

February 21, 2025

Complex Care Housing Proposal

1850 Boxwood Road, Nanaimo

Hello Neighbour,

We are writing to share that BC Housing is working with Island Health on a proposal to build approximately 20 units of Complex Care Housing (CCH) at 1850 Boxwood Road. This project is an important part of our continued effort to address and prevent homelessness and improve access to health services, including mental health and substance-use services, in Nanaimo.

BC Housing plans to submit a rezoning application to the City of Nanaimo in February 2025. If approved, these new homes would give people facing or at risk of homelessness, and who have complex health challenges, a better chance at leading healthy, stable lives. The rezoning process would take 6-12 months. A development permit and a building permit would also be required.

About the Building

The proposed three-storey building at 1850 Boxwood Road would have approximately 20 studio homes with kitchenettes and private bathrooms. There would also be a central kitchen, communal dining and amenity spaces and clinical spaces for residents to receive on-site health care services. The building would be designed to provide a welcoming, home-like atmosphere that fits into the local neighbourhood.

What is Complex Care Housing?

The CCH program provides deeply affordable homes with voluntary person-centered health, cultural and social supports. These supports are available to residents under one roof and in their own home, for as long as they need. CCH is for people who require additional support to manage their health needs, including those with mental health and substance-use challenges, brain injury, disabilities and chronic illness. The program provides deeply affordable homes with voluntary person-centered health, cultural and social supports. These supports are available to residents under one roof and in their own home, for as long as they need. Residents would be adults (19+) of all genders, including seniors.

Services and Supports

BC Housing would select an experienced non-profit housing operator through a fair and open process to manage the building and provide support services to residents, including daily meals, life skills training, and social, cultural and recreational programs. Health services would be delivered in partnership with Island Health and would include primary care, nursing, and specialized mental health and substance use care. Staff would be on site 24/7 to support residents and provide a point of contact for neighbours.

Small-Group Information Sessions with Neighbours

We are inviting neighbours of 1850 Boxwood Road to join us for in-person small-group information sessions (max. 15 people each) to learn more about the proposed project, meet project partners and ask questions. The following two sessions are identical. RSVP to the session that works best for you.

INFORMATION SESSION #1:

- **Date:** Wednesday, April 2, 2025
- **Time:** 12:00 – 1:00 pm
- **Venue:** Oliver Woods Community Centre (F Hemlock Room) 6000 Oliver Rd, Nanaimo
- **RSVP:** Boxwood-Road-Nanaimo-Info-Sessions.eventbrite.ca

INFORMATION SESSION #2:

- **Date:** Wednesday, April 2, 2025
- **Time:** 6:30 – 7:30 pm
- **Venue:** Oliver Woods Community Centre (F Hemlock Room) 6000 Oliver Rd, Nanaimo
- **RSVP:** Boxwood-Road-Nanaimo-Info-Sessions.eventbrite.ca

Please note each session is limited to 15 people to ensure meaningful participation. RSVPs will be first come, first served. Should there be a demand for an overflow session, we will do our best to accommodate.

Community Open House

We are inviting neighbours, businesses and any other interested parties to join us in-person for a Community Open House to learn more about this project. There will be poster boards featuring information about the proposed development. Subject matter experts will also be on hand from Island Health, BC Housing and the City of Nanaimo to provide more information and answer questions.

- **Date:** Thursday, April 3, 2025
- **Time:** 5:30 – 7:30 pm
- **Venue:** Beban Park Social Centre (Room 1, 2 and 3) 2300 Bowen Rd, Nanaimo
- **RSVP:** Boxwood-Road-Nanaimo-Community-Open-House.eventbrite.ca

Drop-in format; all are welcome. Registration is appreciated to help with planning.

Keep up to date about this project by visiting letstalkhousingbc.ca/nanaimo-1850-boxwood-road. We also welcome questions any time by email to communityrelations@bchousing.org.

Sincerely,
BC Housing