

From: Henry Touwslager [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, March 20, 2025 1:08 PM
To: Alex Allen; Grant Scott; Timothy Peterson; Sonja Zupanec; northinfo
Cc: HISTRA Association
Subject: Support for HISTRA's Recommendations and a Balanced Approach

Dear Trustees Allen, Scott, and Peterson:

I appreciate the work you're doing on Hornby Island's Official Community Plan (OCP) and Land Use Bylaw (LUB)

I have read HISTRA's recent email dated March 18 and fully endorse their recommendations and the spirit in which they've been made.

It is my opinion that HISTRA is not advocating for short-term rental homeowners at the expense of everyone else. Vacation renters support our local economy—including artists, restaurants, and, especially, the Hornby Island Co-op store and gas bar. They also contribute to and participate in local non-profit societies such as Hornby Arts and the Herring Festival—groups that might struggle to stay viable and funded without support from these part-time visitors, many of whom remain engaged throughout the year via social media and memberships in various community organizations. The success of these businesses and groups benefits full-time residents as well, and HISTRA's approach reflects a balanced view of what's best for the community as a whole.

I urge you to give HISTRA's letter the serious consideration it deserves, including their caution about imposing new limits on Vacation Rentals without comprehensive community consultation and complete data. Thank you for your ongoing efforts to shape policies that work for all of us.

Sincerely,

- Henry Touwslager