

Are higher licencing fees over Hotels and rooming houses Legal in Canada?

The answer is NO

1. Discrimination Laws: In Canada, laws against discrimination, including in housing and accommodation, exist to ensure equal treatment and access to services. Charging significantly higher fees for STRs compared to other forms of accommodation could potentially raise concerns about discrimination.

2. Legal Challenges: If property owners or hosts believe that the fees are unreasonably high, discriminatory, or otherwise unlawful, they may choose to challenge them through legal channels. This could involve filing a complaint or initiating legal action to address concerns about fees.

3. Compliance with Legislation: Authorities must ensure that any fees imposed on STRs are consistent with relevant legislation, such as the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which safeguards fundamental rights and freedoms, including equality and property rights.

^. Transparency and Justification: To mitigate potential legal issues, municipal governments should ensure that their fees are transparent, justifiable, and serve legitimate public interests, such as addressing housing shortages, ensuring public safety, and regulating the industry fairly.

Importance of Legal Clarity: In order to maintain a just and equitable society, it is crucial to have legal clarity and consistency. Higher fees for STRs can create uncertainty, legal disputes, and confusion for property owners and hosts.

In conclusion, proponents of this view argue that charging significantly higher fees for STRs, compared to hotels and rooming houses, is potentially discriminatory, may infringe upon property rights, and could have negative economic consequences. They assert that it is important to uphold the principles of equal treatment, protect property rights, and promote economic growth and innovation within the sharing economy.

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