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For the Public Hearing - STR

-----Original Message-----

From: Meghan <[REDACTED]>  
Sent: Monday, July 13, 2020 8:48 AM  
To: John-Edward Franquet <[REDACTED]>  
Cc: Lesley-Anne Staats <Lstaats@gibsons.ca>  
Subject: Re: STR Bylaw Assistance

>  
> Dear Mrs. Staats,  
>  
> We are writing to you to express our concerns with the new bylaws that are currently being proposed for short term rentals in the Town of Gibsons.  
> My wife and I (and now our little boy) have lived in Gibsons for close to 4 years now and we are proud to call Gibsons our home. We participated in the official community engagement process for these bylaws and appreciated the level of involvement with the residents and STR owners.  
> In our particular scenario; our time is split between Gibsons and Vancouver due to the nature of my job and we have opened up part of our space to visitors mostly while we are away. We have consistently promoted and even invested in local businesses and have always regarded AirBnB as an opportunity to benefit the local economy.  
>  
> We ask that council and yourself give consideration to postponing the implementation of the bylaws at a later date or at least to have these coincide with the implementation of non-host operated bylaws later this year.  
> We are certain that the council did not anticipate that it would be reviewing these bylaws during these uncertain times. With the current Covid-19 situation; it is our opinion is that these bylaws will hurt both the tourism industry and home owners alike while the region and local economy is trying to rebound.  
> I am certain that this is a difficult time for many people which is why we wanted to reach out. The first phase of bylaws being considered is such that we would therefore suddenly lose the opportunity to operate due to our particular situation - we are dreading the potential financial hardship that could ensue.  
>

> We hope that the City of Gibsons and council will be sensitive to these arguments and look forward to hearing from you.

>

> Thank you,

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> John-Edward Franquet and Meghan MacLean

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