

From: NS Plancke [REDACTED]  
Sent: Tuesday, May 21, 2024 7:13 PM  
To: Council <[Council@esquimalt.ca](mailto:Council@esquimalt.ca)>  
Subject: Short term rental

Hello

Did Esquimalt not comply with the 90 day minimum rental implemented by the province of BC?  
I invested my life earning to live here in a new built condo.

It has been a horrific experience with rentals of AirBnb - there is no control and these renters have no investment in our homes. Please allow them only in controlled environments of personal houses where the owners live and can make sure of their renters.

Would be grateful to know more of how and when we owners can attend to have our voice heard.

Thank you.  
NS Plancke  
916 Lyall St

**From:** August Wheetherbee [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, May 17, 2024 7:32 PM  
**To:** Council <[Council@esquimalt.ca](mailto:Council@esquimalt.ca)>  
**Subject:** Short term rentals.

Dear Council Members,

I am writing to you as a concerned resident of Esquimalt Township to advocate for the reconsideration of the current policy that prohibits short-term rentals within our community. I believe that allowing short-term rentals could provide substantial benefits to our township, both economically and socially. Firstly, short-term rentals can significantly boost local economies. Tourists and visitors staying in short-term rentals often spend money at local businesses such as restaurants, shops, and entertainment venues. This influx of visitors can lead to increased revenue for local businesses and contribute to the overall economic vitality of Esquimalt. In cities around the world, short-term rentals have proven to be an effective way to attract tourists who might prefer the unique and personalized experience these accommodations offer.

Secondly, short-term rentals provide property owners with an opportunity to supplement their income. For many residents, particularly those on fixed incomes or facing economic challenges, the ability to rent out a portion of their home (such as bedrooms) on a short-term basis can provide much-needed financial relief. This can help homeowners manage rising living costs and property taxes, thus fostering greater economic stability within our community.

I understand that there are valid concerns regarding the impact of short-term rentals, such as potential disturbances to local neighborhoods and the availability of long-term rental housing. However, these issues can be effectively managed through thoughtful regulation and enforcement. By implementing clear guidelines and requirements, such as limiting the number of short-term rental permits, enforcing strict noise and safety standards, and ensuring that a portion of properties

remain available for long-term residents, the township can mitigate these concerns while still reaping the benefits of a vibrant short-term rental market.

In conclusion, I urge the Esquimalt Township Council to consider the potential positive impacts of allowing short-term rentals and to explore a balanced approach that addresses community concerns while leveraging the economic and social benefits they offer. By doing so, we can create a more dynamic, prosperous, and inclusive community for all residents and visitors alike.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

**From:** SHERRY Conroy [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 22, 2024 4:24 PM

**To:** Barb Desjardins <[Barbara.Desjardins@esquimalt.ca](mailto:Barbara.Desjardins@esquimalt.ca)>; Council <[Council@esquimalt.ca](mailto:Council@esquimalt.ca)>

**Subject:** Short term rentals bylaw

Dear Mayor and Council

I am writing to you to share my disappointment today in learning that council has chosen not to adopt the provincial government short term legislation which limits short term rentals to 90 days.

Given the housing crisis currently impacting Canadians, I am hoping you can share the rationale used to make this decision, which clearly puts the interests of tourists, travelling workers etc. over the interests of your constituents. I would think council should be doing everything they can to increase the supply of long term rentals, ensuring that young families can stay in the community they grew up in.

While Esquimalt itself does not have any hotels, the Delta is mere kilometres away for tourists and Workpoint can provide its own lodging for navy personnel on training.

As a current condo owner here, I can assure you that short term renters invest very little back in our community. They make no effort to get to know their neighbours. They don't join our rec centre, or patronize our businesses beyond the occasional food delivery.

While I appreciate and acknowledge the extensive building that is approved or occurring in Esquimalt, few of these projects are nearing completion. Revising the short term rental bylaw has the potential to immediately put numerous suites onto the market. In my building alone, this is between 6 and 8 suites.

Further, if the township is not willing to reconsider the length of time, then I would ask them to consider licensing the suites, so that the true numbers and impact become clear to council.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Sherry Conroy

-----Original Message-----

From: Pat Glover [REDACTED]

Sent: Thursday, May 23, 2024 8:13 AM  
To: Council <[Council@esquimalt.ca](mailto:Council@esquimalt.ca)>  
Subject: Short term rental

My building and fellow owners are not in favour of these rentals Our experience has been mostly negative Disrespectful of others Noise factors Garbage not properly handled Rental over seers not vetting properly Spilling muck on carpets Parking inappropriately Throwing cigarettes butts in waste basket In our time of housing crisis long term rentals more appropriate Short term rentals are nothing more than greed by their owners Will be watching to see if all of you have an interest in we the home owners Sent from my iPhone

From: work [REDACTED]  
Sent: May 22, 2024 10:42 AM  
To: Business Licence <[businesslicence@victoria.ca](mailto:businesslicence@victoria.ca)>  
Subject: Short term rental business license

Hello,

I stayed at a short-term rental through AirBnb.

I would like to verify the person has a proper license because there were some strange happenings that went on with my rental.

The address is:

[REDACTED], Victoria, BC [REDACTED], Canada

The host name is [REDACTED]. AirBnb does not tell me their last name. Their [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

Is this a properly licensed business for rental?

Here are my particulars if it matters (May 10-May 15, 2024):

I stayed 5 nights in the little room they have behind the single car garage. [REDACTED] were upstairs which I did not have access to.

The little room had a twin bed and had a very small window. A small to medium size person should be able to fit through the window in case of fire. The space also had a bathroom.

I could not park my vehicle at that location but some side streets had signs for residential parking.

Stephanie Smith

From: Alison Pengelly [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 11:46 AM  
To: Council <[Council@esquimalt.ca](mailto:Council@esquimalt.ca)>

Subject: Short term rentals

Hello,

I noticed that you will be reviewing the short term rental bylaws this year. I hope you consider allowing short term rentals of less than a month in a spare room in someone's principle residence. So it wouldn't be a secondary suite used for the STR it would be a spare room with shared kitchen, bathrooms etc.

Thanks.

Alison

From: Ioana Tatar [REDACTED]  
Sent: Wednesday, May 29, 2024 5:20 PM  
To: Council <[Council@esquimalt.ca](mailto:Council@esquimalt.ca)>  
Subject: Short Term Rentals

Hi there,

My name is Ioana Tatar. My husband and I bought a house last year and we were very disappointed to find out there are no short term rentals allowed in the township of Esquimalt. Coming from the City of Victoria, we found it odd that a few blocks down it isn't allowed to rent. We would be happy to pay a fee and have the ability to short term rent. We spoke to the by-law officer about our particular case. We're in a stand-alone home in Esquimalt a few blocks from Vic West and we have a tiny room and bathroom available with a separate entrance. We would not be able to rent our space out to a tenant long term. We would be happy to have our space reviewed and to pay the amount enforced by the city to be able to rent out short term because it's not fair for all neighboring cities to be able to do this and to not give Esquimalt this opportunity. As a new and young family, this would be highly beneficial for us and I know it would be beneficial for other young families, given the current housing market and Esquimalt's changing demographic with so many new families in the township.

Thank you for considering,

Ioana Tatar

## Victoria McKean

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**From:** Jamie Starke [REDACTED] >  
**Sent:** July-07-24 7:45 AM  
**To:** Council  
**Subject:** Short term rentals

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
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CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Township of Esquimalt Network. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

Hello,

I noticed that the township is looking to review their regulations around short term rentals. I wanted to give my opinion that if anything, we should take a harder stance on short term rentals.

They haven't been legal in the township, so those that are using it are breaking law. The examples of those that are doing so are easy to find via vrbo and Airbnb. If you'd need someone to compile a list though I can.

Because they can't operate legally, these "businesses" are also operating without a license, unlike the other hardworking businesses in our township. I also suspect that many of these are owned by people outside the community, and therefore are taking money out of the community.

More importantly, they hurt our community. One short term rental is one less home for a member of our community. We're in an affordability crisis, rents are higher than ever before. Short term rentals take away from the housing supply, and increase our already record high rents. This means that friends and members of our community need to move away to afford to house their families.

I trust that council will make the right decision, and if anything, will increase penalties to stem the damage these cash grabs cause to the community.

Thank you for the help,

Jamie Starke  
908 Shearwater Street

## Victoria McKean

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**From:** Suzanne Smith [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** July-09-24 3:06 PM  
**To:** Council  
**Subject:** short term rental input

**Follow Up Flag:** Follow up  
**Flag Status:** Flagged

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CAUTION: This email originated from outside of the Township of Esquimalt Network. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

I am writing in regards to your review coming up regarding short term rentals in the township of esquimalt. I have some input to consider.

I realize that all municipalities are reviewing and placing bans on short term rentals in order to help mitigate the "housing crisis". In some regards some measures put in place make sense but I dont believe the housing crisis is going to be solved by deleting privately owned short term rentals for many and various reasons. The problems run much deeper than that. I would argue it is more a creation of an economic crisis from capitalism and an economic class distribution failing. A whole other topic. Although it seems a simple solution limiting what a person can do with their primary prooperty is not a reasonable solution to a very complex issue.

My concerns become more alarming when a government is beginning to tell a private citizen what they can and can not do with their primary property. We live in a city that's primary income is tourism. Having short term rentals is vital to continue welcoming tourists to our town. I have an ocean front property that I live in full time but I often go away on vacations or to visit family or work trips and would like to continue to be able to rent out my home during that time if I so wish. I travel often. I would not and can not rent my primary residence out to someone for longer than a few days to weeks at a time because I live here.

As well the housing crisis applies more to the working class and the plain fact is they could not afford to rent out a luxury home long term or short term regardless. I hope you will be very careful in your guidelines to consider situations like mine. A private citizen's rights should not be taken away by dictating what they can and can not do with their primary residence property.

In addition I hear there are considerations in the future to insist people rent out usable space or suffer an "air tax" . if I have a garden suite on my primary residence that I keep for family and friends to visit, I should never be dictated to by the government to rent it out long term to anyone. That is an infringement of my rights. Having long term tenants on your own property you live on is not what everyone can handle or manage and should never be considered a requirement from the government. I have been a landlord a few times with a few properties in my lifetime and largely have had negative financial and emotional experiences with long term tenants and do not wish to experience that again.

Regards,

--

Dr. Suzanne Smith

