From: Taisa Monastyrski
Sent: Tuesday, May 10, 2022 8:31 PM
To:
Subject: Living in the Exchange - Experience for the STR conversation.

Hello City Council,

I am a single middle-aged woman that has lived in Ashdown Warehouse for over 15 years. I chose to live downtown because I love the vibrant urban lifestyle. Like any city there will always be some security challenges. I normally feel regardless, I would like to share my experience as part of the short-term rental conversation.
I am in favour of short-term rentals as don't feel that this is the true cause of the security/safety issues.
To begin with, I am a regular user of Air BNB when I travel and love it!! It is a wonderful opportunity to be part of the vibe of a particular neighborhood and get the feeling of what it would be like to live I in different city or country.

Then back home at Ashdown, I personally have met some lovely people renting short team.

For example:

- A group of siblings coming together from different parts of Canada booking rooms at Ashdown to celebrate Christmas together in a home type atmosphere.
- A woman from Toronto who books the same homey unit every year for a week so she can spend time with her mother in a Winnipeg nursing home.
- A group of young women soccer plays who were in town for a tournament excited to be in Exchange district,
- A middle-aged couple from Edmonton who come to spend time with their son who is a student in Winnipeg,
- and the list goes on.

So yes, I have a heard that there are some bad apples from time to time, but my experience has been positive and would not want to ruin the opportunity for the many people who want to enjoy the wonderful exchange experience for a short period of time.
Then on the other side of the story once I had to call for security support when my neighbor across the hall, a long-term owner, had a party and later there was a woman pounding on my door and screaming. This turned to be a girlfriend of his that was disoriented when she tried to go home and forgot her purse. Then there was a drug bust and a regular party that the police had to shut down a few units down the hall. Again, a long-term owner, who I eventually bought out when he lost his place while incarcerated. So, I was able to get an upgrade for myself and clean up a problem for other people on my floor.

There are other things that could always be thing done to improve security and make the building safer for all but I don't believe eliminating short term rentals in the answer.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss further please let me know..

Thanks

Taisa Monastyrski
Winnipeg Exchange District