

**APPLICATION**  
**BY OWNER AND OCCUPIER OF ELIGIBLE RESIDENTIAL PROPERTY**  
**FOR ASSESSMENT TO BE BASED ON RESIDENTIAL USE**  
 ASSESSMENT ACT, Section 19(8) [previously Section 26(4)]

**DEADLINE:**  
 Please return this form to  
 your local BC Assessment  
 office by January 31.

**Information about the Owner and Occupier of the property (please print)**

<b>Name</b>		
<b>Telephone Number</b>	<b>Home:</b>	<b>Office:</b>

**Information about the Property (please print)**

<b>Property Address</b>			
<b>Assessment Roll Number of Property (see assessment notice)</b>			
<b>Number of years you have owned this property</b>		<b>Number of years you have continuously lived on this property</b>	
<b>The property is not more than 2.03 ha (5.02 acres) in area, is used only for residential purposes, accommodates three (3) or fewer families and has on it: (✓ in appropriate square)</b> <input type="checkbox"/> a single family residence <input type="checkbox"/> a two-family residence <input type="checkbox"/> a single family or two-family residence containing housekeeping or sleeping rooms <input type="checkbox"/> a residence containing not more than three self-contained suites <input type="checkbox"/> Other, Describe _____			

By signing below, I, the owner of this property,

- 1) am applying for the assessment on this property to be based on residential use, and
- 2) am stating that I have owned and lived on this property continuously for 10 years and that this property has been my principal place of residence during that entire 10 year period\*.

\*This means that to qualify for assessment relief next year an owner must have owned and occupied their property for at least 10 years ending October 31 of this year. If the form is provided between January 1 and March 15 of the current year, October 31 refers to the previous October 31.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Date**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Signature**

This form should be completed by the owner and occupier of the property (as defined in the *Assessment Act*) and returned to the assessor of the assessment area where the property is located (see above) by January 31 in each year. If the form cannot be delivered by January 31, the final deadline is March 15 (see B.C. Reg. 30/93).

The information requested on this form is collected under the authority of the Assessment Act and is subject to the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. If you have any questions about the collection, use or disclosure of this information, please contact the Manager, Information Access and Privacy, BC Assessment, by mail (400-3450 Uptown Blvd. Victoria BC V8Z 0B9) or telephone (250 595-6211 in Victoria or toll-free 1-866-825-8322).	For Office Use Only				
		area	jurisdiction	school district	roll number

# Assessment Relief — Section 19(8) of the Assessment Act

## What Assessment Relief is Provided Under Section 19(8) of the *Assessment Act*?

This section of the *Assessment Act* allows residential property to be assessed at a lower value if the owner qualifies and the property has potential for development. **The value of your property will be determined each year and may change if the market values of the comparable properties change.**

Section 19(8) deals with a residential property's existing use versus its potential use. Over time, property tends to be redeveloped into different, more valuable, uses.

Examples of residential property with the potential for development are:

- a house located on land that has been rezoned for commercial use (e.g., allowing for a store or office building), or
- a house located on a five-acre parcel which could be developed into one-quarter acre lots.

Both examples could qualify for assessment relief.

## Who Qualifies for Assessment Relief?

Residential property owners who have been living on property which is less than 2.03 hectares (approximately five acres) for more than 10 years, may be eligible for a lower property assessment.

To qualify for assessment relief:

- the property must be the property owner's principal residence.
- the owner must have owned and occupied the property continuously for at least 10 years. In other words, to qualify for assessment relief next year, an owner must have owned and occupied their property for at least 10 years ending October 31 of this year. If the form is provided between January 1 and March 15 of the current year, October 31 refers to the previous October 31.
- the property's market value for another use must be higher than the property's existing residential value.

- a completed application form must be submitted each year.
- Additional qualifying criteria may be required.

## Who Benefits From Assessment Relief?

Property owners living in communities or neighbourhoods where land use is changing would benefit from assessment relief. If eligible, the property owner's property will be valued at its current "existing" use instead of its higher "potential" use.

## Do All Long Term Property Owners Qualify for Assessment Relief?

No. To qualify, the property's demonstrated market value must be higher than its current residential value. For example, a home in a large residential subdivision, surrounded by other residential dwellings, might not qualify for relief under this section of the *Assessment Act* simply because the current use reflects the most valuable use of the property.

## How Do Property Owners Apply for Assessment Relief?

Owners must apply to their local assessment office each year.

Owners are advised to file their applications for assessment relief at their local BC Assessment office by January 31 of each year. This will ensure consideration for the current Assessment Roll.

**Note: A new application form must be completed each year.**

## How Do I Get More Information on Assessment Relief?

Application forms and additional information on assessment relief may be obtained by calling your local BC Assessment office which is listed in the White pages of your telephone book.