



The Corporation of the Township of Georgian Bluffs

September 8, 2023

Re: Resolution in Support – Short Term Rentals

To whom I may concern,

This is to advise that Council for the Township of Georgian Bluffs passed the following resolution on the August 16, 2023, meeting of Council:

RES2023-182

Moved By: Councillor Cathy Moore Coburn

Seconded By: Councillor Isaac Shouldice

That the Township of Georgian Bluffs forward a letter in support of the resolutions passed by the Town of Fort Erie and Township of Puslinch regarding short term rentals.

Carried

Please see the resolutions attached.

Thank you,

Rayburn Murray
Legislative Services Coordinator
519-376-2729 ext. 603
rmurray@georgianbluffs.ca

c.c.
Premier of Ontario
The Honourable Steve Clark
The Honourable Alex Ruff
The Honourable Rick Byers
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario
All Ontario Municipalities



Legislative Services

July 26, 2023

Sent via email: premier@ontario.ca

The Honourable Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Legislative Building, Queen's Park
Toronto, ON M7A 1A1

Honourable and Dear Sir:

Re: Controls on Airbnb, VRBO and Others Which Affect Municipal Rentals

Please be advised the Municipal Council of the Town of Fort Erie at its meeting of July 24, 2023 passed the following resolution:

Whereas global technology platforms such as Airbnb or VRBO were created to improve global access to rental opportunities, particularly those available for vacation or shorter-term business purposes, and

Whereas the impact of these “disruptive technologies” on rental markets has raised the following concerns in the past decade:

- Concentration of ownership and proliferation of landlord corporations with minimal interest in or accountability to local communities
- Removal of housing stock from long-term rental markets with resulting increases in rents
- Lack of control over occupancy (e.g. families vs large groups of partygoers)
- Incidence of nuisance infractions (noise, garbage, parking), and

Whereas any reduction in the availability of long-term housing stock runs counter to the Province of Ontario’s goal of 1.5 million additional homes in the next 10 years, and

Whereas growth in short-term rental markets may also have a negative impact on housing affordability for the seasonal workers who service tourist destinations or farming communities, and

.../2

Mailing Address:

The Corporation of the Town of Fort Erie
1 Municipal Centre Drive, Fort Erie ON L2A 2S6

Office Hours 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Phone: (905) 871-1600 FAX: (905) 871-4022

Web-site: www.forterie.ca

Whereas implementing local/municipal restrictions through municipal law enforcement tools (licensing) and municipal planning tools (zoning by-law restrictions) may push demand to other communities, and

Whereas some platforms (e.g. Airbnb) are already working toward providing notice to owners about municipal regulations and licensing through a license number field, and

Whereas some jurisdictions (e.g. Quebec, Scotland) have acknowledged the limitations of local authorities/municipalities in controlling the impact of global technologies and have developed comprehensive regulatory frameworks, and

Whereas a comprehensive, consistent regulatory approach is likely to prove more effective in Ontario,

Now, therefore, be it resolved,

That: Council requests the Government of Ontario to establish a regulatory framework requiring digital platforms such as Airbnb and VRBO to:

1. Require owners using the digital platforms to comply with municipal planning and licensing regulations, and
2. Prevent advertising of properties that are not registered with the relevant municipality, and
3. Provide a contact with the platform to ensure ongoing and effective communications for provincial and municipal officials and further

That: The Province of Ontario work with municipalities to address situations in which long-term housing stock has been lost to corporate ownership of short-term rental properties and further

That: A copy of the resolution be forwarded to the Premier of Ontario (Hon. Doug Ford), the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing (Hon. Steve Clarke), local MPPs, the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) and all municipalities in Ontario.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Kind regards,

Ashlea Carter, AMP

Deputy Clerk

acarter@forterie.ca

AC:dlk

Attach.

c.c. The Honourable Steve Clark, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing minister.mah@ontario.ca
Jennifer Stevens, MPP - St. Catharines JStevens-CO@ndp.on.ca
Jeff Burch, MPP - Niagara Centre JBurch-QP@ndp.on.ca
Wayne Gates, MPP - Niagara Falls wgates-co@ndp.on.ca
Sam Oosterhoff, MPP - Niagara West-Glanbrook sam.oosterhoff@pc.ola.org
The Association of Municipalities of Ontario amo@amo.on.ca
All Ontario Municipalities



Hon. Steve Clark
777 Bay St
17th Floor, Toronto
ON M5G 2E5
VIA EMAIL:
steve.clark@pc.ola.org

Hon. Ted Arnott, MPP
181 St. Andrew St. East
2nd Floor, Fergus
ON N1M 1P9
VIA EMAIL:
ted.arnottco@pc.ola.org

Township of Puslinch
7404 Wellington Road 34
Puslinch, ON N0B 2J0
www.puslinch.ca

Hon. Matthew Rae, MPP
55 Lorne Ave. E
Stratford,
ON N5A 6S4
VIA EMAIL:
Matthew.Rae@pc.ola.org

August 3, 2023

RE: Consent Agenda Item 6.48 Selwyn Township - Short Term Rentals

Please be advised that Township of Puslinch Council, at its meeting held on July 12, 2023 considered the aforementioned topic and subsequent to discussion, the following was resolved:

Resolution No. 2023-226: Moved by Councillor Sepulis and
Seconded by Councillor Bailey

That the Consent Agenda item 6.48 listed for JULY, 2023 Council meeting be received; and

Whereas the Township of Puslinch is in receipt of Selwyn Township resolution of June 27, 2023;

Be it resolved that the Township of Puslinch also supports the resolution and also requests that the Province move forward as soon as possible to legislate that all third party Short Term Rental brokerage companies, for example Airbnb and VRBO, appropriately manage and be responsible for their listings and to compel compliance that the Province establish the requirement for STR companies to require each rental listing to be registered and to pay an appropriate annual fee and that STR company provide this registry along with the collected fees to the municipality in which the STR properties are located which allows the municipality to be aware of all registered STR properties and to have access to funds for municipal expenses to enforce/respond to issues at a STR property; and further



That the Province require the STR company to de-list/remove the property from the company's listings so that the property cannot be rented where a municipality has identified and verified life, health and/or nuisance infractions including noise, fire safety, septic, etc.; and

That a copy of this resolution be sent to all Ontario municipalities for support as well as to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Steve Clark, Speaker Ted Arnott, and MPP Matthew Rae.

CARRIED

As per the above resolution, please accept a copy of this correspondence for your information and consideration.

Sincerely,

Courtenay Hoytfox
Municipal Clerk

June 29, 2023

Hon. Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
Room 4620
99 Wellesley St. W.,
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1A1

Via Email: premier@ontario.ca

Please be advised that at its meeting held on the 27th day of June 2023, the Council of the Township of Selwyn passed the following resolution:

Resolution No. 2023 – 143 – Notice of Motion – Short-Term Rentals

Councillor Brian Henry – Councillor John Boyko –

Whereas the demand for alternative accommodations has resulted in an increased prominence of residential properties being advertised for short term accommodations through third party companies such as Airbnb and VRBO; a shift from the ‘traditional’ cottage rental historically managed by a property owner; and

Whereas over the past decade a flood of properties have been removed from the ownership and long-term rental market (*Canada Research Chair in Urban Governance at McGill University*) contributing to housing shortages, increased housing demands and increased housing costs resulting in housing affordability issues, including affordable rentals; and

Whereas short term rentals (STR) can be beneficial, when operated appropriately, by providing solutions for the accommodation industry that supports local tourism and small businesses as well as providing an opportunity for property owners to generate income from their residence (permanent or seasonal) using a convenient third-party system; and

Whereas STR’s can create nuisances including noise, parking, high volumes of visitors attending a property, septic capacity and fire safety, for adjacent residential property owners who wish to experience quiet enjoyment of their property; and

Whereas research indicates that demand for STR’s is increasing, in part due to vacationers choosing domestic travel options as well as the financial benefits to property owners, demonstrating that STR’s are here to stay; and

Mailing Address
PO Box 270
Bridgenorth
Ontario K0L 1H0

Tel: 705 292 9507
Fax: 705 292 8964

Whereas there are no Provincial regulations in place governing third party STR companies resulting in a variety of regulations/guidelines being implemented at the local municipal level which creates inconsistencies, confusion and frustrations for both consumers and residents across the Province;

That the Township of Selwyn request that the Province move forward as soon as possible to legislate that all third party Short Term Rental brokerage companies, for example Airbnb and VRBO, appropriately manage and be responsible for their listings and to compel compliance that the Province establish the requirement for STR companies to require each rental listing to be registered and to pay an appropriate annual fee and that STR company provide this registry along with the collected fees to the municipality in which the STR properties are located which allows the municipality to be aware of all registered STR properties and to have access to funds for municipal expenses to enforce/respond to issues at a STR property; and further

That the Province require the STR company to de-list/remove the property from the company's listings so that the property cannot be rented where a municipality has identified and verified life, health and/or nuisance infractions including noise, fire safety, septic, etc...

That a copy of this resolution be sent to all Ontario municipalities for support as well as to Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Steve Clark, local M.P.P. Dave Smith and M.P. Michelle Ferreri.

Carried.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Megin Hunter

Megin Hunter
Office Assistant/Receptionist
mhunter@selwyntownship.ca

cc: steve.clark@pc.ola.org
michelle.ferreri@parl.gc.ca
dave.smithco@pc.ola.org
All Ontario Municipalities