

*Donna Webber
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2009 October 19

VIA FACSIMILE 604.469.0537

Mayor and Council
Village of Anmore
2697 Sunnyside Road
Anmore, BC V3H 5G9

Dear Mayor and Council:

Re: Regular Council Meeting October 13, 2009

I have attended Council meetings as a member of the public for 1½ years and have missed only a few meetings during this time. Mayor Weinberg, as Chair, has generally allowed the public to speak freely at these meetings. I have been present during heated debates and controversy, where emotions were strong and opinions differed, and have heard unfortunate comments directed to both past and present Council. Most often order was restored without incident.

As an Anmore resident and taxpayer, I was shocked and embarrassed by the tactics of one individual during the public question period at the October 13 meeting. This man was allowed to directly question Councillor Piamonte about his voluntary service on the Sasamat Volunteer Fire Department (SVFD). Eventually this man redirected his questions through the Chair, but the confrontation continued without correction. Even after the Chief Administrative Officer advised that a legal opinion was obtained, and that there was no conflict of interest, this man continued to demand to know if Councillor Piamonte would remain in his dual roles as both an Anmore Councillor and a First Responder with the SVFD. What motivated this resident and what result does this resident wish to achieve? One can only imagine what the representatives from School District 43, and Mr. Michael Geller, representing Imperial Oil Company lands concluded from this conduct.

During the September 8, 2009 Regular Council Meeting, Councillor McEwen raised the same point regarding Councillor Piamonte's volunteering, expressing surprise and concern that there might be a perceived conflict of interest. For some reason, on October 13, Councillor McEwen brought up the disqualification of former Councillor Juvik in the last election. As Councillor McEwen had raised the question of potential conflict of interest September 8, what was the purpose in doing so again?

Please find attached information from the Canada Revenue Agency website related to payments to volunteers, including firefighters. (Attachments 1 and 2) It should be noted the first \$1,000 of an allowance received by a volunteer is not reportable or taxable income. A T4 slip is issued only for the amount over \$1,000; if less, no T4 is issued. It seems clear that receiving an allowance as a volunteer firefighter is not the same as being a paid employee.

Why not make a request to Chief Scott to identify how many calls our volunteer firefighters have attended, including dates and times, and what has been paid to the volunteers. I do not believe we, as residents, fully understand what time of day or night, or how often our dedicated First Responders have left their personal lives in limbo to attend emergency calls. Without their commitments, what would the residents of and visitors to Anmore and Belcarra do without these dedicated men and women? We know we cannot afford to have a paid fire department at this time.

There are several volunteer groups in Anmore, enriching our community and filling gaps where we cannot afford paid assistance. I might be comparing apples to oranges, but in the Finance Committee Agenda for October 6, 2009, the Garden Club, in their request for funds for 2010, compared their volunteer work in Spirit Park to that of a landscaper at a rate of \$50 per hour. (Attachment 3) What, then, is the value of our First Responders? Furthermore, is the pay received as a Councillor sufficient, given the commitment and time spent by each member?

In conclusion, as it is required that a member from the public identifies him or herself by name and address for the official records when addressing the Chair during council meetings, I request that the Chair ensure future meetings follow correct protocol and procedure.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Webber

Enclosures

If you have employment income from another country, report it on line 104 of your return.

If tips you received through employment are not included on your T4 slip, report them on line 104.

You may be able to make CPP contributions on certain employment income for which no contribution was made (for example, tips that were not included on your T4 slip) or extra contributions on T4 income if you had more than one employer in the year. For more information, see "Making additional CPP contributions" at line 306.

Tax Tip

Your contributions to the Canada Pension Plan or Quebec Pension Plan (box 16 or 17 of your T4 slips and any amount on line 421) determine the amount of benefits you will receive under either of these plans. If there are no contributions in box 16 or 17 of your T4 slip, or if you have any questions about the amount of your contributions, contact your employer.

* Emergency volunteers

In 2008, you may have received a payment from a government, municipality, or other public authority for your work as a volunteer ambulance technician, firefighter, or search, rescue, or other emergency worker. If so, the T4 slip issued by such an authority generally will show only the taxable part of the payment, which is the part that is more than \$1,000. However, if that authority employed you (other than as a volunteer) for the same or similar duties, the whole payment will be taxable.

Security option benefits

You may have to report taxable benefits you received in (or carried forward to) 2008 on certain security options you exercised. If you report any taxable benefits, see line 249 for details. However, you may be able to choose to defer reporting these benefits if you have not yet disposed of those securities.

For this to apply, you have to confirm certain information in writing with your employer and file Form T1212, *Statement of Deferred Security Options Benefits*, with your paper return each year. For details, see Guide T4037, *Capital Gains*, or contact us. Your *Notice of Assessment* or *Notice of Reassessment* will show the remaining balance of your deferred amounts.

Commissions (box 42)

Enter on line 102 the total commissions shown in box 42 on all your T4 slips you received as an employee. This amount is already included in your income on line 101, so do **not** add it again when you calculate your total income on line 150. If you have commission expenses, see line 229 for details.

If you are a self-employed commission salesperson, get Guide T4002, *Business and Professional Income*, to determine how to report your commission income and claim your expenses.

Line 104 – Other employment income

Report on this line the total of the following amounts:

- **Employment income not reported on a T4 slip** – Include amounts such as tips and occasional earnings.
- **Net research grants** – Subtract your expenses from the grant you received and include the net amount on this line. Your expenses cannot be more than your grant. Attach to your paper return a list of your expenses. For details, see Interpretation Bulletin IT-75, *Scholarships, Fellowships, Bursaries, Prizes, Research Grants and Financial Assistance*.
- **Clergy's housing allowance** – Include the amount shown in box 30 on your T4 slip. You may be entitled to claim a deduction on line 231.
- **Foreign employment income** – Report your earnings in Canadian dollars (see "How do you report foreign income and other amounts?" on page 13). The amount on your United States W-2 slip may have been reduced by contributions to a "401(k), 457 or 403(b) plan, US Medicare and Federal Insurance Contributions Act (FICA)." These contributions are not deductible on your Canadian return. Therefore, you have to add these amounts into your income as well.
- **Income-maintenance insurance plans (wage-loss replacement plans)** – Box 28 of your T4A slip includes the payments you received from such a plan. There also should be a note on the slip identifying the amount. You may not have to report the full amount on your return. Report the amount you received, minus contributions you made to the plan after 1967, if you did not use them on a previous year's return to calculate the amount to report. For more information, see Interpretation Bulletin IT-428, *Wage Loss Replacement Plans*.
- **Veterans' benefits** – Include the amount in box 28 of your T4A slip.
- **Certain GST/HST and QST (Quebec sales tax) rebates** – If you are an employee who paid and deducted employment expenses in 2007 or earlier, you may have received a GST/HST or QST rebate in 2008 for those expenses. If so, include on line 104 the rebate you received. However, a rebate on which you can claim capital cost allowance, is treated differently. Guide T4044, *Employment Expenses*, contains instructions on how to report such rebates and information about capital cost allowance.
- **Royalties** – Include these amounts on this line if you received them for a work or invention of yours. Report other royalties (other than those included at line 135) on line 121.
- **Amounts you received under a supplementary unemployment benefit plan (a guaranteed annual wage plan)**.
- **Taxable benefit for premiums paid to cover you under a group term life-insurance plan** – Include the amount in box 28 of your T4A slip.
- **Employee profit-sharing plan** – Include the amount in box 35 of your T4PS slip.

Line 101 - Emergency volunteers

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Canada Revenue Agency
Agence des Revenus
du Canada

Canada

[Individuals](#) > [Tax return](#) > [Reporting income](#) > [Employment income](#)**Line 101 - Emergency volunteers**

This year, you may have received a payment from a government, municipality, or other public authority for your work as a volunteer ambulance technician, firefighter, or search, rescue, or other emergency worker.

If so, the T4 slip you received should only show the taxable part of the payment, which is the part that is **more than \$1,000**. However, if you were employed by that employer (other than as a volunteer) for the same or similar duties, the **whole** payment will be taxable.

Questions and answers

I am a professor and was a volunteer firefighter. I got paid \$1,800. How and where do I report this income? The T4 slip I received only shows \$800 and nothing else. Is it wrong?

No. The T4 slip will show only the **taxable** part of the payment, the part that is more than \$1,000. Report the amount shown in box 14 of the T4 slip on **line 101** of your return.

Completing your tax return

On **line 101**, enter the amounts shown in **box 14** of all your T4 slips.

Forms and publications

- [General Income Tax and Benefit Guide](#)

Date Modified: 2009-01-06

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September 30, 2009

GARDEN CLUB PROPOSAL
Request for funds for 2010 year

* The Garden Club developed, maintained and enhanced the Spirit Park on a volunteer basis. This included weeding, watering, plant donation, plant purchasing and preparation of the park prior to major community events. From March 2009 until September 2009, 155 volunteer hours in Spirit Park and Village Hall were recorded. At a modest landscaper's rate of \$50 per hour, the cost equivalent of this work to the Village is \$7,750. We were pleased to assist the Village in reducing their financial burden of upkeep and the Garden Club will aim to continue with our time and efforts donating on a volunteer basis to the Village of Anmore.

The Garden Club has proven to be not only a reliable organization but a community based service group. The influence of the Garden Club is felt throughout the community as we encouraged ecological and sustainable practices, and emphasized education on green living. The Garden Club has also served as an early warning system for noxious plants such as hogweed, which causes serious skin irritations and photosensitivity. In fact, one of our goals for 2010 is to begin a public education campaign about noxious weeds. This campaign will be coordinated in conjunction with Ruth Foster, Mossom Creek Hatchery and include mail outs to the general Anmore Community.

In addition, with funds from the Village, we intend to continue with public education with guest speakers on subjects such as winter colour, pruning, natural pollenization, pesticide-free gardening, naturesscaping, and composting. We would like to liaison with the Youth Group and the 1st Anmore Scouts and teach the value of gardening.

We expect by March 2010, we will have nearly exhausted our 2009 budget. Hence, we are requesting for another \$1000 for the 2010 year. Our plans for the monies are outlined on our 2010 budget.

Please also find attached our 2009 budget. Less than one month ago, we received our 2009 donation to our Club. At this time, we are having difficulty with acquiring a non-profit, no fee, bank account. Once we are set up with cheques to refund our members for incurred expenses during 2009, we will update 2009 budget accordingly.

Thank you for your time,

Leigh Scatchard
Michelle Goodwin

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