

Pilon, Janet

Subject: Protect short-term rentals in Hamilton

From: Savinda Athuluwage

Sent: January 18, 2023 9:44 AM

To: clerk@hamilton.ca

Subject: Protect short-term rentals in Hamilton

Dear Town Clerk Town Clerk,

These are my reasons for hosting guests on Airbnb at my property. I understand that there may be concerns about short-term rentals and their impact on the community, but I assure you that my situation is unique and I believe it is beneficial for both myself and my guests.

Firstly, hosting guests on Airbnb helps me cover my living expenses. I lost my job recently due to the current economic conditions and it has been difficult to make ends meet. Renting out my basement unit (starting in 2022) on Airbnb allows me to generate some additional income to help me get by.

Secondly, I only own one property and this is not a business for me. I do not own multiple properties or have any other source of income from hosting guests. This is simply a way for me to make use of the extra space I have and earn some extra money to offset the rising cost of living. My mortgage has gone up substantially with the recent rate hikes. I've been living in hamilton since 2012 and since 2019 in this current property.

Thirdly, I used to rent out my basement unit to a long-term tenant but they left after causing too much damage to the unit and not making rent payments on time. Having my basement unit listed on Airbnb helps maintain the unit as it gets cleaned and looked after, after every guest. This way I don't have to worry about the damage caused by a long-term tenant.

Lastly, I believe that hosting guests on Airbnb is a great way for them to experience our city and all it has to offer. It allows them to stay in a comfortable and convenient location, and it also supports local businesses as they explore the area.

I understand that there are concerns about short-term rentals and their impact on the community. However, I believe that my situation is unique and that hosting guests on Airbnb is beneficial for both myself and my guests. I would be happy to work with the city to ensure that my listing is in compliance with all local regulations and that it does not disrupt the community.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Savinda Athuluwage

Sincerely,
Savinda Athuluwage

▪