

Re: Assessment Department to British Columbia Assessment Authority

The following is a report of the Municipal Assessor regarding the above.

With respect to the Business Tax function, there are only ten municipalities in the Province using this legislation. At this point in time there is the possibility that Business Tax will be done away with but this will depend upon the Province's policy decisions with respect to changes in the taxation system. In the meantime, we hope to continue to operate as we are presently doing. We are presently undertaking a review to determine all of the working relationships that the Assessment Department has with other Municipal departments.

This is for the information of Council.

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TO: MUNICIPAL MANAGER

OCTOBER 17, 1974

FROM: MUNICIPAL ASSESSOR

RE: ASSESSMENT DEPARTMENT TO BRITISH
COLUMBIA ASSESSMENT AUTHORITY

All assessment personnel have signed and returned letters of designation. This action officially makes us a part of the B. C. Assessment Authority.

It is evident that there is going to be a substantial period of transition while the administration of all the assessment organizations in the Province is transferred from existing individual jurisdictions to the newly formed Authority. As indicated in some of the correspondence to Council from the Authority, support is needed during the near future as all of the planning is not yet complete and many decisions have yet to be made.

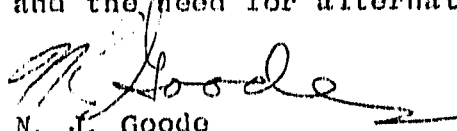
We have operated as a part of the municipal administration for so many years that we take support from other departments and municipal administrative controls for granted. It is going to take some time to determine how to continue the support and replace the controls.

So far, general arrangements have been made by the Authority for the repayment of assessment salaries and benefits from July 2, 1974, and a rental agreement for the space that we occupy is in preparation but there are many other aspects of our municipal relationship that have yet to be dealt with.

For instance, Business Tax and Local Improvement determinations are two functions normally carried out by assessment personnel but are not a part of the Assessment Authority responsibility. We will continue carrying out this work until alternatives are explored and some definite arrangements made.

Another matter of common concern is records. We have kept some which we make available and are useful to other municipal departments and, similarly, they maintain some that we find of value. How this arrangement should be developed for the future is not yet clear but in the meantime, if it is agreeable, we will continue to operate on the existing basis.

There are many other illustrations of this kind of support and it is the obvious wish of the Interim Board of the Authority that we cooperate as much as possible while the problems are being identified and the need for alternatives explored.


N. J. Goode
MUNICIPAL ASSESSOR