

**From:** Piers Drew [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 28, 2023 3:16 PM  
**To:** Timothy Peterson; Alex Allen; Grant Scott  
**Cc:** hornbyshortterm@gmail.com; northinfo; Madeleine Drew  
**Subject:** STVR on Hornby

Dear Alex, Grant, and Mr. Peterson

I have heard that the Island Trust is considering further limiting or outright eliminating short-term vacation rentals. As the owner of a property on Hornby Island that is now my principle residence, I wanted to share my thoughts on the importance of STVRs.

Our residence has been rented out for a few weeks each summer since at least the mid 1980's, first by my parents, Elizabeth and Ivan Drew, and now by my wife, Madeleine and myself.

Having the ability to do STVRs has allowed us to share our cabin and provide a Hornby Island summer holiday to quite a number of people over the years who are not fortunate enough and in some cases, not wealthy enough, to own there own cottage here. It also enabled my parents, in their time, to own a vacation property on the island despite their somewhat modest financial situation. Currently, STVRs prevent our cabin from sitting unused during the several weeks we are away in the summer, which would constitute a waste of good housing stock and a loss for the families that have grown to cherish their Hornby summer holidays.

Please note that in the event that we are no longer able to do short term vacation rentals, our home would not become available for year-round rentals. It is our primary residence that we enjoy sharing with summer guests, but have no intention of moving out of permanently.

We support the current limitations on STVRs and would welcome a better, more thorough registration of Hornby STVRs and a more rigorous enforcement of the current regulations.

We believe that STVRs are an efficient way of using existing housing stock on Hornby Island to make the island available as a holiday destination for other people who do not have the good fortune to live here. Is this approach not preferable to the building of more lodges, hotels, and summer rental units? And is the renting out of a few cabins during the summer months and allowing other BC residents an opportunity to have a Hornby summer cabin experience better than locking Hornby down for the sake of a privileged few land owners? We think so.

It's not clear to me what problem STVRs pose to Hornby Island. The only arguments against them focus on the shortage of long-term rental stock on Hornby, and the need to limit water use. With our house on Hornby being our primary residence, and with a 26,000 litre cistern that harvests rainwater, neither of these problems will be solved by limiting my ability to rent. Government regulations should limit citizens rights only to the extent demonstrated as necessary.

I do support the island Trust in their mission to protect the special nature of the gulf islands. But an outright ban on STVRs would not be a useful or necessary limitation on something that my parents and I have been doing with very good results for the last forty years.

Yours truly,

Piers Drew