



TOWN OF
SOUTH BRUCE PENINSULA

April 21, 2022

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Prime Minister Trudeau:

Re: New Home Tax Rebate Program

At the regular Council meeting held on April 19, 2022, the Council for the Corporation of the Town of South Bruce Peninsula discussed the New Home Tax Rebate Program. Our Council is focused on increasing the instances where both attainable and affordable housing are available to more residents of not only South Bruce Peninsula, but all across Canada. Council is pleased that the New Home Tax Rebate Program exists, and they applaud the government's commitment to assisting new home buyers.

Council, in their review of the program, respectfully requests that the Federal Government reconsiders their portion of the program. Council is encouraged by the Province of Ontario's program and would like to see the Federal Government either mirror the rebate program implemented by the Province of Ontario, or alternatively, increase the purchasing threshold to an amount which is greater than the current \$450,000 ceiling. In today's housing market, the instances of new houses being purchased for anything under \$450,000 is extremely rare, making the receipt of Federal rebate money not possible for most new home buyers.

Council adopted resolution R-144-2022 which is attached to this correspondence. We look forward to your consideration of this important issue and receiving a response with regard to same.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Yours very truly,

Janice Jackson
Mayor

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Enclosure

cc: Premier Doug Ford, MP Alex Ruff, MPP Bill Walker, all Ontario municipalities



Excerpt from Council Meeting Minutes – April 19, 2022

28. Notice of Motion – Mayor Jackson, New Home Tax Rebate Program

Discussion included the purchasing of homes and the government programs.

R-144-2022

It was **Moved** by J. Jackson, **Seconded** by K. Durst and **Carried**

Whereas attainable housing has been a concern for residents across Canada;

And whereas attainable housing is a priority for all levels of government;

And whereas the Government of Canada and the Province of Ontario have implemented HST and GST rebate programs for those purchasing newly constructed and majorly renovated homes;

And whereas the Province of Ontario rebate program applies to the first \$400,000 of the purchase price of the new home and land, as the case may be, with a maximum rebate of \$24,000;

And whereas the Government of Canada rebate program applies only to new home and land purchases, as the case may be, under \$450,000, with an incremental decrease in rebate as the purchase price reaches \$450,000 and the maximum rebate being \$6,000;

And whereas the cost of new home construction has risen exponentially such that the majority of Canadians cannot afford to purchase a newly constructed home;

And whereas the Province of Ontario rebate program goes a long way toward assisting Ontarians purchase newly constructed homes.

Now therefore be it resolved that the Corporation of the Town of South Bruce Peninsula requests that the Government of Canada reviews its rebate program and considers implementing their rebate program in the same manner as that of Ontario meaning that there is no incremental decrease applied to the rebate and instead a maximum rebate is established for new home purchases under \$450,000;

And that alternatively, if the Government of Canada does not see fit to mirror the rebate program of the Province of Ontario, that the Government of Canada increases its new home purchasing threshold to an amount significantly higher than \$450,000 which is reflective of today's housing market;

And further that Council's position on this matter is circulated to Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, Premier Doug Ford, MP Alex Ruff, MPP Bill Walker and all municipalities in Ontario.