

Dear Abbeyfield members,

It has been almost 6 months since we last communicated with you directly and we wanted to take this opportunity to bring you up to date. Back in December, when the plan for the Hill Top property suddenly changed, the Board wondered how we would move forward and if we had the stamina to persevere. I am happy to report that the Board is still very much intact and that we are indeed moving forward.

The Board continues to meet monthly and after wrestling with various options we have decided that we are not ready to call it quits. We still have a strong and dedicated Board that is committed to providing affordable housing for Salt Spring seniors who want to live together. In that regard our purpose has not altered. What has shifted is the scope of that vision and now we are thinking in terms of something more modest.

Our earlier vision involved a huge fund raising target and the enormous task of developing a site, rezoning and ultimately constructing a purpose built residence. We are currently exploring options that could include purchasing an existing home that would house fewer residents but allow us to make a start. We would also welcome a partnership with other groups or agencies where that collaboration could be beneficial to all.

The last few months have been challenging for us as a Board and we appreciate your patience as we worked through the process of regretfully putting aside one vision and creating a new one. We were encouraged by the supportive comments of those who responded to our last letter and we thank you for your feedback. We hope you will continue to support us as we explore this new direction.

We look forward to seeing you at Fulford Day where we can continue this dialogue in person.

On behalf of the Board,

Gary Holman
President

Olive Mann
Secretary