

## Viewcourt Housing Co-op

### Community Comments

March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005

### Community's View of the Future

When asked "What is your view for the Future of the Viewcourt those present responded:  
(\* indicates a multiple of respondents expressed the view)

Strive to maintain the Co-op through this tricky transition  
Acknowledge that Change is not comfortable \*  
General Optimism for the future of the co-op \*\*\*\*\*  
Concerns about neighbourhood pressures  
Encourage the building of a real co-operative community  
Co-op is in a good place now  
Not a time for huge change  
Encouraged by the energy in the group to make these changes happen  
We need to bring our vision together  
We can set an example for other co-ops  
More focus on the seventh co-op principle of concern for community  
Remains to be seen  
Insecurity about our security of tenure  
Guardedly optimistic of the future \*\*  
Concerned that all members be treated fairly  
Concerned about the major work that the building may require\*\*  
Please that it is in our hands, confident of success  
Values will need to be called into the issues, we need to keep talking  
Naïve about the process is a concern  
Concerned that values need to drive decisions  
We need to decide how to use our resources effectively  
We need to focus on successful financial management  
We need to find a balance between getting things done and respecting the community

## Next steps

1. Vision, Mission, Values  
Target conclusion September 2005
2. Physical Evaluation  
Initiate in the fall  
Conclude December 2005
3. Financial Evaluation  
Initiate in the fall  
Goal is to have the financial package ready to influence the 2006-7 budget in  
April 2006

This is the basis for the values exercise. We will review and revise at the Board meeting.

## FINDING OUR CO-OP'S VALUES

*Strong Agreement* ← ← ← ← *Neutral or Agree Equally with Both* → → → → *Strong agreement*  
Decent housing is everyone's right Co-op membership is a responsibility

*Strong Agreement* ← ← ← ← *Neutral or Agree Equally with Both* → → → → *Strong agreement*  
Co-op members should have a direct say in daily operations General membership makes policy and elects directors. It doesn't operate the co-op.

*Strong Agreement* ← ← ← ← *Neutral or Agree Equally with Both* → → → → *Strong agreement*  
Co-op training is desirable but voluntary Co-op training is a necessity and should be provided.

*Strong Agreement* ← ← ← ← *Neutral or Agree Equally with Both* → → → → *Strong agreement*  
Children and youth should have priority for use of outdoor areas Certain outdoor areas should be "off limits" for active play

*Strong Agreement* ← ← ← ← *Neutral or Agree Equally with Both* → → → → *Strong agreement*  
Persuasion is the best ways to get members follow rules Failure to strictly enforce policies weakens our community

*Strong Agreement* ← ← ← ← *Neutral or Agree Equally with Both* → → → → *Strong agreement*  
Participation in co-op work and social events helps build community People's privacy is important. They should be able to keep to themselves if they want to.

## FINDING OUR CO-OP'S VALUES

<p><i>Strong Agreement</i>   ←   ←   ←   ←   <i>Neutral or Agree Equally with Both</i>   →   →   →   →   <i>Strong agreement</i></p> <p>Our co-op has a responsibility to improve the surrounding neighbourhood</p>	<p><i>Strong Agreement</i>   ←   ←   ←   ←   <i>Neutral or Agree Equally with Both</i>   →   →   →   →   <i>Strong agreement</i></p> <p>The co-op contributes to the neighbourhood just by providing affordable, well-maintained housing.</p>
---	---

<p><i>Strong Agreement</i>   ←   ←   ←   ←   <i>Neutral or Agree Equally with Both</i>   →   →   →   →   <i>Strong agreement</i></p> <p>Pets improve the quality of life for their owners and the community</p>	<p><i>Strong Agreement</i>   ←   ←   ←   ←   <i>Neutral or Agree Equally with Both</i>   →   →   →   →   <i>Strong agreement</i></p> <p>Pets are a source of problems and conflict between members</p>
---	--

<p><i>Strong Agreement</i>   ←   ←   ←   ←   <i>Neutral or Agree Equally with Both</i>   →   →   →   →   <i>Strong agreement</i></p> <p>A member's unit is their home, they have a continuing right to live in it regardless of the cost to the community</p>	<p><i>Strong Agreement</i>   ←   ←   ←   ←   <i>Neutral or Agree Equally with Both</i>   →   →   →   →   <i>Strong agreement</i></p> <p>The co-op must maximize the use of units by adopting the National Occupancy Standards</p>
---	---

<p><i>Strong Agreement</i>   ←   ←   ←   ←   <i>Neutral or Agree Equally with Both</i>   →   →   →   →   <i>Strong agreement</i></p> <p>Members are entitled to subsidy for any unit.</p>	<p><i>Strong Agreement</i>   ←   ←   ←   ←   <i>Neutral or Agree Equally with Both</i>   →   →   →   →   <i>Strong agreement</i></p> <p>Members are entitled to subsidy for ONLY appropriate unit sizes</p>
---	---

<p><i>Strong Agreement</i>   ←   ←   ←   ←   <i>Neutral or Agree Equally with Both</i>   →   →   →   →   <i>Strong agreement</i></p> <p>The co-op encourages a diversity in new members, age, cultural background, and family composition.</p>	<p><i>Strong Agreement</i>   ←   ←   ←   ←   <i>Neutral or Agree Equally with Both</i>   →   →   →   →   <i>Strong agreement</i></p> <p>Our co-op should be a comfortable, homogeneous community</p>
--	--

## FINDING OUR CO-OP'S VALUES

*Strong Agreement* ← ← ← ← *Neutral or Agree Equally with Both* → → → → *Strong agreement*

Retain original or existing practices in perpetuity

Members are entitled to subsidy for ONLY appropriate unit sizes

*Strong Agreement* ← ← ← ← *Neutral or Agree Equally with Both* → → → → *Strong agreement*

Members are entitled to subsidy for any unit.

We accept an evolving policy environment