Office of Councillor Janice Lukes
Waverley West Ward

May 17, 2021

RE: Registering in support of Item No. 6 Review of Accommodation Tax By-Law 70/2008 to Include Short Term Rentals as motioned by the Riel Community Committee.

During 2014-2017 – in my intense quest to eliminate illegal rooming houses, I observed a new situation emerging – that being the use of houses for short term rentals.

Today, more and more homes in south Winnipeg are being used for short term rentals. People are renting the houses for party locations, out of town construction crews are renting houses because it's a safer to leave their construction vehicles in the driveways overnight vs hotel parking lots, and residents are concerned about neighbourhood safety related to the transient nature of short term rentals in their neighbourhood.

If you approve this motion to proceed- I want to highlight:

1. My concern is not so much about the in the collection and remittance of the Accommodations Tax; as I think the impact will be nominal. I've encouraged Mr Jocelyn, President and CEO, Manitoba Hotel Association to come today to speak to that – he will provide you with good insight–

2. **My primary concern is** that the department provide recommendations on how to regulate the industry – there are countless examples of how cities around the world are dealing with short term rentals. There's no need to reinvent the wheel- but to instead study the regulatory regimes put in place and provide recommendations.