



Nellie's
Shelter, Education & Advocacy
for all women and children

PG24.8.20

970 Queen Street East
PO Box 98118
Toronto, ON M4M 1J8

November 14, 2017

Nancy Martins
10th floor, West Tower, City Hall
100 Queen Street West
Toronto, ON M5H 2N2

Dear Nancy,

RE: G 24.8 - Zoning By-law and Zoning By-law Amendments to Permit Short-term Rentals

I'm writing, as a follow-up to my earlier letter, and in response to the November 8, 2017 report from the Toronto Planning and Growth Committee. In my experience, Airbnb serves as a partner in addressing the diverse and evolving housing needs of our citizens. Airbnb and its hosts have repeatedly demonstrated a commitment to our organization and to being caring neighbours in our city.

As I have noted in earlier correspondence, Nellie's operates programs and services for women and children who have or are experiencing oppressions such as violence, poverty and homelessness. Last year we served 133 women and children at our shelter, and another 500 women through our Community Outreach and Support program office, including providing prepared and packaged foods to 80 women and their children through our weekly food program.

We welcome the City's flexible approach to allowing temporary rental of rooms, private suites and entire homes. This approach gives people options to respond to changing lifestyles and provide temporary accommodations to family, friends and others in need. For example, through the Airbnb Open Homes program, hosts provide emergency shelter to individuals and families affected by hurricanes, forest fires, flooding, and other disasters at no cost to the guest. Flexible, fair and easy to follow regulations allow for such programs to continue and provide benefit to our neediest residents.

As you contemplate the future of home sharing for Toronto I encourage you to put forward recommendations that are sensible, fair, and take into account the good work that can come from organizations like Airbnb having a place in our city.

Sincerely,

Margarita Mendez
Executive Director

Administration

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www.nellies.org

Shelter Crisis Line

Tel: 416-461-1084
Fax: 416-461-0976
TTY: 416-461-7561

Community Support

Tel: 416-461-2052
Fax: 416-461-0970
outreach@nellies.org

Transition Support Worker

Tel: 416-461-0980, 416-461-3404, 416-645-0249
TTY: 416-461-0625

Children & Youth

Tel: 416-461-0946

