

Ministry of Jobs, Economic Development & Innovation
Regional and Rural Development Unit
Rural Policy & Program Branch
Rural Economic Diversification and Infrastructure Program (REDIP)

October 15, 2023

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the Capital Regional District Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area, we welcome the opportunity to support the application being submitted by the Southern Gulf Islands Community Resource Centre and the Housing NOW Project. I firmly believe that their recent workforce housing initiative warrants support, as it proposes a more immediate remedy to some of our Island community's housing challenges by capitalizing on existing space.

One reason for my support towards the Housing NOW Homeshare Registry Program is its capability to create and execute a Housing Registry that caters specifically to the needs of our communities. Additionally, the funds will be reinvested into the communities it serves - creating employment for local residents, generating additional income for property owners, and importantly, enabling local businesses and community organizations to continue providing goods and services, thereby sustaining our vibrant visitor economy in the Southern Gulf Islands.

The Southern Gulf Island Community Resource Centre and Housing NOW, plan to utilize the funds to construct and implement an Employer Guarantor component, while also maintaining the existing core Registry program. The inception of this new element will help mitigate our workforce housing shortages and provide further assurances to homeowners and property owners, thus enhancing the likelihood of their participation in the Registry Program.

I kindly request you to consider the Southern Gulf Island Community Resource Centre and Housing NOW as potential recipients for this additional funding opportunity.

Sincerely,



Paul Brent
Capital Region Electoral Area Director,
Southern Gulf Islands