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November 5, 2015

File Number: 3030-02 & 5770-03

CMHC Affordable Housing Centre
2000 – 1111 West Georgia Street
Vancouver, British Columbia
V6E 4S4

Re: Seed Money Grant for Affordable Housing

The Denman Island Local Trust Committee supports the Denman Community Land Trust Association (DCLTA) application for a Canada Housing and Mortgage Corporation (CMHC) Seed Funding grant to cover proposal and development stage costs to create seniors' affordable housing.

The need for seniors' affordable housing is well established:

The Denman Island Official Community Plan, E.1. Housing, Objective 4 "To support the establishment of affordable housing, rental opportunities and special needs housing and provide the opportunity for Island seniors to remain in the community..."

The 2011 *Age Friendly Communities Report Denman and Hornby Island* found seniors identified three main difficulties for continuing to live in their communities: 1) getting around in the community; 2) obtaining adequate care and support for them or their spouse; and 3) finding suitable housing should they choose or need to move.

The 2014 *Research Summary: Affordable Housing for Seniors on Denman Island* (prepared for DCLTA thanks to CVRD Grant-In-Aid funding) concluded "... there is currently no housing dedicated to seniors' use on the island, leaving little choice for seniors who wish to age-in-place in the community but who cannot do so in their current homes. "

The May, 2015 report *Seniors' Housing in B.C.* from the Office of the Seniors Advocate supports the need for seniors' housing: "The availability of suitable housing for seniors is lacking most in rural and remote areas of the province."

The goal of the DCLTA seniors' housing project is to build duplex units based on the architectural plans developed for the Hornby Island Elder Housing project and which integrate solar and passive solar energy into the project design. The 8 units (4 duplexes) are proposed to be located within the Denman village area on land adjacent and behind the Denman Road commercial area.

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It should be noted that support for this application does not guarantee future approval of any application.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Susan Morrison".

Susan Morrison,
Chair
Denman Island Local Trust Committee