From: Randy Burke < >
Sent: Friday, March 1, 2024 10:58 AM
To: Agenda Items <AgendaItems@kawarthalakes.ca>
Subject: Fwd: Short term rentals

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> To the council of the CKL,
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> As Jean Chrétien said this morning when speaking about his long time political opponent and yes, friend Brian Mulroney, there is much honour in public service. Our thanks to you all for that service.
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> Addressing concerns around the bad behaviour by the small percentage of those who use short term rental does not justify reaching into the private homes of responsible, tax paying people.
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> Only 6% of the complaints filed came from short term rentals and now you want those that rent their private property on a short term basis to provide site plans, have septic systems inspected, force fire code compliance, have annual hvac inspections, etc, etc. This is not reasonable.
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> Out of 444 municipalities in Ontario 84 have launched a short term rental regime. This means that 360 have not. Are you actually thinking that this new regime is going to increase economic activity and prosperity in the CKL?
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> Over 80% of the people who come into the CKL for leisure time from somewhere else use short term rental facilities. These people plan ahead, looking for and renting their favourite spot well in advance. Right now, because of the paralysis caused by the introduction of the CKL's short term rental regime, everything and everybody in the short term rental transaction is on hold. Property owners can't book guests. Guests can't book rental spaces. DO YOU SUPPOSE THEY MIGHT LOOK ELSEWHERE?
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> On a personal level those of us who rent out space in our private property depend on the revenue from that to live our lives. You have reached into our personal lives and messed with a revenue stream that is very important to us. We deeply and profoundly resent that.
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> We and the vast majority of private property owners, do not need the municipal government reaching into our private homes to dictate to us what we can or cannot do in them.
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> In my conversations with CKL staff I'm told that, for example, the requirement of septic inspection is due to the fact that because each septic system is designed to accommodate a maximum number of people, having more than that number could cause the septic system to backup and overflow into lakes and streams, etc. So, yes okay, that might happen. However responsible private home and property owners know this and take the necessary precautions like monitoring their septic tank, getting it pumped out regularly, etc. It is not your responsibility to reach onto my property and take away my responsibility to be responsible!
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> Circulating the STR applications to the building department for review is causing confusion and overloading the already overloaded building department. This in turn will cause delays in housing starts, which are already unreasonably delayed due to lack of personnel in the building department. The majority of STR owners who are renting cottages are already complying with their own insurance company regulations and do not require another level of oversight.
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> We do not need this to be legislated!! When are you going to start attempting to dictate how many of my children and grandchildren can come home at Christmas? After all, they could cause my septic tank to backup and overflow into the environment!!
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> Enforce the bylaws that already exist. Use the two new bylaw officers to deal with the bad actors that make up the 6% of those who rent short term in the CKL. Don't penalize and frustrate honest, hardworking, responsible taxpayers by downloading this restrictive and invasive regime that prevents us from using our private property as we see fit.
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> You have thrown a significant roadblock into the path of economic prosperity in the CKL.
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> I encourage you to significantly modify this short term rental regime in a manner that shows you understand the sanctity of private homes, and the economic drivers of the City of Kawartha Lakes.
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> Respectfully yours,
>
> Randy Burke
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