Thank you for giving me the opportunity to share my views. Note down all my questions that I will ask and all-important points that I will say.

I came to Canada 6 years ago in 2016. I worked 7 days a week 2-3 shifts a day. Never enjoyed Fri night, weekends, long weekends. With such a sacrifice, hard work I bought my house in Bridgewater 2 months before.

Then spend 30k on it to prepare basement. I started renting spare bedroom in basement to combat the recent inflation

I paid full amount of house and 100% of property tax. I didn't paid half. So, why I can rent it for just 180 days? Answer this? Renting a room in my house is not my hobby, I do it for my survival.

After years of hard work, I become owner of house in my new country. By these regulations you are bringing, my freedom to own my house will be taken away.

It should be decided by me if I want to rent it for 1 day, 180 days or a year. Why does city get to decide how many days I can rent?? Answer me?

I insist you to please give me freedom to continue owning of my house. I came to Manitoba as it was advertised as "Friendly Manitoba". Is this the friendly Manitoba? Where city will take my freedom to live in my house. I had more freedom in my home country, India!

I got scared when someone send me video of last week's planning committee where a councilor was openly saying, what's the need of public engagement? We are elected by the people, so we can make our own laws or something to that effect. That really scared me! If this the way regulations are made, I think I came to wrong place. Back home is then much better. I am angry that long 6 years of hard work, new rules you want to make will throw my efforts in the garbage in 1 second! Is this how you want to treat new immigrants? My STR was designed to cater to them. People like me just arriving here.

My main point is that you should be making new rules while keeping the people like me who are last in the line. How people like me will get effected? Not the very first ones, so called rich. Many are just like me who are struggling.

I will tell you exactly how it will affect me. It will definitely take my freedom and my dream of home ownership will be ruined! I spend 30k last month. It will be all garbage. At least my house will be worth more now when I have to sell it right way and move back to my small apartment I had before! But question is Who will pay me back for it?? Will Winnipeg city council?

I also saw someone recommended Toronto's rule to be copied here. Why? Is Winnipeg not better than Toronto? Please don't compare apples with oranges. Check out and see what's min wage in Winnipeg compared to Toronto. Min wage of Manitoba in lowest in Canada. And then it is highest in taxes. This is because of poor policies/ regulations. Same thing will happen with STR regulations. This industry will be destroyed.

Why are you comparing Winnipeg with Toronto? We need Winnipeg model not Toronto. We have our own challenges. Compare apples with apples, you can still compare Winnipeg with Regina, Calgary, which are more similar to us.  Yes! But still, we need Winnipeg model.

Then, there is idea of 4 taxes. Can you imagine tax 4 times on one thing? Is this Friendly Manitoba? Tell me? I say there should be just one tax on one thing. Give us freedom to live in our own house. Stop thinking I should pay property tax, business tax, accommodation tax, GST and then income tax just to rent my spare bedroom!

Make some better rules/ regulations that will improve STR. Please pay close attention to fully understand me and my situation. What you should do is make both hotels and STR better. Don't use this strategy to wipe out one to grow the other one. This is poor uneducated policy and we won't stand for this method.

Elected leaders, please make rules/ regulations by looking after everyone by looking out for the last person in line, how will people like me will get affected? Now we have to start fighting for our freedom?

You can't just say due to noise issue in STR you are going to wipe it out. Think another way. How can noise issue be fixed. I guarantee 99% of issue could be solve with a very small approach. Make a rule there should be no noise after 10 pm.

Bring better taxation policies. No tax on primary residence STR. Tax a bit more on 2-3 properties, then tax bit more on 4-5 properties. Bigger business should mean more tax. There will be no need to put other useless regulation of limits if you bring this approach.

You think it affects safety of neighborhood. That is just your opinion not actual fact! Think in a positive way how can we make it safer and better rather than getting rid of it. Make a rule every STR suite must have self-monitored camera, it will solve 99% of any problem.

Finally, I wish you understood my points and will answer to me, is this the friendly Manitoba? How about “Business Friendly Manitoba” I am begging you, please don’t take my freedom of home ownership. There should be no day’s limit and have just 1 tax per place.

Make regulations for betterment of all not for self-interest or for rich. Don’t compare Hotels with STR’s. Don’t compare apples with oranges. Bring positive approach that will uplift both.

Thank you

Stalinjeet Sidhu