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Pilon, Janet

Subject: Vacant Unit Tax | Hamilton and District Apartment Association ("HDAA") Letter to Madam Mayor and Members of City Council

From: Daniel P. Chin

Sent: Tuesday, April 16, 2024 8:22 AM

To: Office of the Mayor <OfficeoftheMayor@hamilton.ca>; Ward 1 Office <ward1@hamilton.ca>; Ward 2 <ward2@hamilton.ca>; Office of Ward 3 City Councillor Nrinder Nann <ward3@hamilton.ca>; Ward 4 <ward4@hamilton.ca>; Francis, Matt <Matt.Francis@hamilton.ca>; Jackson, Tom <Tom.Jackson@hamilton.ca>; Pauls, Esther <Esther.Pauls@hamilton.ca>; Ward 8 Office <ward8@hamilton.ca>; Clark, Brad <Brad.Clark@hamilton.ca>; Beattie, Jeff <Jeff.Beattie@hamilton.ca>; Tadeson, Mark <Mark.Tadeson@hamilton.ca>; Ward 12 Office <ward12@hamilton.ca>; Ward 13 <ward13@hamilton.ca>; Spadafora, Mike <Mike.Spadafora@hamilton.ca>; McMeekin, Ted <Ted.McMeekin@hamilton.ca>

Subject: Re: Vacant Unit Tax | Hamilton and District Apartment Association ("HDAA") Letter to Madam Mayor and Members of City Council

Good Morning Madam Mayor and Members of City Council:

Further to my last letter sent via email of April 11, 2024 (which have still not received any correspondence from all parties as of this date, except from one Councillor), I shall further express our concerns in regard to the above-captioned matter, on behalf of Hamilton and District Apartment Association ("HDAA"), with reference to the National Post Article below captioned "*Tens of thousands of Torontonians caught in bureaucratic nightmare due to vacant home tax*" (published on April 10, 2024):

<https://nationalpost.com/opinion/axe-torontos-vacant-home-tax>

Do you have any grounds for disagreeing with the following (5) five statements in the National Post Article:

- 1) *"The rollout of the City of Toronto's vacant home tax has been nothing short of disastrous."*
- 2) *"It's rather ironic that a program meant in part to be a revenue generator is now eating up a growing amount of money."*
- 3) *"But Toronto is not Vancouver. It is not, as one magazine feature described the West Coast City, "a giant safety deposit box for China's elite.""*
- 4) *"Then there's this doozy of a line from the report: "There is no reliable estimate for the number of residential units that may be vacant in Toronto.""*
- 5) *"This means that the bulk of the administration of the vacant home tax for two years running has actually been spent on wrongly penalizing people and then cleaning up the mess afterwards."*

Furthermore, with respect to the Hamilton Vacant Unit Tax, are you going to support something that will be disastrous, eat up a growing amount of money, with no reliable estimate of the number of vacant units (that is only applicable to Vancouver), and last but not least, are you ready for cleaning up the mess afterwards?

Please write or call if you have any questions or concerns with the foregoing statements of the National Post Article.

Best Regards,
Daniel P. Chin