



CO-OPERATIVE HOUSING FEDERATION OF BC

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October 28, 2015

**Councillor Fred Haynes
District of Saanich
770 Vernon Avenue
Victoria, B.C. V8X 2W7**

Dear Councillor Haynes:

On behalf of the Co-operative Housing Federation of BC, thank you for your support for our You Hold the Key campaign and your dedication to fixing the housing crunch. We're grateful for all your work to preserve the affordability of co-op homes for our most vulnerable members. Keeping housing affordable for seniors, people with disabilities, single parents and others was a central theme of the event in Saanich you organized earlier this month. You raised the concerns of housing co-ops and gave all the candidates in the October federal election an opportunity to speak to the challenges facing housing co-ops and their co-op members who face an uncertain future with the loss of federal subsidies.

Thank you too for giving good guidance in bringing the issue forward to the Saanich Council and the Capital Regional District. Both have now passed resolutions supporting the You Hold the Key Campaign and called on the provincial and federal governments to take action. We appreciate your help in keeping these concerns "on the radar" of elected officials at all levels of government. We also note and appreciate your commitment to promoting the co-op housing model as a housing solution in your municipality.

With a new government in Ottawa, we are more hopeful than ever that we will have opportunities to discuss how we can work together with governments to preserve and expand co-op housing as a model for safe, secure, affordable housing in mixed-income communities all across British Columbia and Canada. Thank you for holding the key!

Sincerely,

**Patty Shaw, President,
Co-operative Housing Federation of BC**