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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ACW Council considers issue of Short-Term Rentals **Residents are encouraged to contact OPP for immediate assistance**

Recently a number of concerns have been expressed in writing regarding conduct and activities at some short term rentals in the Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh. Residents along the lakeshore are concerned with the short-term rental market for local cottage properties and the challenges that comes with them.

Online marketplaces such as Airbnb allow for any property owner to list their accommodations for rent. The Township has received many letters from lakeshore residents who are looking for the Township to restrict Short Term Rentals as a mechanism to control unruly behaviour in the absence of landlords.

"Council is considering its options," said Mayor Glen McNeil. "This is an issue that has many sides to it, and we need to find a balance between maintaining the economic benefits rentals bring to a community and preserving the atmosphere experienced and sought after by residents. It is a nation-wide problem, and there isn't a simple solution."

While Council considers its options, residents are strongly encouraged to utilize the tools already in place. Any disturbance should be reported to the OPP for immediate assistance.

A report outlining options will be brought back to Council at a subsequent meeting for consideration.

Media Contact: Mayor Glen McNeil