

Is cohousing the right fit for you?

Choosing to join a cohousing community is a meaningful decision. For many people, it's not only about *where* you live, but *how* you want to live. At Creekside Commons, we invite prospective members to take time to understand what life in cohousing is really like. The reflections below are offered to help you decide whether our community feels like home to you.

- Living in cohousing means sharing space, relationships, and decision-making with your neighbours. We enjoy front-porch conversations, shared meals, and the occasional glass of wine together—but we also recognize that close community living asks more of us. Strong communication, mutual respect, and clear processes are essential. Our bylaws and Living in Community Agreements outline how we support one another and work through everyday life together.
- We make decisions using a modified consensus process that values every voice. While this approach leads to thoughtful, durable decisions and a healthy community, it also requires patience, openness, creativity, and a willingness to balance personal needs with the well-being of the whole.
- Creekside Commons asks that each household be represented at as many monthly community council meetings as possible. These gatherings are where we make decisions that guide the daily functioning and long-term evolution of the community—and where we continue to learn about one another.
- Community life requires volunteer time. In addition to council meetings, members participate on teams that keep Creekside running smoothly. Adult members typically contribute their time to meetings, projects, maintenance, and social activities. We've found that shared work builds strong connections and a true sense of belonging. We encourage prospective members to consider both their available time and how much they wish to participate in the community.
- Each year, members sign up for one or more teams based on interest and skills. Our current governance model has many teams across four main areas: Administrative Tasks, Physical Building Tasks, Land Tasks, and Community Relations Tasks. Teams meet as needed, and as one of the largest cohousing communities in Canada, set on nine acres of land, we have a monthly work party to address land and building care tasks.
- Disagreements and conflict happen in every community. When needed, we have access to resources and skilled facilitators to support respectful and constructive conflict resolution.

- If a dog or cat is part of your household, you'll find guidance in our Living in Community Agreements about pet—and owner—responsibilities.
- Creekside Commons stays connected through shared email, online booking calendars, and digital document storage. Comfort with these tools is important for full participation in community life.
- We value presence and connection and we hope that residents choose to live at Creekside full-time whenever possible.
- Our homes come in five sizes:
 - 2-bedroom (878 sq. ft.),
 - 2-bedroom (1001 sq. ft.),
 - 3-bedroom (1370 sq. ft.),
 - 4-bedroom (1504 sq. ft.), and
 - 5-bedroom (1746 sq. ft.).The homes are compact, comfortable, and fully equipped. From the beginning, larger units were intentionally designed with families with children in mind.
- To find out more about cohousing in Canada, visit <https://cohousing.ca/>