

Thursday, January 12, 2023

To: City of Hamilton, Planning Committee

Re: Short Term Rental Accommodations Proposal

I have been a resident of the City of Hamilton all my life. I have worked, lived, and raised my children in this community. We support our local shops. We contribute to and enjoy our community.

We own two properties; one is our primary residence, and the second we run short term rentals. We use the latter property for our personal use part of the year and rent short-term for the remainder of the year. Having this second property has allowed us to use it for personal purposes when needed while still providing a service for guests in need of housing through short-term rental.

We have never had an issue or complaint about any of our guests from neighbours. We have had guests from all over the world stay with us. They have enjoyed exploring the Hamilton area, shopping, hiking, etc. Some of our guests, those who were in-between homes, were grateful to have found our property which they could make home for that time. During COVID, we hosted a guest who had to quarantine from his elderly father while working in healthcare. We have had guests with families who needed a kitchen to prepare meals. We have had guests here to celebrate weddings, anniversaries and birthdays — those who were looking for a comfortable place to share time together, a home rather than a hotel.

Running our Airbnb has allowed me to stay home to raise our children while still providing an income for our family. We pay our taxes on the property and on the income we receive from renting.

The severe restrictions which the city of Hamilton is considering for short term rentals are over reaching and unfair. This is our home and property and we should decide how best to run it.

We disagree with this proposal and say NO to the 120 day limit on STR, and NO to only primary residence for STR.

Monica Fox