

# Cohousing Supports Survey - Residents and Prospective Residents

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](mailto: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](mailto:wreidfairhur@mun.ca) or 709-691-2890.

\* Required

How would you describe your interest in cohousing? \*

- ☐ I want to live in cohousing
- ☐ I am working towards living in cohousing
- ☐ I currently live in cohousing
- ☐ I used to live in cohousing
- ☐ Other:

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# Cohousing Supports Survey - Residents and Prospective Residents

## Thoughts on the Cohousing Model

These questions aim to better understand the variety of cohousing models.

How would you describe the current stage of your cohousing community?

- ☐ Forming
- ☐ In development
- ☐ Recently completed and occupied within the last year (<1yr)
- ☐ Completed and occupied within the last five years (1-5yrs)
- ☐ Been in operation for five to 15 years (5-15yrs)
- ☐ Running for over 15 years (>15yrs)
- ☐ Other:

Where is your cohousing community located?

- ☐ Canada
- ☐ US
- ☐ Other:



How would you describe the location of your cohousing community?

- ☐ rural
- ☐ urban
- ☐ suburban
- ☐ small town
- ☐ Other:

What problem(s) does cohousing solve for you?

Your answer

What problem(s) does cohousing not solve, or even might create, for you?

Your answer



Select the best description of who owns what in the community.

	Privately owned	Privately owned (with controls)	Commonly owned	Owned by Cooperative	Rented by another resident who lives in the community	Rented by a non- resident owner	Other (explain below)
Individual homes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Land around the homes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Common house/facilities	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
The rest of the land/property	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Commercial enterprise within the community	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

What other ownership models exist in your community that may not have been covered above?

Your answer



How did you find your cohousing community?

- ☐ Participated in developing the community
- ☒ Joined an existing community near me
- ☐ Travelled to join an existing community
- ☐ Other:

Clear selection

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

Your answer



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## Thinking about the Future of Cohousing

These questions aim to support the creation of tools that might help more groups successfully create cohousing in the future.

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
Social connection	<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"/>
Participation in the design and management	<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"/>
Informal supports (being able to rely on neighbours)	<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

What is your opinion on the amount of cohousing communities there are in your country/region?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

There are no communities  
near me.

10 radio buttons in a row, none selected

There are way too many units  
for sale in cohousing  
communities near me.

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

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? \*

☒ Yes

☐ No

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# Cohousing Supports Survey - Residents and Prospective Residents

## 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

Name of your Community (if applicable):

Your answer

Phone Number (xxx-xxx-xxxx):

Your answer

Email:

Your answer



Website (if applicable):

Your answer

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# Cohousing Supports Survey - Residents and Prospective Residents

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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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