

**For Immediate Release**

**February 14, 2011**

**BC ASSESSMENT USES NEW WAY TO UPDATE PROPERTY PHOTOS**

SQUAMISH — Digital cameras mounted inside a clearly-marked van will be on the residential streets of the District of Squamish as BC Assessment uses a new way to update photos used for property assessment purposes.

The residential photo update initiative will take street front digital photos of approximately 4,500 single family homes throughout Squamish, with a target start date of February 23<sup>rd</sup>. This initiative has already been successfully used in Nanaimo, the District and City of North Vancouver, West Vancouver, Surrey and White Rock.

“As the Crown corporation responsible for accurately valuing all properties in B.C., we are always looking for innovative ways to provide more timely, accurate, equitable and fair assessments to all property owners,” said Paul Borgo, Deputy Assessor for the Vancouver Sea to Sky Region.

BC Assessment will photograph only the public street front of a home including the civic (street) address number.

BC Assessment will not retain any personal information related to:

- Any and all images of people on the property.
- Visible signage on a residence (excluding street address), including business signs, signs with the names of the people living at that property and any other type of signage that may relate to the identity of a person. This includes vehicle license plates.
- The interior of a residence (e.g., images that show the inside of a home through a window or open doorway, or the interior of an enclosed vehicle shelter such as a garage).

Visit [our website](#) for further information on this initiative. Visit our [YouTube channel](#) to view a demonstration of the photo update initiative. To receive a photograph attachment for your publication related to this initiative, please contact Tim Morrison, BC Assessment Communications Coordinator at 250-595-6211, ext. 251.

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