

From: Don Sheppard [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, December 3, 2023 9:42 PM
To: Alex Allen; Grant Scott; Timothy Peterson; Sonja Zupanec
Cc: northinfo; hornbyshortterm@gmail.com
Subject: Proposed changes affecting short term vacation rentals on Hornby Island

We are the Sheppard family of four siblings and families. Our property, [REDACTED], was purchased in 1978 and for the past 40 plus years, is used year round.

Since 2008, we have offered our property for STVR for 7 weeks during the summer period each year. Over the years, our visitors have brought tourism dollars to Hornby businesses, artists and restaurants helping the local economy. We believe that tourism spending is one of the cleanest industries that any community can support.

We have employed local talent for construction projects, annual septic maintenance, lawn mowing and house cleaning, all of which keeps our property up to building and safety standards. We use the STVR income to pay for these services, funneling income into the community.

We understand the collected pillow tax on vacation rentals is limited to those dwellings with fixed roofs which excludes camping and glamping sites from contributing to this pillow tax fund. We understand this tax generated approximately \$50,000, during the 2023 season, and will be returned to Hornby Island for affordable housing initiatives. We support the tax as it specifically contributes to Hornby Island needs and should continue to be collected from STVR's. We also support the regulation of septic fields to help ensure the quality of the lodgings offered.

We agree with limiting the growth of STVR's as a reasonable way to keep Hornby Island from being overdeveloped.

Hornby Island, while not our permanent home, is our escape throughout the year from our busy urban lives. We appreciate and value the lifestyle of the community. While we love sharing this experience with our vacation renters for 7 summer weeks, we would never rent our property long term as it is constantly being used by our family.

Thank you for taking the time to understand our family's 45 year connection to the island and our strong support for continuing STVR's on Hornby Island.

Sincerely,

Don Sheppard

Debbie Sheppard

Dave Sheppard

Darcie Jensen