

From: Thor Kuhlmann [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 2, 2025 3:13 PM
To: Alex Allen; Grant Scott; Timothy Peterson; Sonja Zupanec; northinfo; HISTRA Association
Subject: Re: Support for HISTRA's Recommendations and a Balanced Approach

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing with regard to the proposal to limit the number of short term vacation rentals on Hornby to half their current number. I am an owner of a property on Hornby that rents the space out for several weeks in the summer when I am not using it.

Vacation renters play a crucial role in sustaining our local economy, supporting artists, restaurants, and, notably, the Hornby Island Co-op store and gas bar. They also contribute to local non-profits like Hornby Arts and the Herring Festival—organizations that might struggle to survive without the backing of these part-time visitors. Many of these renters stay involved year-round through social media and memberships in community groups. The prosperity of these businesses and organizations ultimately benefits full-time residents as well, and HISTRA's approach takes a well-rounded perspective on what serves the entire community best.

I hope you will reconsider the aforementioned proposal. I believe a less drastic approach to regulating short term rentals is possible without compromising important community interests such as affordable housing and water management. Please continue to work with community partners to develop a more moderate approach.

Many thanks,

Thor Kuhlmann

Re: Support for HISTRA's Recommendations and a Balanced Approach