

Support Info:

<http://strathconard.ca/corteszoning>

The Strathcona Community Health Network, has just launched a region-wide housing study to gather good info on the actual state of housing need, including a real focus on the rural areas. Slide 9 shows 'Area B' which is Cortes and shows that 29% of the Cortes population spend more than 30% of their income on housing, which is the standard benchmark for housing affordability. This is the highest in the whole Strathcona Region!

Further, at the Regional District's zoning bylaw update open house on February 10/2018 they presented information and made a handful of recommendations, all of which can be found by clicking here: <http://strathconard.ca/corteszoning>

The most relevant facts are highlighted below:

- The first page of "Dwelling Use" shows that less than 70% of homes are occupied by year-round households as opposed to the National, Provincial and Regional average of about 90%. On the final page there is the following recommendation: *"On any residential lot, one dwelling unit only may be used as a short-term vacation rental at any given time. All other units on the same lot must be occupied by a permanent resident, whether it be the owner or a long-term renter."*
- The first page of the "Housing" slide corroborates the Health Network slides showing that 29% of Cortes households pay 30% or more of the income on housing. Page 2 is even more revealing. It shows that 47% of Cortes TENANT households are paying more than 30% and that, unlike the national and provincial averages, Cortes renters pay more for housing than owners.

- Although all of these costs are much lower than the BC/ Canadian averages. This is because incomes are so much lower here. Page 3 shows that 7.5% of Cortes residents live in movable dwellings, higher than the regional average of 5.9%. Page 4 is all about affordability highlighting the need for rentals, affordable ownership, and seasonal worker accommodation. Recommendation: *“To further increase zoning diversity to support affordable housing provision, a draft small-home pad park could be developed.*