


July 10, 2022

Dear Grant Scott, Sue Ellen Fast and Alex Allen,

I am writing to request that you consider alternatives other than a ban on short term rentals to address the tourist issues you have been having on Hornby Island.

As someone who has been a visitor to your Island, including staying with friends or renting from them on occasion when they were away, I believe that the vast majority of Hornby Island residents are highly environmentally and socially conscious and work collectively to maintain the lovely sanctuary that the Island represents for so many. And as the economic conditions of the world have undergone significant downturns over recent years, many may require the capacity to engage in short term rentals from time to time in order to be able to maintain their homes and lifestyles.

I strongly encourage you to explore options that allow you to directly deal with 'offenders' – whether they be tourists who violate community standards or values or owners who fail to uphold their responsibilities as regards selection and management of renters – rather than creating a blanket policy that applies to all, even those whose short-term rental actions have been entirely responsible.

There are many non-residents who have greatly benefitted from opportunities to visit Hornby Island, and some responsible tourism creates an economic advantage. Please do not disrupt the lives of so many as an indirect way to deal with the infractions of a few.


Sally Thorne