

February 24, 2010

Attn: Sue Ellen Fast  
Chair of the OCP Steering Committee

Dear OCP Steering Committee

I strongly believe that cohousing is an economically, environmentally and socially sound solution to Bowen Island's housing needs. I urge all members of the steering committee to carefully consider the diverse benefits of cohousing and to include it in the OCP.

We live in tough economic times and many of us are looking for affordable housing. We live increasingly isolated lives, with the extended family all but a distant memory to most of us. With devastation to the globe at crisis proportions, we need to be increasingly mindful of our eco-footprint in order to survive. The cohousing model offers a sustainable solution to all of these growing problems.

Cohousing provides its inhabitants with a financially feasible, inter-generational, eco-conscious village lifestyle. It will provide affordable housing to those of us who cannot afford to buy a home in the current Bowen housing market. Many of us prefer this model of home-ownership because sharing facilities and resources lessens our individual footprints on the earth.

Please carefully consider the diverse benefits of cohousing as a sustainable housing alternative that will help ensure a socially diverse community while meeting the needs of our growing population.

Sincerely yours

Dee Anderson, M.A.