

**From:** Chris Hutton  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 24, 2025 1:32 PM  
**To:** Sandra Borton; Tyler Brown  
**Cc:** Bhumika Joshi  
**Subject:** FW: Seniors Cohousing - Invitation

I will advise Trustee Patrick to see that these participants engage through the survey, but cohousing interest among seniors seems to be a rapidly growing topic on the island right now, with a info meeting this Friday and local media coverage.

Please advise how you want to handle correspondence like this.

Sincerely,

**Chris Hutton**, MPA, MCIP, RPP  
Regional Planning Manager  
Islands Trust | 250-538-5608

*The Salt Spring Island Islands Trust office at 500 lower Ganges Rd is now closed to in-person service. Islands Trust staff will continue to provide services by phone and e-mail until the new office space at 121 McPhillips Avenue opens. During the in-person office closure period, enquiries can be submitted by email at [ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:ssiinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca), or call 250.537.9144.*

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**From:** Laura Patrick <[lpatrick@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:lpatrick@islandstrust.bc.ca)>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, September 23, 2025 3:29 PM  
**To:** Chris Hutton <[chutton@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:chutton@islandstrust.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Fwd: Seniors Cohousing - Invitation

This should be captured in the phase 1 engagement.  
Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Chris Dixon [REDACTED]  
**Date:** September 23, 2025 at 15:02:13 PDT  
**To:** Laura Patrick <[lpatrick@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:lpatrick@islandstrust.bc.ca)>  
**Subject:** Seniors Cohousing - Invitation

Greetings,

A conversation over coffee with friends revealed a common concern: we each have significant equity in a house that is functionally in excess of our personal requirements, yet we can't rationalise selling because there is no suitable replacement housing on SSI. This conversation is easily repeated with other friends - with identical conclusions.

Some of us are in early stages of exploring the “Senior Cohousing Handbook 2nd edition” by Charles Durrett, an American architect who is quite active on the topic. An internet search delivers a wealth of information. The library has a copy; we have obtained ten more to loan out.

Cohousing delivers a blend of privacy and genuine community by offering a combination of individual dwellings and shared spaces and amenities. Decisions are reached by community participation and consensus.

At this time, the vision is for a project that does not depend on public funding or significant government participation. The project would likely accommodate 20 - 25 households. It would likely be located within the Maxwell service area of the North Salt Spring Waterworks District.

The interest group is currently small, unstructured and lacking in professional guidance, but we have organised a hopefully - productive first public meeting on September 26, 2 - 4pm @ the Lions Hall; 103 Bonnet Ave.

Would you be interested in participating in exploring the possibility of a cohousing project on SSI?

Many Thanks,

Bob MacKie, Chris Dixon

