

From: Sara Schouten [REDACTED]

Sent: Monday, April 13, 2026 5:22 PM

To: Marlis McCargar <mmccargar@islandstrust.bc.ca>

Subject: Fwd: 3Ravens Land Share Affordable Housing Co-operative Application - Full Support

Dear Denman Island Planners and Trustees,

We wanted to email our support for 3Ravens Land Share Co-operative application at 4100 Pinecrest Rd.

I am a neighbour ([REDACTED]) and active community member. I've spent the last 4 years jumping through hoops and sorting through all the red tape to build a home that is compliant, insurable and meets the BC Housing building code. It has been an overly complicated and tedious amount of paper work, aside from physically building it. While I understand the reasoning behind such laws bylaws and ordinances. I am under no guise to the privilege I have in being able to pull this off. It's nearly a structural, financial and situational miracle that I have a house. Not everyone has it.

I am utterly confused why this Co-operative isn't a shoe-in on Denman. Folks need homes and they need them now, not four years from now. Outside of cost, the systemic issues in place create exhaustion and create barriers that prevent diverse communities from forming.

The housing crisis is not abstract when your roof is leaking and there's no one affordable help. Or when the snow plow doesn't come up your road and essentially stranding you for 3 days. Cooperatives take care of eachother, gulf islands take care of eachother. This is an integral part of island life. From my observations and talking to long time islanders. Folks who don't, either move within 2-3 year or hold more privilege making the inconveniences a thing they can outsource to a paid contractor. Which always charge a premium to shlep themselves out here.

I am proud of the home I have and grateful for the support, but I want to be clear: the current regulatory pathway excludes almost everyone but the extremely fortunate. It took a situational miracle for me and my child to have housing. The 3Ravens proposal is administratively efficient, time effective and it resolves housing for seven households in a single site-specific rezoning, rather than forcing seven separate families to attempt the impossible task of individual compliance. Please support models that pool resources and expertise, rather than expecting every resident to be a developer.

Sincerely

Sara Schouten

