

Dear Mayor Harding and Council Members,

Re: Short term Rental Accommodation

We understand that there is an item on this week's Committee of the Whole agenda dealing with a revisit to the matter of Short-term Rental Accommodation in the Township. I represented the MRA on the Steering Committee and joined with a number of others representing a cross section of related interests, and including the OPP, the Bylaw Officer, the previous Mayor and three Councillors under the direction of David Pink, Director of Planning.

During four meetings of the Steering Committee, we had both a broad and detailed discussion on the matter, and spent much time looking at the solution put in place in Collingwood, a solution which had cost that community in excess of 1M to finalize. It was a comprehensive, legal document which included significant oversight, inspection and penalty administration at considerable expense. We concluded that their solution was unnecessary overreach to meet the needs for our Township at that time.

After much thought, the Steering Committee agreed to submit three recommendations in a resolution which was presented to Council in July of last year, and unanimously passed.

We are not aware that the recommendations have as yet been totally implemented, or that the tightening of existing Bylaws,

such as Noise and Parking, have been carried out. The proposed Muskoka Lakes Code of Conduct was circulated in the agenda of the June 14, 2018 Committee of the Whole meeting.

It would seem premature to spend more time and money on re-opening the discussion until the resolution on Short term Rental Accommodation passed unanimously just 8 months ago has been put in place and tested to determine its effectiveness in the community.

Sincerely,

J. Douglas Bryden, Director of the MRA, on behalf of the Muskoka Ratepayers'

March 12, 2019