

Cohousing Supports Survey - People Working in the Field

This survey is part of a research study funded through Mitacs eAccelerate and Cohousing NL as the community partner. The goal of this research is to better understand why cohousing is generally not affordable and to inform innovation around how to make the development model more affordable and more broadly adopted across Canada (and hopefully transferrable to other jurisdictions). The data collected will be aggregated to develop common themes. It will also be stored indefinitely to support future research and innovation efforts aligned with the goal of more cohousing for more people. Data will be kept for a minimum of five years, as required by Memorial University's policy on Integrity in Scholarly Research.

We greatly appreciate your time and effort in completing the survey. This survey will take approximately 30 minutes to complete. Please know, there is no obligation to participate and you are free to exit the survey at any point, as well as leave any questions blank or answer in any format that works for you (point form, prose, poetry, etc.). Consent to participation in this research is implied by submitting the survey, either by submitting via the button online or filling out the form and emailing to the lead researcher Wendy Reid Fairhurst at wreidfairhur@mun.ca. Once the survey is submitted, the information will be added to all the other survey results so that your name and contact information (added only if you would like to participate in further discussions) will not be attributable to your answers in the survey. This also means that once submitted, we cannot remove the anonymous input from the rest of the survey data. If you do choose to add identifiable information, your name and contact details will be held confidentially and not shared with anyone outside of the research team. Please feel free to reach out if you have questions or concerns about this survey or how the information will be used.

Wendy is a PhD candidate in Interdisciplinary studies at Memorial University of Newfoundland in the departments of Sociology (why cohousing should be a more broadly adopted housing model), Critical Geography (what are the economic, political and cultural barriers and opportunities to increased adoption of cohousing in Canada), and Social Enterprise (what alternative business structures and funding models might increase affordable access to cohousing). Of note, Mitacs eAccelerate is a program to support student researchers who are also entrepreneurs, and as such Wendy is both a founding member of Cohousing NL as well as the funded intern on this research project.

As is the goal of this project, the findings and resulting solutions and/or tools will be shared freely online to support the goal of increasing cohousing affordability and increased adoption in Canada. If you would like access to this information, send an email stating your interest in being added to the email list that will send out updates for when the online resources will be available and/or when they are revised or updated.

There are no foreseeable risks to participants of this survey. Please feel free to reach out to



learn more about the project, or if you have any hesitations or comments about this survey at wreidfairhur@mun.ca or 709-691-2890.

How would you describe your role in cohousing? (check all that apply)

- ☐ I live in cohousing.
- ☐ I am a cohousing professional.
- ☐ I am a cohousing researcher.
- ☐ I am a cohousing advocate.
- ☐ I create policies that impact cohousing.
- ☐ I fund cohousing projects.
- ☐ Other:

Use this space if you would like to expand on your skills, experience, or qualifications related to cohousing:

Your answer

When answering the following questions, which region will you be referring to?

- ☐ Canada only
- ☐ United States only
- ☐ North America as a whole

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Thoughts on Cohousing Affordability

What are your thoughts on the cohousing model and its current uptake in Canada/US/North America?



What are the barriers to the development of cohousing communities in Canada/North America?

	not a barrier	somewhat of a barrier	definitely a barrier	the biggest barrier
Upfront soft costs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Land costs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Unsuitable land	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Accessing capital	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Construction costs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Construction financing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Organizing people	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Dedicated time and energy required	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Decision-making process	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Long development process	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Municipal regulations	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Neighbours or public	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Achieving the required pre-sales	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



Selling all units

☐☐☐☐

Accessing
mortgage(s)

☐☐☐☐

Affordability of
units

☐☐☐☐

Achieving
diversity of
residents

☐☐☐☐

Other (explain
below)

☐☐☐☐

If you selected "other" (above) as a type of barrier, please describe:

Your answer



To your knowledge, what is the main source of funding for the following stages of cohousing development? (select all that apply)

	members do the work themselves	member assets / savings	bank loans	municipal programs or grants	provincial/state programs or grants	national programs or grants	founda- tion / no profit program or gra
Spreading the concept	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Preliminary design drawings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Participatory design workshops	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Purchasing the land	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Municipal zoning changes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Development fees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Project / Construction management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Construction financing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal advising	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
By-law creation and registration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accounting and taxes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



To your knowledge, what is the main source of funding for the following stages of cohousing development? (select all that apply)

	municipal programs grants	provincial/state programs or grants	national programs or grants	foundation / non- profit programs or grants	outside investors	donation of goods or services	don't know or n/a
Spreading the concept	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Preliminary design drawings	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Participatory design workshops	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Purchasing the land	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Municipal zoning changes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Development fees	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Project / Construction management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Construction financing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Legal advising	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
By-law creation and registration	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Accounting and taxes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

hidden columns
shown



Real estate
advising and
fees

Community
management

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

Individual
mortgages
(financing
for individual
units)

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

Community
mortgages
(financing
for
community
buildings,
possibly
including
units if
community-
owned)

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

Creating
affordable
units

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

Sustainable
technologies

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

Community
building
activities

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

Ongoing
maintenance
and repairs

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

Other (as
described
above)

☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

hidden columns shown

Real estate
advising and
fees

Community
management

Individual
mortgages
(financing
for individual
units)

Community
mortgages
(financing
for
community
buildings,
possibly
including
units if
community-
owned)

Creating
affordable
units

Sustainable
technologies

Community
building
activities

Ongoing
maintenance
and repairs

Other (as
described
above)

☐☐

If you selected "other" (above) indicating some level of support for another aspect of cohousing development, please describe:

Your answer

What are other supports that are needed (or that are working elsewhere) for developing cohousing?

Your answer

Do you have any thoughts about how to make cohousing more affordable?

Your answer

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Thoughts on the Cohousing Development Process

What are your thoughts, experiences, and/or suggestions on the process of developing cohousing in Canada/US/North America?



How likely are you to recommend the following potential partners to be included on the cohousing development project team?

	do not include	unlikely	likely	highly likely	this is an essential partner
Community Champion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Unskilled Community Members	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Skilled Community Members	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Land Owner	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Neighbours / Non-resident Community Members	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Non-profit or Other Community- focused Group	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Cohousing Consultant	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Design Professionals (architect, engineers, interior designer etc.)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Marketing / Advertising Professional	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Project Manager	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>



Developer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Private Investor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Social Impact Investor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Municipality	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Lawyer	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Accountant	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Financial Advisor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Realtor / Real Estate Advisor	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other (please explain below)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

If you selected "other" (above) please describe:

Your answer

What are the most frustrating aspects of developing cohousing?

Your answer



What are the most rewarding aspects of developing cohousing?

Your answer

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Thoughts on the Need for Cohousing

What are your thoughts on whether or not cohousing should be more broadly adopted in Canada/US/North America?



Sort the following benefits of cohousing into priority of (1) lowest priority to (5) highest priority (only use a number once so that there is only one (1) lowest priority item).

	1	2	3	4	5	6
Social connection	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Reduced living costs	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Participation in the design and management	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Increased ability to live more sustainably	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Informal supports (being able to rely on neighbours)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Ability to age in community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Are there other important benefits of cohousing that were missed in the previous question?

Your answer

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* Required

Interest in Future Conversation

Would you be interested in participating in future conversations about cohousing affordability and/or availability in Canada/North America? *

☒ No **option 1**

☐ Yes

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* Required

Thank you for your participation!

If you have any additional comments, suggestions, or feedback we would love to hear about it below:

Your answer

If you are finished select submit form below. If you wish to go back to the beginning select start over below. *

- ☐ Submit Form
- ☐ Review Your Answers

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* Required

Interest in Future Conversation

Would you be interested in participating in future conversations about cohousing affordability and/or availability in Canada/North America? *

☐ No

☒ Yes

option 2

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More Conversation

If you would like to participate in further discussions, please provide the contact information you would like us to use.

Name:

Your answer

Email:

Your answer

Website (if applicable):

Your answer

Phone Number (include area code, with no hyphens):

Your answer

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* Required

Thank you for your participation!

If you have any additional comments, suggestions, or feedback we would love to hear about it below:

Your answer

Consent

By completing this survey and submitting it, either through the submit form button or by emailing the survey, you agree that:

- You have read the information about the research.
- You have been advised that you may ask questions about this study and receive answers prior to continuing.
- You are satisfied that any questions you had have been addressed.
- You understand what the study is about and what you will be doing.
- You understand that you are free to withdraw participation from the study by closing your browser window or navigating away from this page, without having to give a reason and that doing so will not affect you now or in the future.
- You understand that this data is being collected anonymously and therefore your data cannot be removed once you submit this survey.

By consenting to this online survey, you do not give up your legal rights and do not release the researchers from their professional responsibilities.

Please retain a copy of this consent information for your records.

Clicking "Submit Form" below or emailing a completed survey via email constitutes consent and implies your agreement to the above statements.



If you are finished select submit form below. If you wish to go back to the beginning select start over below. *

- ☐ Submit Form
- ☐ Review Your Answers

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