

For Immediate Release

Friday, November 13, 2009

BC ASSESSMENT TESTS NEW WAY TO UPDATE PROPERTY PHOTOS

VANCOUVER — Digital cameras mounted inside a clearly-marked van will soon be seen on the residential streets of West Vancouver and North Vancouver district as BC Assessment tests a new way to update photos used for property assessment purposes.

The residential photo update initiative will take digital photos of approximately 32,000 single family homes from mid-November through December, 2009.

“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 Jason Grant, Assessor for the Vancouver Sea to Sky Region.

The photos will be used for property assessment purposes only. BC Assessment will not photograph any personal information related to:

- Images of people on the property, including partial images comprised of parts of faces and/or bodies.
- Visible signage on a residence (excluding civic number), including business signs, signs with the names of the people living at that property, plaques and any other type of signage that may relate to the identity of a person.
- The interior (e.g., images that show the inside of a home via a window or open doorway, or the interior of an enclosed vehicle shelter such as a garage).

BC Assessment’s residential photo update initiative will run from mid-November through December in West and North Vancouver districts.

Please visit www.bcassessment.ca/whatsnew.asp for further information on this initiative.

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