Nikki Cooper

From: Myra Percy

Sent: Wednesday, October 14, 2020 9:34 AM

To: corporate

Subject: to Mayor and Council, regarding support for boat rentals at Alta Lake

Mayor and Council:

I live and work 1/3 of my time in the Alta Vista neighbourhood, and am a regular customer of the wonderful boat rentals at Alta Lake.

I wish to voice my support for Eric and his crew, and I oppose the petition that is now circulating. Boat rentals should remain at Alta Lake. Given this time of Covid-19, the ability to get out and about on the water is important for mental health and well-being. Eric and his team are responsible, patient, and professional.

Backroads is not the problem; the hoards of people on the grass this summer were the problem in terms of physical distancing and litter.

The throngs of people in the village who do not distance themselves are also a problem, as are smokers who defy bylaws and litter their disgusting butts on the ground. Resort staff do not enforce the nonsmoking bylaw either, so they as a group need to step it up. Myself as a private citizen should not have to tell people that they cannot smoke on common property. Smokers in general tend to have defiant personalities and I do not wish to be involved in an altercation.

The other HUGE issue in Whistler are people who do not leash their dogs. I do not care if your dog is friendly. If the bylaw states that all dogs are leashed unless in a designated area, that is the bylaw. There must be fines for those who allow their dogs to touch, lick, and sniff people out walking in an on-leash area. Some of us are allergic to dogs, and some of us are afraid of them. At no point should a strange dog be permitted to touch someone who does not give consent.

The above 2 issues should be dealt with BEFORE boat rentals are removed from Alta Lake.

Furthermore, if one purchases real estate in a tourist mecca, one must expect crowds during high season. If I purchase a home near an elementary school, I have no right to complain about small children making noise. That's what children do, they make noise. Similarly, tourists come to lakes and trails in high season. Restricting boat rentals at Alta Lake will be depriving tourists and locals alike of the joy of being on the water.

I suggest bylaw officers to enforce distancing on the grassy areas of all Alta Lake parks. Do not take away people's ability to enjoy the lake. Many of us do not wish to purchase boats if we use them for a few months in the summer. Boat rentals are affordable and I know that every time I rent something from Backroads, it will be in good working order.

Thank you.

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