

# B.C.'s short-term rental accommodations legislation

As some of you may be aware the Province has enacted new Legislation around short term rentals. This new legislation will affect a number of municipalities however for those that live in a Regional District like the Strathcona Regional District each of the Electoral Areas do have the ability to opt in or not.

This new legislation is aimed at removing entire houses from the short term rental market in the hopes that those entire homes will become long term rentals. It is worthy to note that if an Electoral Area does opt in to this new legislation that they are also opting in to the Principal residence requirement.

As of May 1, 2024, the Province is implementing a provincial principal residence requirement which will limit short-term rentals to:

- The host's principal residence
- Plus one secondary suite or accessory dwelling unit

There is also the requirement that those short term rentals will need business licenses, and there are other requirements such as reporting to the province, and the Province will be enforcing regulations.

*At the Electoral Area Board meeting held Feb 14<sup>th</sup> 2024 the following item was on the agenda*

Short Term Rental Accommodations

Mawhinney/Vonesch: EASC 58/24

THAT the report from the Chief Administrative Officer be received. [Item]

CARRIED

Vonesch/Mawhinney: EASC 59/24

THAT the Committee recommend the Board authorize by resolution Electoral Areas B and C to opt-in to the Short-Term Rental Accommodations Act (STRAA) Principal Residence Requirement.

CARRIED

While I understand the motivation to this New Legislation I have also followed the news carefully and there has been considerable negative comments throughout the province on this New Legislation that should give any Electoral Area a reason to hit the pause button.

At this time I see no reason for Area D to opt in to this new legislation.

I would love to hear comments on this new Legislation.