

**From:** "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>  
**To:** "Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"  
**CC:** "City Manager's Correspondence Group - DL"  
**Date:** 2/5/2019 3:58:33 PM  
**Subject:** Upcoming NR - Empty Homes Tax

Dear Mayor and Council,

Good news! The Empty Homes Tax declarations are in (as of midnight Monday) and 97% of property owners made their declarations by the deadline. The percentage who made their declarations online this year was also high at 95%. The year-over-year declarations demonstrate that we are making progress in encouraging property owners to make more homes available for rent – the number of properties declared vacant is down by 15%.

We will be issuing a news release tomorrow with the first set of statistics on declarations, and you will see more data and analysis when the EHT team comes to Council at the end of the month. New this year, starting Thursday, property owners will be able to make a late declaration (after paying a \$250 fine). The addition of the late declarations option will save both property owners and City staff time and effort and streamline the complaints process.

Best,  
Sadhu

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*The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh peoples.*