of Advanced Education, Skills and Training.
P: 604-660-0707 | F: 604-398-3711 | 1070-1641 Commercial Drive V5L 3Y3 www.MelanieMarkMLA.ca

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Page 081 to/à Page 085

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s.22

Page 086 to/à Page 125

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

NR

Simpson, Shane SDPR:EX

From: Begg.MLA, Garry <Garry.Begg.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Sent: Monday, October 2, 2017 8:03 AM
To: Simpson, Shane PREM:EX
Subject: RE: Caucus

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Yes.. 7 PM Tuesday...

From: Simpson, Shane PREM:EX [<mailto:Shane.Simpson@gov.bc.ca>]
Sent: Sunday, October 1, 2017 7:34 PM
To: Begg.MLA, Garry <Garry.Begg.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: Caucus

Hi Garry,

Can I confirm whether we have a Tuesday night caucus meeting? Thanks.

Sent from my Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

Simpson, Shane SDPR:EX

From: Mungall, Michelle <s.17>
Sent: Wednesday, August 2, 2017 6:42 AM
To: Simpson, Shane PREM:EX
Subject: Fwd: Congratulations! Great interview on CFAX this morning

Hi Shane,

Here is the latest email from Rob Sleath who's been organizing Barrier Free BC, a group wanting to see Accessibility legislation similar to Ontario (2005) and Manitoba (2013) and others jurisdictions (Nova Scotia in the last year, the US in 1990).

The purpose of such legislation is to task "society" with becoming more accessible in a proactive way rather than reactive via courts and human rights tribunals. From my research, if implemented well, it works over time.

The group is endorsed by all sector stakeholders. But they are small and just building their political experience. However, they are keen and a real pleasure to work with. They presented to SPC when we were Opposition last Spring.

This would be great legislation and worthwhile pursuing in my view. I highly recommend meeting with Rob and his group.

It has been such a whirlwind, but if you ever want to get together to go over anything in the file, let me know. I trust you have a good handle on things though, as you're very in tune with the issues.

FYI your ADM Molly Harrington is amazing, well-respected in the sector and a very creative thinker. She's the reason clawbacks ended.

Cheers, michelle

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

From: "Mungall.MLA, Michelle" <Michelle.Mungall.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Date: July 31, 2017 at 2:49:04 PM PDT
To: "Mungall, Michelle" <s.17>
Subject: FW: Congratulations! Great interview on CFAX this morning

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

From: Barrier-Free BC: Rob Sleath [mailto:rob.sleath@barrierfreebc.org]
Sent: July 27, 2017 8:25 PM
To: Mungall.MLA, Michelle <Michelle.Mungall.MLA@leg.bc.ca>
Subject: Congratulations! Great interview on CFAX this morning

Good day Madam Minister:

A quick note to compliment you on a great interview on CFAX Radio this morning. You faced the questions head on and were well prepared with answers. You came across as a Minister who really knows her stuff!

I'm a bit tardy in congratulating you on your Cabinet appointment. I was thrilled when the NDP caucus was sworn in as our province's leaders. Only disappointment was learning that you had been appointed to a different ministry in that I was so looking forward to working with you on a British Columbia Accessibility & Inclusion Act (previously referred to as a British Columbians with Disabilities

Act.) I am looking forward to working on this file with your colleague Minister Shane Simpson and am attempting to set up a face-to-face meeting with him at his very earliest convenience. To that end, may I ask if you have had any discussions with him about the need for accessibility legislation in the Province of BC? And might there be something you are able to do so that I can get an audience with him in the near future? Any assistance you can provide will be greatly appreciated.

Again, congratulations to the NDP on forming government and to you personally for your appointment as Minister of Energy.

Warm regards,

Barrier-Free BC

Rob Sleath

Chair

Phone: s.22

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NR

McKnight, Valerie SDPR:EX

From: Elmore, Mable s.17
Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2017 9:05 AM
To: McKnight, Valerie SDSI:EX
Subject: Re: Basic income meeting

Yes

Sent from my iPhone

> On Oct 12, 2017, at 9:04 AM, McKnight, Valerie SDSI:EX <Valerie.McKnight@gov.bc.ca> wrote:

>

> Hello,

>

> Will you be able to attend this morning?

>

> Thanks,

> Valerie

>

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

> From: Elmore, Mable s.17

> Sent: Thursday, October 12, 2017 7:08 AM

> To: McKnight, Valerie SDSI:EX

> Subject: Basic income meeting

>

> Good morning Valerie, can you please send me the information about the meeting today?

>

> Thanks,

> Mable

>

> Sent from my iPad

Page 144 to/à Page 164

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