

To: Administration & Finance Executive Committee
FROM: Laurie Lindberg, Treasurer
DATE: March 15, 2018
SUBJECT: A. Werenko Late Vacancy Application Consideration Request

BACKGROUND

At the March 12, 2018 Council Meeting the letter received from Alan Werenko, owner of the Rainy Lake Plaza to consider a late vacancy application request was referred to the Administration & Finance Executive Committee for their recommendation.

Mr. Werenko has made regular applications that date back to the 2010 taxation year and is well aware of the application deadline of the last day in February of the year following the taxation year as provided for in Section 364 (2) 5. of the *Municipal Act* for vacancy rebate applications. The attached vacancy rebate application indicates that Unit E was vacant for 90 days, which is the minimum vacancy eligibility requirement, from January 1/17 to March 31/17 and Units B & D were vacant from January 1/17 to August 31/17. Mr. Werenko's time frame to file a vacancy rebate application for the vacant units listed was any time between September 1, 2017 to February 28, 2018. The Town accepts applications in person as well as alternative transmittal via fax and e-mail.

Mr. Werenko e-mailed and spoke with the Tax Administrator on March 2st indicating that he completed his Vacancy Rebate application on March 1st and would be in Fort Frances the beginning of the following week. Mr. Werenko was informed at that time the filing deadline was February 28th. During the verbal telephone conversation, Mr. Werenko indicated to the Tax Administrator that he had been travelling for the reason of the late application.

Mr. Werenko came in person on March 5, 2018 to file the vacancy rebate application and to have the Clerk, a Commissioner for taking Affidavits, witness his signature on that date. The application completed by Mr. Werenko was back dated to February 28th however the actual date of submission was on March 5, 2018. The letter to Mayor and Council is to request consideration of giving him a grace period for his tax relief by way of accepting his late Vacancy Rebate Application.