

Hildebrandt, Tina

From: Janet Hudgins s.22(1) Personal and Confidential
Sent: Sunday, June 09, 2019 2:03 PM
To: Public Hearing
Subject: "Controversial" Public Hearing for PBRs re: 4575 Granville Street

9 June 19

Abundant Housing Vancouver

In response to your email today and letters for the hearing, herewith:

We would never have lost our housing if it hadn't been for politicians who were complicit, stood by and watched while the well-to-do from far and wide fictitiously and outrageously increased the cost forcing the rest-of-us out of the market; elected representatives sold off our right to a home. They were part of the plan in BC, Christie Clark going out to China frequently over 16 years to invite investors to buy our real estate and bid them up like a huge, self-made return-on-investment.

Just what was on the agenda of politicians in power, both federal and provincial, while this was happening over the last 25 years, while the masses, or a good 90 per cent of the electorate, were gradually squeezed out of house and home. Not one public servant in power ever put forward a bill, even a suggestion of regulation, but all followed big business along the warped and massively inequitable road of neoliberalism leaving their own constituents in the dust.

I was one of those until the early part of this century. I had a comfortable, standard apartment that I could afford until the insidious increases began. In the last few years of my time there a new and foreign owner had begun evicting old tenants (under the guise of renovations) who had been in the building since it was built, and increasing the rents until I was paying about 68 per cent of my income on a place to live. All this time I regularly applied for subsidized housing and waited 11 years even to be offered one.

I seriously question the intention of Conservatives, by whatever name, who vie for power as well as those who support them, even including those who buy the bait, who fall for "the economy and jobs" on the stump that translates to massive cuts to the basic needs of those who elect them and pay them.

There is no 'clean' argument for any of this, including what's going on in the rest of the world with housing as the same destructive reversion of civilization to the Dark Ages of serfdom applies there. And, I feel very strongly that such public servants should be called to account.

There are more of us than them but we let them do it to us and it was so easy! We have an election in a few months and we need to get ourselves informed, carefully question and vet candidates and out to the polls en masse or the right-wing will just bury us!

Thanks for your work. Never before have so few...

Best regards

Janet

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