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Planning for Reserve Fund Studies in British Columbia

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The Current Status

• Strata Property Act in British Columbia

Part 6 Finances – minimal requirements 10% of the Annual Operating Budget Once it reaches 25% of AOB – no obligation Once it reaches 100% of AOB – ³/₄ vote

Result: insufficient funds or maintenance

The Current Status

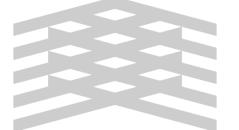
- Strata Property Statistics in BC
 - -27,775 Strata Corporations Aug 31/10
 - Est 970,000 strata units
 - Est 22,000 qualifying strata corporations
 - Est 770,000 qualifying strata units

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The Bottom Line

•	C	urrent	Current Funding	Alternate	Fully Funded
	~~>	Annual reserve allocation	\$24,200	\$100,000	\$293,000
	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	Per suite per month	\$ 30.10	\$ 124.38	\$ 364.43
	~~~}	Per square foot	\$ 0.20	\$ 0.83	\$ 2.43

- Townhouse complex, Surrey, BC
 - 67 units, 120,667 square feet heated space
 - 11 years old
 - Spa, fitness room, guest suite, lounge



The Amendments

- Strata Property Act in British Columbia Bill 8 2009 #15 – Section 94
 - " subject to subsection (3) a strata corporation must obtain from a qualified person, on or before the following dates, a depreciation report estimating the repair and replacement cost for major items in the strata corporation and the expected life of those terms; "

The Amendments

• Strata Property Act in British Columbia

Part #15 – is not in effect

Bill 8 2009 # 15 – Section 94

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The Amendments

 Strata Property Act in British Columbia Bill 8 2009

> **Reserve Fund Studies (Depreciation Reports) Development under public Consultation**

Intended: mandatory reserve fund studies, unless exempted by ³/₄ vote or a prescribed class

What we don't know

- Qualified person
- Prescribed class
- The standards for reports
- Funding requirements
- Disclosure of report & funding status

Purpose of the RFS

- To Establish:

- What you own
- How much money you have
- When building systems need to be replaced
- What it's going to cost for future replacement
- How to prepare your financial plan for the future
- An integrated annual maintenance plan

Benefits

- Maintain asset value by contributing to a well-managed reserve fund Translation: property value impact
- Equalize the multi-year contributions necessary to cover future replacement costs Translation: Regular payments = fewer special levies
- Develop a stable and equitable funding plan that meets the needs of current and future Owners
 Translation: You can afford it and future owners will be able to afford it
- Be prepared for anticipated future system deterioration and failures though proactive planning instead of reactive response
 Translation: Plan efficiently to save time and money
- Knowledge of the service lives and projected replacement cost of the assets Translation: Understand your liabilities and when they will occur

Impacts ~ Benefits

- Upward pressure on monthly operating costs ~ strata fees
- Housing affordability monthly cash flow (what the real costs are)
- Active integrated operations plan (increased annual service)
- Exempt strata corporations becoming a liability
- Existing strata corporations meeting the balance between the ideal decision and the feasible decision

How a strata prepares:

- Populate their history
 - Prints and plans
 - Warranties & service agreements
 - Alteration agreements
 - Insurance claims history
 - Bylaws, Rules
 - Covenants, building schemes, easements, right of ways, air parcel agreements
 - Service agreements and contracts

How do you prepare?

- Business plan for services
 - Service program / Business plan
 - Ensure you have sufficient staff & resources
 - Industry standards : What are acceptable practices?
 - Train staff on Strata Property Act





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