

September 25, 2023

**To: Mayor Heather Watson & Councilors**

Douro-Dummer Council, Township of Douro-Dummer  
894 South Street, P.O. Box 92, Warsaw Ontario, K0L 3A0

**Topic: Short Term Rentals – Council Meeting Agenda: 3 October 2023**

I am in full support of Douro-Dummer Council passing a STR Bylaw.

In preparation for a STR Bylaw item on Council Agenda next Tuesday 3 October 2023 please take the following points of principle into account:

1. **Protection of Douro-Dummer property owners:** In the absence of any STR Bylaw, abuses of the system are well documented including non-resident owners renting out local properties in a ‘turn-style’ manner leading to uncontrolled noise on water, land, and roads; road traffic and road parking issues, waste disposal, fire burns and septic tank issues.
2. **Water safety issues:** Unregulated renting of properties, granting short term renters’ access to watercraft at that property, leads to more concerns. Without any bylaw requiring watercraft permits, licenses or knowledge of water safety rules leaves open breaches of water safety including, for example, water skiing without any regard to a second person spotter.
3. **Consistency and Coordination:** The absence of a Douro-Dummer STR Bylaw keeps the door open to those seeking to take advantage of a more lenient jurisdiction leaving property owners vulnerable to turning residential zoned neighborhoods into commercial businesses without any oversight, permits, safety inspections, monitoring or enforcement mechanisms.

I fully support a STR Bylaw which would be, minimally, consistent with neighboring townships on Clear, Stoney and adjacent Lakes and Townships.

I will be watching Council proceedings with great interest on October 3<sup>rd</sup> and wish Councilors the best in taking swift action on passing a Douro-Dummer STR Bylaw.

Sincerely,  
Betsy McGregor,