



**The Corporation of the District of Saanich | Mayor's Office**

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April 21, 2020

**VIA EMAIL: [MAH.minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:MAH.minister@gov.bc.ca)**

The Honourable Selina Robinson  
Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Housing  
PO Box 9056 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Robinson:

**RE: FINANCIAL HARDSHIP PROPERTY TAX DEFERMENT PROGRAM REINSTATEMENT**

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This letter is to confirm that Saanich Council, at their meeting on April 20, 2020, endorsed a motion to reinstate the Financial Hardship Property Tax Deferment Program, initially announced in November 2008 by Premier Gordon Campbell.

For context, the Financial Hardship Property Tax Deferment program allowed eligible homeowners facing financial hardship due to the economic conditions of the time to defer their property tax payments for the following two years, with no requirement to repay the deferred taxes until the homes were sold or transferred. This aided homeowners experiencing financial hardship as well as ensured local governments in receiving property tax revenues, and is the reason why Saanich Council has endorsed the following motion.

“That the Mayor write the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing, with copies being sent to Vancouver Island municipalities, to request the reinstatement of the financial hardship property tax deferment program to provide support to property owners facing hardships from COVID-19, who are not eligible for the existing property tax deferment programs”.

For further reference, the minutes of the Council meeting will be available on our website at: <https://www.saanich.ca/EN/main/local-government/mayor-council/schedule-agendas-minutes.html>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'F. Haynes'.

Fred Haynes  
Mayor

c. Saanich Council  
Vancouver Island Municipalities