BC Assessment

2013 Quality Initiative:

Data Cleansing of Properties in Incorrect Exempt Tax Code

Summary

Land Title and Survey Authority (LTSA), formerly the Land Title Office (LTO), registered historic rural forfeitures by only adding a legal notation to the title, leaving the original ownership on title, and not updating the registered owner name to the 'Crown'. This caused confusion when property owners or local government reviewed a folio that showed in a personal name yet was coded as 100% tax exempt. One field office questioned BC Assessment (BCA) Legal Services if it was correct to continue showing original registered owners on the roll as detailed by the LTSA title, even though the property had forfeited, or if they should update ownership in our records to that of the Crown.

BCA Legal Services determined that BCA too must show the old registered owners on the roll, even though the property has since forfeited to the Crown. To eliminate any confusion going forward, BCA will review forfeited properties to ensure coding is correct and to add an additional name record c/o the Crown. Further, a review will look at folios with Exempt Tax codes: 51, 53, 68, 71, 73 and 98 to also ensure accuracy of exemption application.

Timing

Work on this Quality Initiative will be ongoing until the 2014 Assessment Roll close in December 2013.

Purpose

This activity is being undertaken at this time to improve the overall quality of the 2014 Assessment Roll, in compliance with the *Assessment Act* and the *Taxation (Rural Area) Act*.

Impact

Weekly and Monthly Data Advice and RC900 Folio Activity Reports will be impacted as these changes will appear as changes in these products. This announcement provides an alert to our Data Advice clients that any folios with the above noted exempt tax codes will be reviewed and any changes will report out on Data Advice.

Contact Information

If you have any questions about how any of the scheduled projects may affect your jurisdiction or the timing for the activities, please contact your local BC Assessment office.

If you have any Data Advice questions or concerns, please contact our Customer Services department:

Customer Services | Business & Customer Services | BC Assessment
400-3450 Uptown Blvd | Victoria, BC V8Z 0B9 | **TF:** 1.866.valueBC (or 1.866.825.8322) ext. 00119
E: bcacustomer.services@bcassessment.ca | **W:** www.bcassessment.ca

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Previous Related Quality Initiatives or Bulletins
None.