

July 7, 2020

Your Worship and members of council,

My name is Carolyn McCourt and I reside with my husband on Vista Drive in Fonthill.

In early 2019 after discussion with staff at the Municipal Offices, and notifying all of my adjoining neighbours I opened an AIRBNB in our separate, furnished lower level.

After a winter break, I reopened again in late spring of this year, again after communicating with town staff. To date we have had the pleasure of hosting many very nice couples and singles in our home and have never had a complaint or concern expressed by our neighbours.

The very obvious difference is the fact that we reside at the location, provide off street parking and do not allow any activity that is likely to cause a disturbance.

I absolutely understand the issue before council and as a longtime resident in this community I would object strongly if our neighbours opened an AIRBNB rental that allowed unsupervised activity that caused a disturbance.

Before council concludes this matter however please allow me to express my personal sentiment that the remedy to most, if not all. short term rental complaints is requiring that the home be occupied by the owner in order to ensure compliance with a potential bylaw and appropriate neighbourly conduct. This requirement would allow responsible home owners like my husband and I to continue to run our small business, and direct our guests to the many great restaurants and other facilities in Fonthill and the Niagara Region.

I thank you for your time and consideration!

Carolyn McCourt