SUBMISSION – JENNIFER SHEPHERD

Item 5 of the Report of the Standing Policy Committee on Property and Development, Heritage and Downtown Development dated April 5, 2022 regarding Regulating Short-Term Rentals

From: Jennifer Shepherd
Sent: Sunday, April 24, 2022 2:38 PM
Subject: Air BNB-

Dear Mr. Klein,

I have been watching with interest the ongoing debate on imposing new restrictions with Air BNBs.

My common law husband and I have a small condo not conducive to entertaining groups. During covid, we have taken to renting air bnbs throughout our city so we can have our friends get together safely while not risking travel across the border.

Air BNBs have allowed us to feel we are "getting away from it all". When staying at one we have ordered in from restaurants, gone shopping in neighborhoods we don't normally frequent and spent money as though we are on vacation as one would do.

It would be extremely disappointing to myself, and I am sure countless others if these new restrictions meant no longer having this option. I also feel very strongly it would be a step back for Manitoba and our economy.

Other provinces seem to have found the appropriate balance which brings an influx of cash to their city, which based on our crumbling infrastructure, we desperately need.

The state of our roads (if we can even call them roads at this point), our water system and now multiple areas of Manitoba are experiencing serious flooding. Yet Manitoba wants to say no to hundreds of thousands of dollars from Air BNBs is a mind boggling thought which leaves one scratching their head as to why.

Again, I reiterate, if other provinces can find the path forward, why not Manitoba? Must we be last in everything? Are we trying to join a race to the bottom?

I am steadfastly in support for Air BNBs and hope that the correct decision is made for not only the business owners but for Manitobans as a whole.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Shepherd

Charleswood, Winnipeg.