



LIVING WATERS ASSEMBLY OF GOD

Where Christ is making A Difference In Peoples' Lives"

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February 5, 2018

Mr. Rod Risling
8th Floor, Chancery Hall
3 Sir Winston Churchill Square N.W.
Edmonton AB T5J 2C3

Dear Rod,
**West Jasper Pentecostal Living Waters Assembly of God Church:
Request for deferral of Property Tax billed to the church so far**

On behalf of the Church Board, I would like to request a deferral of the Property tax billed to our church so far, amounting to about \$190,000, including interests and penalties.

Our church was granted Permit to change the use of building – 15830-118 Ave N.W, from General Industrial to a Religious Assembly on November 28, 2014, after it acquired the building for religious purposes. Church members welcome the news with great enthusiasm as the previous place of meeting was rather too small to accommodate the growing membership. The Church Board, of which I am a member understands that, every work undertaken to alter the use of the building must be approved by the city authorities, and so we continue to work in tandem with the relevant city officials to fulfil our obligation in meeting the require building codes. The church also understands that Religious Organization that meets the criteria and the standards set by both the city and the Province would potentially be granted exemption from paying Property Taxes.

It is the priority of the Board to channel resources at its disposal to renovate and provide the required Heating Ventilation and Air-conditioning (HVAC) as approved by the city officials. In mobilising resources to complete the project, we are careful not to over stretch our loyal members who are at the same time contributing towards other equally important operational expenses of the church. For that reason, the Board is arranging for financial assistance from our bankers as well. With the positive response from the bankers so far, our expected date of completion hopefully is by 30th April, 2018.

As I mentioned earlier, members are so happy with the new location and are in full support of the idea of the Board to complete the project on timely basis, so they could continue to invite more people into the assembly. Currently we have relaxed a bit in our evangelical efforts to draw more people in, due to the on-going construction work, and we can't wait to get it done as early as possible. The city needs the Almighty God and we shall continue to propagate the Good News that would bring salvation and peace to the city and its environs! Over the years, we have witnessed positive transformation in people with varied way-ward lifestyles who have become responsible citizens by Godly intervention through the power of prayer. We are committed to making ourselves available for the consistent manifestation of the gracious gifts of the Almighty God in our midst for the good of our society.

Through our interaction with the city officials, we have become aware that the city shall continue to bill the church the Property tax till we obtain the **final approval** from the city, which would not happen until all of the construction and safety requirements have been met, which we agree.

Our request to you, Rod, however, is that you defer the requirement to pay the outstanding amount by the church, so we could focus on completing the project as early as we have envisaged. Your efforts in this direction would be greatly appreciated by the Board, and the entire membership of the church.

It would interest you to note that, as a transparent Christian organization, we have the responsibility to inform our members about all events that affect our church whether positively or negatively; and this property tax bill is no exception. However any time we mention this outstanding bill to the congregation, the feed-back we receive make us feel very uncomfortable. So far we have been counting on the cooperation of the city officials **which has been forth-coming**, and we do appreciate the gesture.

We hope to receive a favourable response from you regarding this matter as early as time would permit you to attend to our request.

Regards,



Sam Martey, CPA, CMA
Accountant & Elder