

Lasqueti Island Aging at Home Workshop—July 9, 2016

Transcript of hand written notes

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Housing Density

Notes excerpt from Tim Peterson:

We discussed housing density, with a view to possible changes to the LUB/OCP. At both groups, we discussed three levels of possible change to the permitted uses for guest cottages under the present bylaws.

*The first level was an **exception to the residency restrictions** which would allow longer term occupation of a cottage in compassionate cases, where a person with serious or terminal illness could either stay in the cottage to be looked after, or, conversely, look after the homeowner. There was consensus that this exception should be allowed.*

*The second level was an **exception which would allow longer term occupation of a cottage by a personal caregiver**, or by the homeowner while the caregiver lives in the main residence. There was consensus that this exception should be allowed.*

*The third level was an **exception whereby a cottage could be occupied for a longer term if there were some community benefit**, e.g., providing affordable housing. The owner would benefit by being able to rent the cottage long term, and the community would benefit by the provision of an affordable housing space. There was no clear consensus on this level, so further discussion would be necessary for any recommendations on this level.*

Also discussed:

- Retention of caregivers is/can be difficult.
- An ageing community requires young people.
- Request for flexibility on density for personal caregivers.
- Co-housing provides a number of benefits simultaneously, potentially including lower environmental impact, possible freeing up of other housing. Density swaps could be part of supporting a co-housing project. Policy needed.

Housing Type

Group One

Co-op housing —sharing facilities —possible things like co-op and sharing facilities

- Last Resort very positive cottages
- Affordability

Secondary cottage

- TUP's (temporary use permit) good idea for guest cottages
- 600 sq. ft. is all that is needed. And size is important
- Density very important

Secondary kitchen generally acceptable but not wanted as rental

- Outdoor kitchen
- Partial kitchen
- A little more relaxed

Separate space is important

Ferry is what regulates influx of people

Most important thing is for happiness as you age

Need list of people who would be able to do things

As our age limitations are becoming greater

Reliability

So bottom line is we need housing for younger people to be here to help us as we age if you want your people to stay they need a real house

Density transfer or cluster housing

Next time younger people need to hear a voice they need to be heard

One person has a list of people who can coordinate

Possible things like co-op and sharing facilities, most important thing, young people need to be here to help us as we age and they need to be heard :

Group Two

Makes sense to band together

Abbeyfield makes sense and should be investigated

Coop means ownership

Communal housing very positive

- Need to accept other's lifestyle
- Communal meals means social interaction
- No limit to numbers currently living in one house

Most want to stay at home

Cottage on property and kitchen for support

Look at guest house for care giving

Place to stay where you can stay longer

Secondary suite with its own kitchen

TUPs good idea

Group Three

More than one kitchen

Abbeyfield option if we have large house

with system heater (no need for each unit to have its own heater)

Guest house good idea

TUP for specific uses like guest cottages for caregivers

Access to houses

If they are all caregivers then further use for

How would we track if we have multiple elders being care for by caregiver?

Tax incentives to prevent subdivision

Young people have a very hard time finding rental property

- Exception for trade for rent as opposed to rent

- Downsizing then house could become accommodation for younger
 - Rental agreement
- Should be possible to come
Create data base
Co housing very interesting
Plan ahead

Health Services & Community Support

General

Respect of independence
Clear directives
Be respectful

Health Services

Judy Fisher Centre—available services:

- Nurse
- Bath & showers
- Telehealth

Need & opportunities

- Lean on government for finances—grants, private & public money,
- Sterility
- Health Center Open more often
- Need for finances and grants to operate in the future
- Collected here: blood work, samples: can it be done here?
- Suturing Dr. sign off/on?
- Sexual health testing
- Ambulance: can it get to every house?
- Dental care? Need funding to install.
- More regular visits from the Dr.
- Increase of routine medical testing
- If nurse could do blood work that would be helpful.

Community Support

Grants and funding required for:

- Grocery delivery
- Firewood delivery
- Kindling delivery
- Taxi service
- Gardening
- cleaning
- Medical transport

Labour

- Youth are unemployed
- List of people willing to work
- Ned paper list of workers available for chores and odd jobs to support seniors
- Grade 10 volunteer hours

Education/training

- find educational training opportunities for people to become certified home care workers
- Educational support
- More training
- volunteerism
- LANLD-LPN

Services

- Better at Home
- United Way
- Society of Organized Services (SOS)

Transportation

Group One

Ferry ramp

- Ramp needed at ferry boarding
- Steep ramp to dock
- Is access to ferry a cut off point for ability to live here? Losing resource if particular (older) people can't access the island. We all lose.

Dock and access to dock

- Bottle neck at cross traffic to walk up hill—hard for mobility challenged, slow movers
- When people are intimidated they stay home: then it becomes about you, but its about all of us
- Are there studies that show accessibility improvements change attitudes about participation?
- T-bar up the ramp
- Low tide info for people (high tide easier because ramp less steep)
- Public dolly stations at each side
- Paint them white like the bikes
- Keep on the ferry

Option for older people or those who don't have a driver's license

Shuttle

Online ride sharing is easy: list serve and Facebook

Ferry accessibility

- Ferry —stern end —can't get inside ferry with wheelchair
- No buses on French Creek side
- * Formerly Island Link, a private service
- * Time crunch for getting around to do errands, including blood work

Group Two

Need bus stop in French Creek

Bus drivers will drop off

Quad and trailer service —dedicated service?

How do we get to the ferry the key question:

Jitney service, job for the young

Difficult to formalize any service because of legal and insurance issues

Simpler to help person to person

Informal easier than formal
Consider informal ride share like Uber
Infrastructure grants available? Need a champion to pursue.
Keep in mind any senior housing should be “downtown”

Shuttle up and down the hill to bring people and stuff to their cars

Eliminate dock parking

Tote carrying system for seniors: “teamsters” take totes right off ferry and deliver to waiting seniors in a shelter on the dock

Group Three

Safety of seniors driving

Taxi service

On demand
both sides

Society of Organized Services (SOS)

Receive \$ from United Way
No service
We are in its jurisdiction?

Having dollars to buy transportation services can make a big difference
Taxi coop is very expensive, mostly used by summer people

Ramp with stair climber track to pull stuff up and down
People volunteer to pick up groceries
Good people available but need system to access it
Thursdays very busy because its grocery day

Terry in Parksville runs her own grocery buying business (call in list, she buys and delivers to ferry—approximately. \$20-30 a stop

Neighbourhood based car-share

Everyone has a car still
Stay independent
Hard to change

School bus could be employed better, but tied up in insurance and union

Home Enterprise

Group one

- Relaxing bylaws to permit care of seniors.
- More consideration to relax the rules that would be beneficial for the aging population
- Young people stay in guest cabin to care for seniors

Group two

- Can't believe how hard it is to live off grid
- Don't need another job
- As it stands, regulations allow pretty much anything