

File No.: 04-1000-20-2019-438

September 9, 2019

s.22(1)

Dear s.22(1)

Re: **Request for Access to Records under the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act (the "Act")**

I am responding to your request of July 12, 2019 for:

Correspondence to and from Sadhu Johnston, City Manager, related to the City's planned expropriation of the Regent and Balmoral hotels, including emails, briefing notes, staff reports and other correspondence, from July 1, 2018 to July 11, 2019.

All responsive records are attached. Some information in the records has been severed, (blacked out), under s.13(1), s.14 and s.17(1) of the Act. You can read or download this section here: http://www.bclaws.ca/EPLibraries/bclaws_new/document/ID/freeside/96165_00

Under section 52 of the Act, and within 30 business days of receipt of this letter, you may ask the Information & Privacy Commissioner to review any matter related to the City's response to your FOI request by writing to: Office of the Information & Privacy Commissioner, info@oipc.bc.ca or by phoning 250-387-5629.

If you request a review, please provide the Commissioner's office with: 1) the request number (#04-1000-20-2019-438); 2) a copy of this letter; 3) a copy of your original request; and 4) detailed reasons why you are seeking the review.

Yours truly,



Barbara J. Van Fraassen, BA
Director, Access to Information & Privacy

Barbara.vanfraassen@vancouver.ca
453 W. 12th Avenue Vancouver BC V5Y 1V4

*If you have any questions, please email us at foi@vancouver.ca and we will respond to you as soon as possible. Or you can call the FOI Case Manager at 604.871.6584.

Encl.

:ag

From: "Kendall-Craden, Rena" <Rena.Kendall-Craden@vancouver.ca>
To: "Walker, Alexa" <Alexa.Walker@vancouver.ca>
"Quinlan, Kevin" <Kevin.Quinlan@vancouver.ca>
CC: "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>
Date: 7/25/2018 5:34:21 PM
Subject: For MGR Quote NR Expropriation

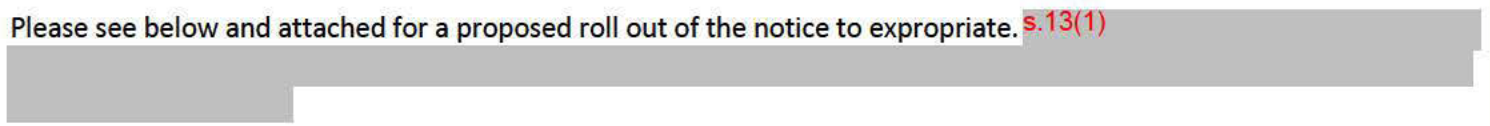
s.13(1)



From: Kendall-Craden, Rena
Sent: Wednesday, July 25, 2018 5:03 PM
To: Mochrie, Paul; Johnston, Sadhu
Cc: Singh, Sandra (OLD); Dixon, Iain; Krishna, Kaye; Bond, Abigail; Stasila, Lauren
Subject: Expropriation Comms Plan and draft IB

Hi Paul and Sadhu,

Please see below and attached for a proposed roll out of the notice to expropriate. s.13(1)



s.13(1)



Thank you,
Rena

DRAFT & CONFIDENTIAL – Expropriation Comms plan

Communications timeline

s.13(1)



**City of Vancouver
Information Bulletin
July 26, 2018**

City files Notice of Expropriation for the Balmoral and Regent Hotels

On July 25, the City of Vancouver filed an expropriation notice for the Balmoral and Regent Hotels. The Balmoral was closed in June 2017, and the Regent was closed in June 2018, both due to decades of underinvestment and mismanagement by the building owners resulting in structural and life-safety concerns. Through these closures, more than 300 of the City's lowest income tenants needed to be relocated to safer housing.

Filing the expropriation notice is the first step in the expropriation process and is intended to result in the purchase and revitalization of the hotels under public ownership. Prior to filing, the City made an offer to the building owners to purchase both hotels, for a value based on independent appraisals, but the offer was not accepted by the building owners.

Bringing the Balmoral and Regent Hotels into public ownership will protect and provide an opportunity to potentially expand important low-income housing stock in the Downtown Eastside, and provide an opportunity to meet long-standing and larger goals around the replacement of Single Room Occupancy (SRO) hotels with self-contained social housing. The approved *Housing Vancouver Strategy* identified SRO revitalization as a key priority area to improve the living conditions of low-income Vancouverites. Expanding and improving housing for low-income residents also aligns with funding priorities recently identified by both the Provincial and Federal governments.

Vancouver City Council directed staff to explore partnership opportunities with the Provincial and Federal governments for a new revitalization plan and fund focused on private SROs, including the Balmoral and the Regent, and City staff have started those discussions. The City's SRO Revitalization Strategy includes a goal of replacing 50 per cent of the remaining private SROs (approximately 2,000 rooms) with new self-contained social and/or supportive housing over the next 10 years. This would provide urgent affordable, safe and permanent housing options for low-income tenants and those most at-risk of homelessness.

Corporate Communications
604-871-6336
media@vancouver.ca

All the best,

Rena Kendall-Craden
Director, Corporate Communications
City of Vancouver

T: 604 673 8121
C: 604 218 6319
Have your say: <http://www.talkvancouver.com>

All the best,

Rena Kendall-Craden
Director, Corporate Communications
City of Vancouver

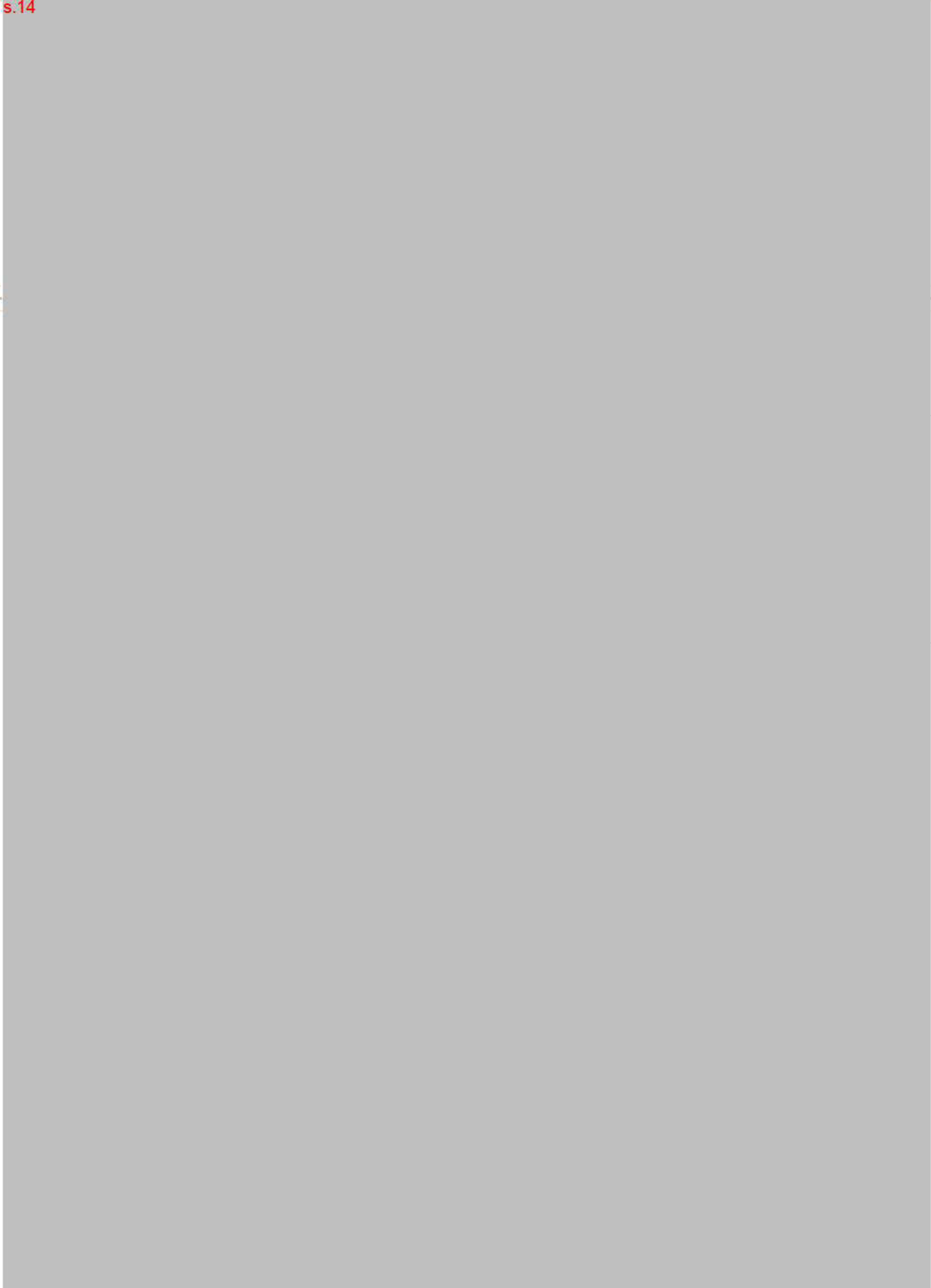
T: 604 673 8121
C: 604 218 6319
Have your say: <http://www.talkvancouver.com>

s.13(1)











From: "Aujla, Bill" <bill.aujla@vancouver.ca>
To: "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>
"Bond, Abigail" <Abigail.Bond@vancouver.ca>
"Dixon, Iain" <iain.dixon@vancouver.ca>
"Newman, Andrew" <Andrew.Newman@vancouver.ca>
"Evans, Jerry" <jerry.evans@vancouver.ca>
CC: "Postma, Tobin" <Tobin.Postma@vancouver.ca>
Date: 7/10/2018 9:32:54 AM
Subject: RE: balmoral and regent purchase

s.13(1), s.17(1)

Bill

From: Johnston, Sadhu
Sent: Tuesday, July 10, 2018 8:45 AM
To: Aujla, Bill; Bond, Abigail; Dixon, Iain
Cc: Postma, Tobin
Subject: balmoral and regent purchase

Hi

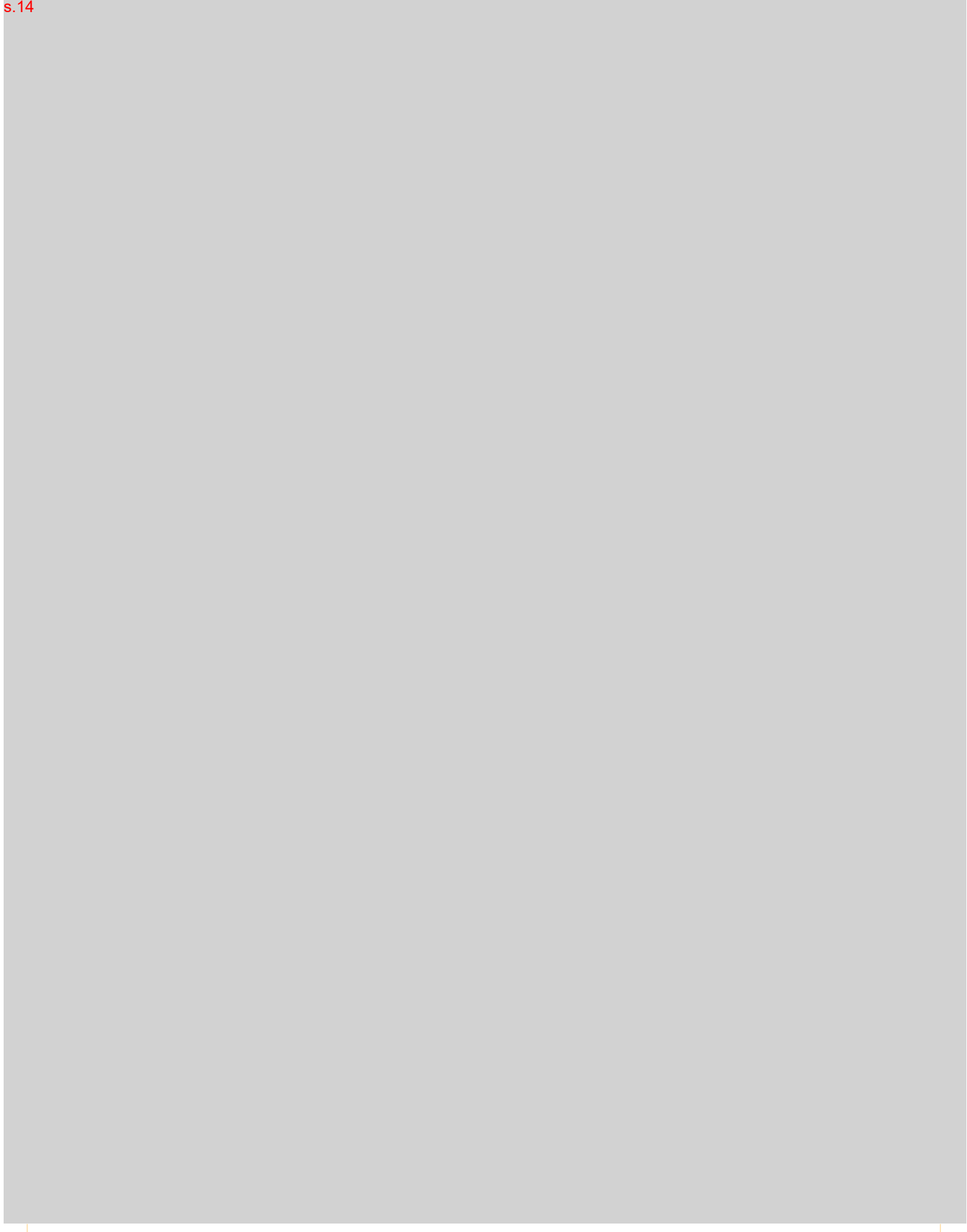
s.13(1), s.17(1)

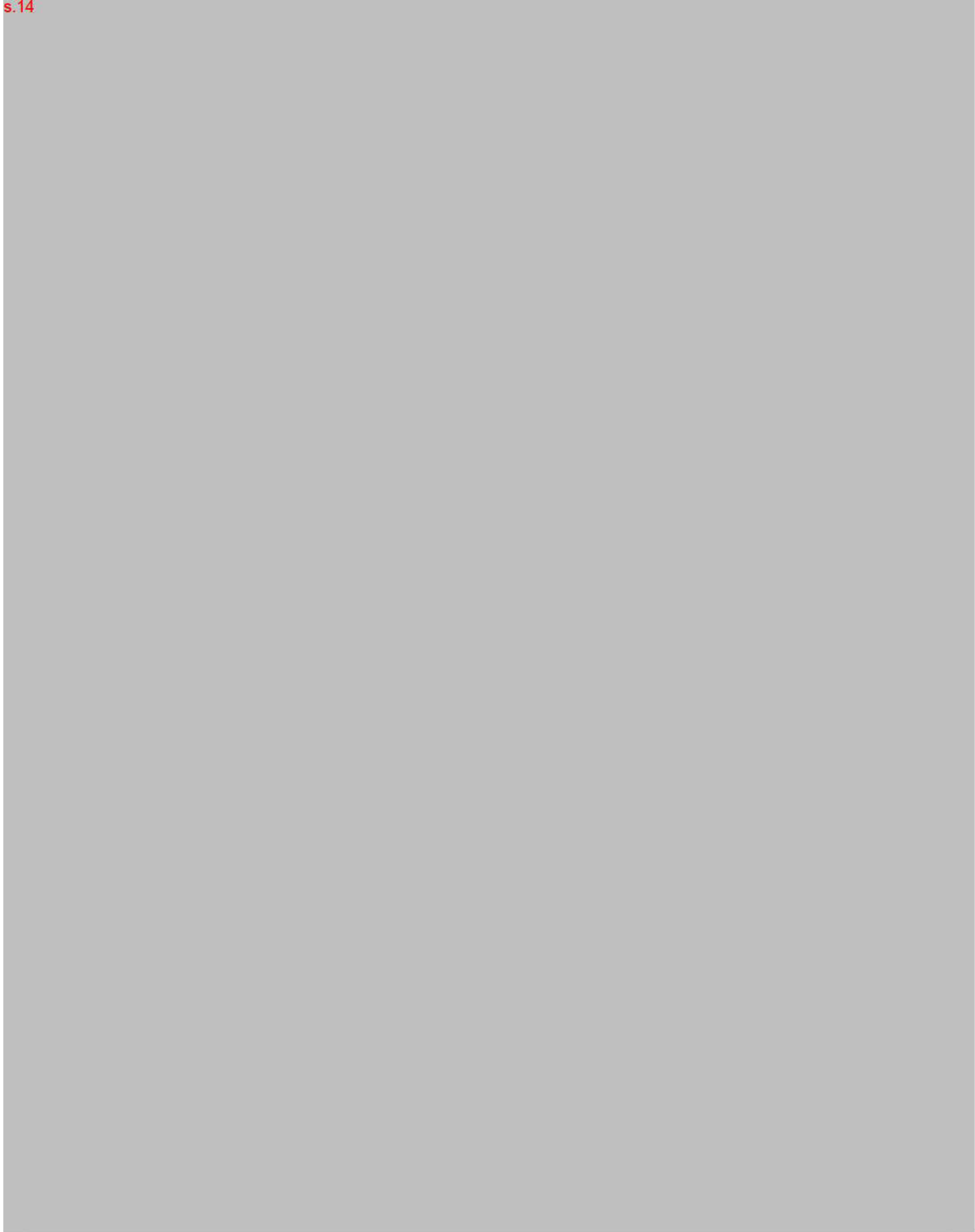
Thanks
Sadhu

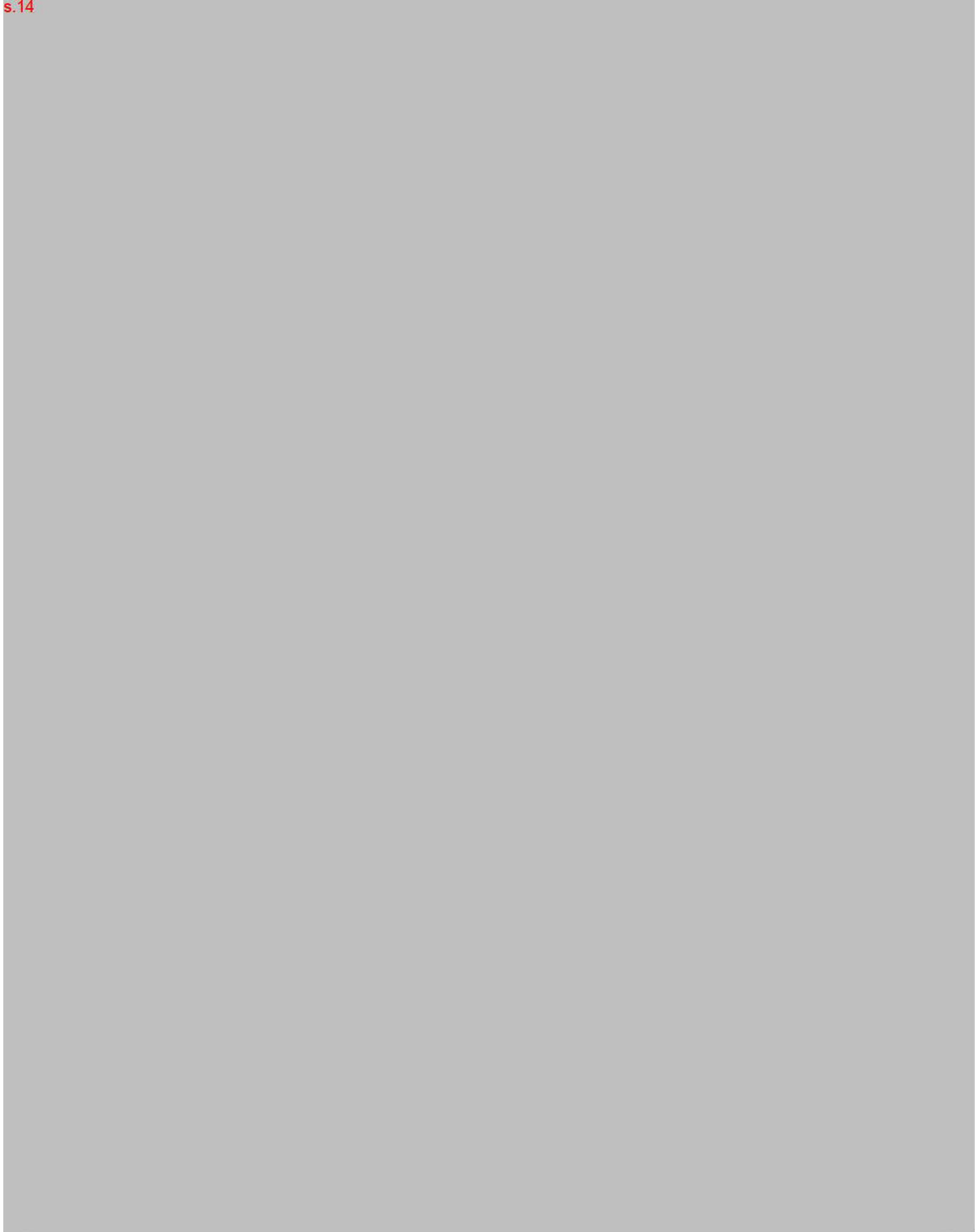
Sadhu Aufochs Johnston | City Manager
City of Vancouver | 453 W 12th Avenue
Vancouver | BC V5Y 1V4
604.873.7627 | Sadhu.johnston@vancouver.ca
Twitter: sadhuajohnston

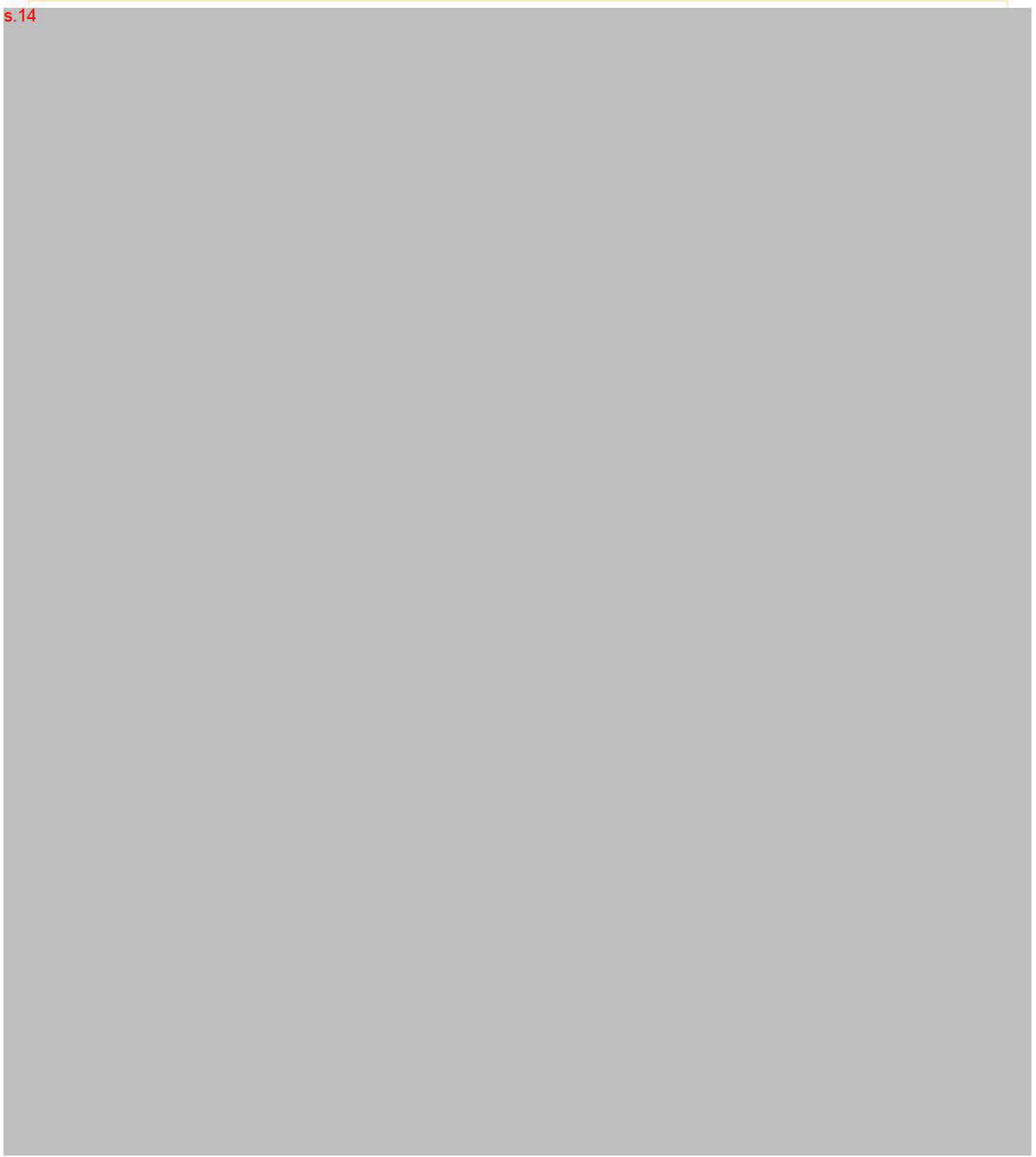














From: "Johnston, Sadhu" <Sadhu.Johnston@vancouver.ca>
To: Jacquie.Dawes@gov.bc.ca
CC: "Nikolic, Sandra" <Sandra.Nikolic@vancouver.ca>
"Mochrie, Paul" <Paul.Mochrie@vancouver.ca>
"Krishna, Kaye" <Kaye.Krishna@vancouver.ca>
"Singh, Sandra" <Sandra.Singh@vancouver.ca>
"Bond, Abigail" <Abigail.Bond@vancouver.ca>
Date: 8/2/2018 5:17:36 PM
Subject: SRO Expropriation & Partnership Opportunities

Greetings Jacquie,

As a follow up to Tuesday's monthly check-in call, below are details on the City's expropriation process for the Balmoral and Regent Hotels and opportunities for provincial government partnership. We promised to send you an overview of the request prior to Mayor Robertson sending a letter to the Minister. Our staff are in discussions with BC Housing about these requests as well.

SRO Expropriation:

The City of Vancouver announced on July 30, 2018 that we will be pursuing expropriation of two properties on Hastings Street: the Balmoral and Regent Hotels. The potential expropriation presents an opportunity for renovation and/or redevelopment of the properties, s.13(1), s.17(1)

s.13(1), s.17(1)

The Courts will determine if the City's offer is appropriate. s.13(1), s.17(1)

If the expropriation is successful, the City is prepared to provide the land toward renovation and/or re-development of these sites for affordable housing, in partnership with the Province, and as discussed in concept with staff at both the Ministry and BC Housing.

Municipal/Provincial Partnership Opportunities:

s.13(1), s.17(1)

Best,
Sadhu

Sadhu Aufochs Johnston | City Manager
City of Vancouver | 453 W 12th Avenue
Vancouver | BC V5Y 1V4
604.873.7627 | Sadhu.johnston@vancouver.ca
Twitter: sadhuaajohnston



CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This message and any accompanying documents contain confidential information intended for a specific individual and purpose. This message is private and protected by law. If you are not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any disclosure, copying or distribution, or the taking of any action based on the contents of this information, is strictly prohibited.