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COMMUNITY SOCIAL PLANNING COUNCIL
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Innovations to meet the housing and care needs of an aging population: senior cohousing

October 26, 2016: Victoria, BC The [Community Social Planning Council](#) and the [Canadian Senior Cohousing Society](#) are launching “[Innovating Seniors Housing](#),” a guide and report that explore innovations to meet seniors housing and care needs, focusing on the concept of senior cohousing.

Over 10 million Canadians will be entering their 'seniors' years in the next decade and Canada simply does not have the capacity to house and care for them adequately – yet. Denmark, Sweden and even the United States have been developing a model of community co-caring that is enviable, and completely duplicable. And we've begun to do just that.

“Senior Cohousing represents a conceptual shift in our cultural approach to aging and living in community. While we will be met with increasing housing and care needs, we have the capacity to meet those needs through creating intentional communities of care,” according to Margaret Critchlow of the Canadian Senior Cohousing Society, and founding resident at [Harbourside Cohousing](#) in Sooke, BC.

“The Capital Region already features one of the highest age profiles in the country, meaning the region will have to adapt and respond to these demographic shifts sooner than other regions,” according to Marika Albert, Executive Director of the Community Social Planning Council. She adds that, “Harbourside Cohousing has modelled a way to address these needs, and one that can be replicated across the region and country. We hope this guide can support the development of similarly innovative projects.”

The guide will be launched at a community information session this Wednesday, October 26 from 10:00 to 11:30am at the Central Library Branch Community Meeting Room. BC Seniors Advocate, Isobel Mackenzie, will be a special guest speaker.

RSVP here: <http://communitycouncil.eventbrite.com>

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