

Connection - December 2025



Committee Updates

BOARD REPORT

November 2025

- A) Money for subsidy for 2022 - 2023 clawback has been officially declared refundable. We should see that money returned soon.
 - B) The Board is working with CHF BC to develop facilitated sessions with the goal of enhancing harmony and unity within the co-op.
 - C) The Board has approved the hiring of engineering firm Rimkus to do non-destructive testing and geotechnical assessment of the damage caused by the flood at Harbour Terrace.
-

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT

The social committee has a few upcoming events to share!

We will be hosting a Holiday Celebration on December 14th 3pm-6pm.

Please bring your most wonderful holiday spirit and a tasty appetizer or dessert to share. We will provide lots of tasty savoury and sweet treats, mulled wine and egg nog. We will also be doing a Foodbank 50/50 fundraiser, so bring some cold hard cash (we also take transfers) to support those less fortunate than ourselves and potentially take home the big prize!

We are looking for ways to encourage our younger generation to take part in co-op activities! If you have any ideas for youth events please let the social committee know at twinrainbowssocial@gmail.com. We will also be starting a brainstorming board in the east common room whiteboard. Stay tuned for future youth led events!

Join us for holiday movie night, December 20th, to watch the classic, A Christmas Story. Popcorn and refreshments provided.

Craft Night is starting back up on the 4th Monday of the month. 7pm-8pm west lounge.



Rory, Audrey and Kim (above) and Diane (below) at the September BBQ!





Dave and a community guest!

COMMUNITY HOUSING TRUST

Sarah Brown, 9W

On August 31, 2025, the False Creek South Community Housing Trust (FCSCHT), which originated from the False Creek South Neighbourhood Association and RePlan, launched a membership drive. The Boards of all land-based housing co-ops in False Creek South, including Twin Rainbows, received correspondence from the FCSCHT's chair, Keith Jones, inviting them to join as institutional members.

Anyone living or working in False Creek South may also join as individual Community Members, and people living/working outside FCS may join as Supporter Members. Joining as a member is a tangible and important way to show not only support for the Community Land Trust movement in general but for our own community's housing trust.

More FCS CHT info, including membership and merchandise sales, are available at: <https://www.falsecreeksouth.org/community-housing-trust/>. And on instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/falsecreeksouthcht/>

MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Guy Martin

Hydro still has to come back and fix or replace the manhole on the sidewalk; it has moved in the ground; however, we have no time line for that.

The city is replacing the water line for Harbour Terrace which was started last week and is on-going. Right now they have taken out the old pipe and have found out the the water line at the main shut off on the street goes on a downward slope which has to be fixed. They are also waiting for some parts to come from Edmonton; these are special fittings that cost \$20,000 dollars and have some flex to them. So work is on hold for now but should be finished soon.



Blue Bin Update

Greetings from your TR Blue Bin team!

We would like to acknowledge that blue bin pick up has been a bit problematic since the summer. We wanted to let you know that we are aware of the issue and that many inquiring phone calls have been placed over the past few months. Pickups have been sporadic sometimes due to staffing shortages at Waste Management, road construction, vehicle issues and other reasons.

We will all continue to be patient, and if/when our weekly pick ups don't happen, we'll all do our best.

We wanted to give you a heads up on a new potentially exciting development though! Effective early (winter/spring) 2026, the City of Vancouver will start using a new recycling company that will be servicing False Creek and the downtown area. The company is called, 'Recycling Alternative' ([Recycling Alternative](#)). It is a Canadian company, based in Vancouver. The City of Vancouver will still be using Waste Management (a U.S. based company) in other areas of Vancouver.

Another exciting tidbit is that 'Recycling Alternative' will offer us another bin dedicated to soft plastics collection.

More information will be provided as we know more.

In the meantime, your blue bin team kindly reminds you to:

- 1) Flatten your cardboard (or cut it down into smaller, more manageable size pieces for the bin. Larger pieces must be flattened and taken to the dedicated Cardboard bin.
- 2) Items for the container bin must be rinsed/washed. Recycle clean and dry containers.
- 3) Please pay attention to what you are recycling. Is it recyclable? If unsure, visit Recycle BC's Waste Wizard: [What Can I Recycle? - Recycle BC](#)
- 3) Please don't drop items around or overstuff the bins. Try to be mindful as someone else will then have to clean up after you which is unpleasant.

Thank you all for your patience and support!

Your TR West and East Building Blue Bin Teams :)



COMPOSTING

Katie Evans, 6W

As was mentioned by Daniel McLeod in his report for the Green Working Group at the AGM, please don't use the "compostable" plastic bags in our compost bins. These bags are only compostable if the City has the proper recycling facility, which Vancouver does not have. You can use other products like the Bag to Earth brown bags (sold in stores), which are lined with natural fibre cellulose, not plastic.



AGING IN PLACE WORKING GROUP
by Sharon Esson

1. Nidus – Representation Agreements - Just a reminder that if you're still thinking about Nidus and a Representation Agreement, you can go to their great website at nidus.ca to find all the forms and information needed. You can also call the South Granville Seniors Centre at 604.732.0812 and make an appointment with Maureen MacDonald. These appointments are available on Mondays, and they last 30 minutes. A small donation of \$5 to the Seniors Centre is asked.
2. Co-op Buddy System – A reminder to folks that we have set up a Buddy System in the co-op. You may be someone who would like a Co-op Buddy, or you may be someone who would like to volunteer to be a Co-op Buddy. The forms are available through the co-op office.
3. Thank you - A very big thank you to Sue Salter for her time on the Aging in Place Working Group. Your knowledge and experience have served us well. And we wish you all the best in your upcoming time on the Board of Directors.
4. Join Us? – As a working group, we are always looking for folks who have got energy and enthusiasm. We're a pretty practical bunch and like to get stuff done. Check us out – Lorraine, Dierdre & Sharon.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT



On a Gossip-Free Co-op **Fern Logan, 51E (Rotating Chair)**

(In June 2025, Fern attended the CHF Canada Conference and took these notes at a workshop.)

Rumours versus gossip:

Rumours are often baseless. They are based on speculation, vague, unverified, lack credible source, focuses on uncertainty or significant changes.

Gossiping: Involves shaming and personal information. It empowers one while disempowering another.

Malicious gossip: Is harmful because it can involve attacks that undermine people and cause discord.

Casual gossip (i.e. between friends): This is more innocent but it's still harmful because both are without a constructive purpose.

Healthy conversations: These involve collaboration and problem solving that promotes growth. The purpose is to support and align.

Why people gossip: People gossip for a range of reasons: jealousy, boredom; because they are disgruntled/unhappy. Gossip can be angled at a sense of self importance and/or getting people on your side. While gossip is common during a conflict or disagreement, it often comes from insecurity and enmity. It thrives in a culture that tolerates it.

How we set the rules of engagement?

Gossiping is a reflection of who you are at the core. Our responsibility is to call this out, "Is this really how we want to be?" When we understand the why, we can tailor an appropriate solution/response.

Negative impacts: Where do we feel it in our body? How do people know how you're feeling? How does it affect the individual?

Gossip can be harmful to mental health and the health of a community because it can create division, a lack of trust, anger, anxiety, isolation and can harm a person's reputation. It's also a legal and ethical risk.

Why deal with gossip?

Gossip should be addressed to create more trust and transparency and to promote a positive co-op culture. Minimizing gossip can reduce conflict, prevent disengagement, enhance productivity, protect reputations and strengthen leadership.

How Do We Create a "No Gossip" Culture?

10 Strategies for Prevention and Addressing Issues

1. Set the expectation
2. Is it stated that there is zero tolerance for gossip? (Should be in the policy)
3. Google this, or use AI to create a policy
4. Could include sanctions
5. Lead by example
6. Give open and honest feedback
7. Call it out in an honest way and include, "Is that the way you want to be?"
8. Promote direct communication by going directly to the person you have a problem with.
9. Foster a culture of appreciation
10. Hold regular team meetings

Provide conflict resolution training

Reward and recognize positive behaviour: reinforce the behaviour you want, enforce accountability: "What's your role in this?" "What's your responsibility in creating the culture we desire?"

The goal is to have open conversations, clear expectations and consequences.

Plan ahead:

Choose the right time and place to have the conversation. What's the goal of the conversation?

Positive and productive environment

What are the hot buttons? Rehearse beforehand what your responses will be. Set boundaries: it's OK to be upset about an issue, but not to get abusive. Move the conversation to problem-solving.

It helps to create a policy that is 0% tolerance and to offer conflict resolution training and mediation if gossip continues to create division.

CO-OP UPDATES & CONNECTIONS

POWER OUTAGE



Photos from the End of Summer and Late Fall!



Sarah Brown, Fadel Zaqout, Rory and Audrey Zahir



Thank you!

This Newsletter was put together by Lorraine Smith, Dheeraj Waran, Gillian Jerome and Kyong-ae Kim. Thank you TR for your submissions!

Quick Links



[Manage your subscription to the Twin Rainbows Newsletter](#)



[Twin Rainbows Website](#)

Members Only Area in Development



External Links

[Coop Lease Renewal Information](#)



Twin Rainbows Documents

Governing Documents
General Meetings
Committee Documents and minutes
Board of Directors
Annual Calendars



Join the Twin Rainbows Private Facebook group!

The group is administered by the Communications Committee, and requires you to join through the link to start posting.

If you are waiting to be accepted to the Facebook group, please contact Katie at jeffandkatie.evans@gmail.com.

Join now



Copyright © 2025 Twin Rainbows Housing Co-operative, All rights reserved.

You are receiving the Twin Rainbows Connection e-newsletter because you opted in on the co-op information form, or through a newsletter sign up list.

Our mailing address is:

Twin Rainbows Housing Co-operative 1415/1465 Lamey's Mill Road, Vancouver, BC, Canada
Vancouver, BC V6H 3W1 Canada

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

