

Gibsons Supportive Housing



749 School Road provides 40 new safe, secure, homes for individuals who need supports in order to stabilize their housing and improve their quality of life. These new studio homes provide people experiencing or at risk of homelessness in Gibsons, a safe place to stay.

What is supportive housing?

Supportive housing is an opportunity for people to transition into a safe and stable environment in order to stabilize and improve quality of life. Supportive housing is a self-contained studio home with supports provided on-site, to ensure people can achieve and maintain housing stability. Supports include outreach workers, life skills training, employment assistance, connection and referral to community services and support groups. Residents have access to counselling, as well as health, mental health, and addiction recovery services through Vancouver Coastal Health. All residents would sign a program agreement and would pay rent.



Does Gibsons need supportive housing?

The 2018 Point in Time Count found **57 people without homes in the Gibsons/Sechelt area**, which is understood to be an undercount. RainCity Housing has been operating a 20-bed temporary winter shelter in Gibsons consistently at capacity. Local service providers can attest that there is a need for housing with supports for people at risk of or experiencing homelessness and those precariously housed. In Sechelt, the new supportive housing set to open in April 2019 had 60 applications for 40 homes.

Who will live here?

People who live at 749 School Road will meet eligibility requirements around income, required supports, and programming. Residents will be low-income individuals over the age of 19 who live in the community, have a history of homelessness and who need additional support services to maintain housing with Gibsons residents having priority. RainCity Housing and BC Housing will lead the resident selection process with local service providers. All supportive housing residents have made a choice to work towards living a healthy, stable life.

Good Neighbours

We are committed to building a safe community both inside and outside the housing with:

Experience: RainCity Housing has over 35 years of experience working in the Lower Mainland and Sunshine Coast and has successfully operated a temporary winter shelter in Gibsons for the past two winters.

Staffing: Staff will be onsite 24/7 to support residents, manage the building, be available to respond directly to any related concerns that arise in a timely manner.

Resident Mix: Residents will be selected based on ability of staff to provide the right level of support to all.

Property Maintenance: Regular cleanups of property and immediate area will ensure cleanliness.

Design Features: Optimized lighting, security cameras, fob access only, staffed reception, contained outdoor space for smoking and dog walking, would be implemented.

Agreements: Residents will sign a program agreement around expectations.

About the Building

- BC Housing has funded the construction of the housing and support services.
- RainCity Housing is the building operator and will provide support services for residents.
- Vancouver Coastal Health will provide services to the Gibsons community including mental health and substance use, and home and community care.

Community Advisory Committee

RainCity has developed a Community Advisory Committee to mitigate and address any related concerns or questions that arise, with representation from BC Housing, local businesses, community organizations and community members.

The Community Advisory Committee is responsible for:

- Identifying and resolving any issues, opportunities, and concerns related to building operations.
- Communicating proactively with each other in order to develop solutions to issues.
- Building positive relationships amongst the community, housing operators, and program partners.

Who to contact?

For questions about **749 Gibsons** and its residents please email:
elery@raincityhousing.org

Call Gibsons RCMP non-emergency number 604-885-2266 for non-emergency issues related to personal safety or property

Call **9-1-1** for police, fire, or medical emergencies when immediate action is required -- someone's health, safety or property is in jeopardy or a crime is in progress.

Email communityrelations@bchousing.org for questions about BC Housing and supportive housing in Gibsons