



August 2020 NEWSLETTER

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PUBLIC. INFORMATION. MEETING.



This article also appears in the August Mayneliner...

Public meeting scheduled for Sept. 14

All Islanders are welcome to attend an open meeting about the 375 Village Bay Rd. community housing project, on Monday, September 14 at 2 pm, Adachi Pavilion at Dinner Bay Park.



Jean-Daniel Cusin, who has an MA in leadership and training, and 25 years of experience in business management and consulting, will serve as moderator.

Confirmed guests include Kaeley Wiseman, professional housing consultant, certified planner and University of Victoria professor; Alan Kohut, hydrogeologist; Keith Erickson, Professional Biologist,

Narissa Chadwick, Islands Trust Planner; and Richard Iredale, architect.

COVID safety measures will be followed, and hand sanitizer will be available. Please bring a mask.

As many Mayne Island residents and visitors know by now, a generous person recently donated three acres of land at 375 Village Bay Road to the Mayne Island Housing Society for affordable rental housing. The application is now with Islands Trust for rezoning.

You may read the documentation [here](#) (Click on "Mayne Island Housing Society.") The Island Trust Planner's report to the Mayne Island Trustees is also there, as is some of the correspondence received by the Trust from Mayne Island residents.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT



Islands Trust has received more than 50 letters of support for, (as well as some letters from neighbours against) MIHS's mission in general and specifically for the

rezoning of this property. MIHS has received many more responses and will be forwarding them to the Trust.

More responses are needed to accurately reflect community sentiment. If you support the initiative, click this [link](#) and sign the support letter. Or write a letter in your own words.

You can also submit your letter electronically to mihousingsociety@gmail.com, or by mail to the address on the form.



- Mayne Island is the only Southern Gulf island that does not have dedicated seniors housing OR purpose-built rental housing.
- The island has suffered a 30% reduction in rental accommodation over the past 10 years, from 60 homes to 40 homes. The result? Seventy percent of renters are paying more than 30% of their income for rent and 25% are paying more than 50% of their income in rent (the indicator for risk of homelessness). These are your servers, contractors, young families and seniors who don't want to feel forced off the island.
- The Southern Gulf Islands Housing Needs Assessment describes the situation as a “crisis” and “dire.”

Neighbours' objections at this point revolve around water, septic, the environment, noise and density. The MI Housing Society is confident it can address these concerns with good design, proper environmental review, rainwater collection, etc. The organization is determined to keep the community informed with regularly updated answers to frequently-asked questions: Click [here](#).

Applications for housing are now open



Mayne Island renters interested in applying for housing can now fill out a [survey](#) that doubles as a waiting list.

Fill it out even if you do not see yourself needing rental housing for a few years, as it helps us with planning.

Rental housing is a good fit for...

families who do not qualify for a mortgage or are not in a financial position to buy a home

- homeowners 55+ looking to simplify their lifestyle or downsize
- individuals or couples
- individuals with disabilities who can live independently

All responses are confidential. Your information will be kept on file so that we can follow up with you when new housing options become available.

MONEY



First - the very good news: We have been approved for a Seed Funding grant from the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation!

However this grant is limited in scope and may only be used for tightly defined costs. There are many other costs related to the rezoning and subdivision that the Society has to fund - so we remain ready to accept your donation or pledge!

A steady flow of donations via the website continues - thanks to everyone who has given and will give.

Here's the [link](#)

...and you can always contact us through mihousingociety@gmail.com

NB: tax receipts are issued for donations \$20 and over.

MEMBERSHIPS

Please renew your membership if you haven't already - you can do so via the [donate](#) button on the website, and write "membership" in the comments. Membership is \$10.



Mayne Island Housing Society.

mihousingsociety@gmail.com

<https://www.mayneislandhousingsociety.com/>