

WHY SHORT-TERM RENTALS (STRS) NEED CIVIC & PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT ATTENTION

- Short-term rentals are a contributing factor to the loss of affordable and available monthly rental housing for residents and workers in communities throughout B.C.;
- Without adequate housing, staff shortages will grow, existing workers will experience burnout, service levels will drop and the customer experience will be affected;
- If monthly housing is not stabilized, any remaining rental housing stock will increase in cost due to the erosion of the community base, while future tourism investment decisions may be delayed or dropped; and
- Online platforms, as well as property owners that offer less than four rooms for rent (STRs, B&Bs) do not have to collect or remit the hotel PST (8%) or MRDT (2-3%) from guests. Rescinding section 78(1)b of BC's *Provincial Sales Tax Act* will:
 - Augment local government enforcement efforts by using data obtained from tax registration and collection to monitor compliance;
 - Increase voluntary compliance among landlords who risk finding themselves offside with both local bylaws and the provincial tax code; and
 - Encourage some landlords to return monthly rental stock back to the community for workers and residents to avoid tax scrutiny and regulation.

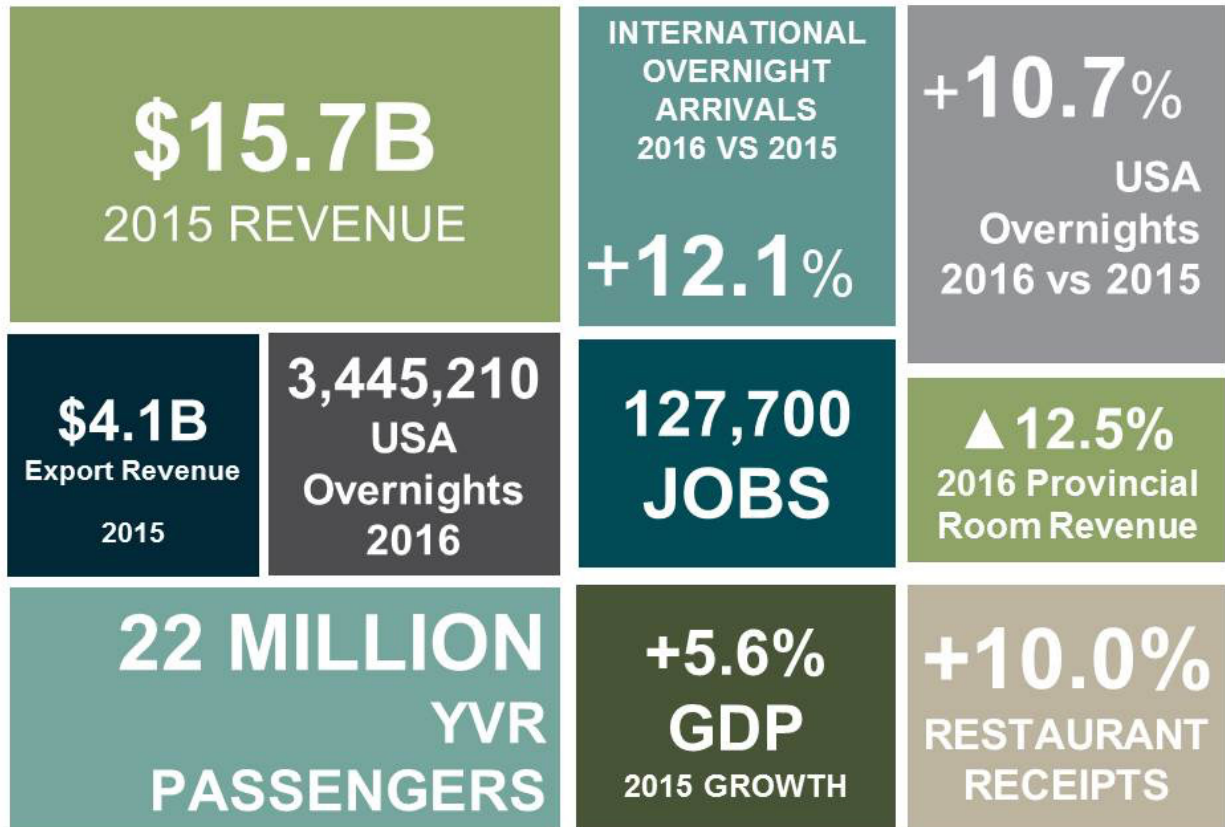
PRIMARY ACTION YOUR COMMUNITY CAN TAKE LOCALLY TO MANAGE THE STR ISSUE

Compel operators of STRs to either comply with local regulations or face enforcement action. If local regulation on STRs does not exist, develop policies in consultation with the community.

PRIMARY ACTION YOUR COMMUNITY CAN TAKE PROVINCIALY TO MANAGE THE STR ISSUE

Write, call or engage the Minister of Finance to emphasize the importance of provincial government assistance on this issue and ask government to rescind **Tax Regulation 78(1)b** to strengthen your community enforcement efforts and processes.

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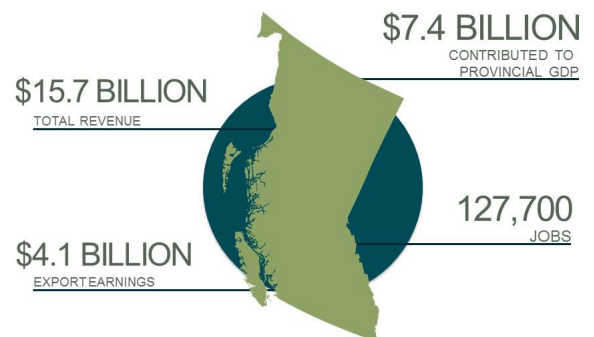


Source: Destination BC



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Source: Destination BC (2015 data)