

From: Dave Burch [REDACTED] >

Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2026 7:58 PM

To: Alex Allen <aallen@islandstrust.bc.ca>

Cc: Dave Burch <[REDACTED]>; Sonja Zupanec <szupanec@islandstrust.bc.ca>

Subject: March 20th. Important decisions/responsibility for Hornby Island residents, locals and for the future of Hornby Island families and economy

Dear Trustee Alex,

Please accept and read this letter, in lieu of us being physically present for the important meeting Friday, March 20th.

I am writing on behalf of my family as secondary homeowners who deeply value, support, and contribute (and LOVE) the Hornby community.

We have been closely following the proposed OCP amendments (Vacation rental) and have discussed with a wide range of community members—full-time residents, part-time residents, long-time homeowners, as well as local artists, tradespeople, and small business owners. There is broad agreement on the need for thoughtful, well-planned, and community-beneficial regulation of vacation rentals.

I feel the Trustees must take the necessary time to gather accurate data, consult experts, and proceed with a measured, balanced approach before making any amendments.

Acting without this information risks unintended and potentially harmful consequences for entire community of Hornby.

Vacation rentals are a critical part of Hornby Island's economy. They support full-time residents, families, small businesses, and the broader local community. When we purchased our property, vacation rentals were a permitted use, and we rely on that income. In addition, we contribute over \$22,000 annually to the local economy through our spending. We feel good about supporting locals and a community we feel is special to be a part of.

As Trustees, you have great responsibility on deciding on policies/OCP amendment this March 20th.

If you write into bylaw the proposed policies (cap of 60 / limiting rentals to principal residences), there is responsibility for potential serious negative impacts, including:

- Loss of income for full time residents, local families, tradespeople, and small businesses

- Reduced economic activity that supports year-round residents
- Harm to the long-term sustainability and vibrancy of the Hornby community

At this March 20th meeting, specifically:

- Do not RUSH this bylaw to implement a restrictive cap on vacation rentals without sufficient data to support that decision. If a cap is deemed necessary, it should be set at a level that reflects current realities (e.g., 120 rather than 60).
- Allow all currently legal and qualifying vacation rentals to obtain a Temporary Use Permit (TUP).
- Do not restrict vacation rentals to principal residences only, as this would significantly limit participation (alienate community members) and economic contribution.

We ask that you take a careful, informed, and community-minded approach to ensure decisions support the long-term health and prosperity of Hornby Island.

We do love Hornby and care for the island, nature, locals/residents and the community.

Sincerely,

Dave and Lindsay (Stella and Sebastian) Burch