

HISTRA Report: April 2022

What have you done when you have bested a fool? - Charles Portis, True Grit

Happy April Fools! I hope you share some good-hearted silliness today.

With rental season close at hand, now is a good time to ensure the safety of your guests and visitors. Whether you are a vacation home owner or simply hosting family and friends once again this summer, the checklist below will help keep everyone healthy.

Safety Checklist

- Test your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. It's important to install both smoke and CO detectors on every floor within 10 feet of bedrooms. Remember to test detectors monthly and replace batteries every 6 months.
- Restock First Aid kits and include antihistamines (Claritin is non-drowsy) in case of bee or wasp stings.
- Inspect your fire extinguishers according to user manuals, easily found online: ensure the pressure gauge is in the operable range and put extinguishers so they are easy to find and easily accessible in bedrooms, the kitchen and by the BBQ. Chief Chinnery taught me to tap the bottom of extinguishers with a rubber mallet to redistribute the chemicals which eventually settle on the bottom.
- Place signs beside sinks to alert people as to whether the water is potable and safe to drink.

Maintenance

- Review the last time your septic system was serviced and schedule maintenance if required.
- Repair decks in any spongy or slippery spots.
- Ensure railings are up to code.

And lastly, contact to your insurance agent to discuss coverage specific to renting your home. This tax deductible expense ensures the wellbeing of your guests and your own peace of mind.

Please visit www.histra.ca for more resources and ideas.

We welcome new members to the Hornby Island Short Term Rental Association. We're here to help you elevate your rental experience, sharing best practices and keeping you informed of pertinent information. We're also here to help you stay in touch with the greater Hornby community. Together, we can do so much; and in these uncertain times, it's reassuring to know you can depend on the support of neighbours.

Patrick Lui
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