From: Amie Walcott
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2023 8:34 AM
To: CLK-CityClerks <CityClerks@winnipeg.ca>
Subject: Protect short-term rentals in Winnipeg

Hii,

I am writing to express concern over the recent recommendations regarding short-term rentals in Winnipeg.

I became an AirBNB host only a year ago, utilizing a vacant duplex unit in my home in St Boniface, while I live in the adjoining side. I have thoroughly enjoyed my hosting experience and have only had responsible and courteous guests. The previous owners ran this property as a regular rental, and our neighbours have expressed gratitude over our management of the property due to issues with previous tenants. The point is, responsible AirBNB owners provide safe places for people to stay that are more comfortable and offer more amenities than a hotel. These are ideal stays for people staying longer term for work, newcomers to Winnipeg, or those traveling with pets and children that require yard space, etc.

I have no issue with regulations that benefit safety of guests or with requirements to be licensed. I do however think it is absolutely unfair to limit what type of property or the number of properties that someone can run as an AirBNB. A responsible property owner should be allowed the freedom to do what they want with their own property and limiting the number of AirBNBs allowed, infringes on the right to operate a profitable business. If I one day decide to move out of my property, I want to continue to operate my AirBNB.

I am saddened to hear of the stories of partying and neglect in management at some AirBNBs in the city. I believe this is an issue that can be remedied by licensing and inspections. It is not fair to punish the majority of responsible AirBNB hosts due to a few bad apples.

Sincerely,
Amie Walcott