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# Newsbriefs

NOVA SCOTIA EDITION

## BULLETIN BOARD

### Vacancies?

The CHF Canada office in Halifax is getting lots of calls from people looking for housing in local co-ops. Unfortunately, we cannot give out contact names and phone numbers without permission. If your co-op has vacancies and would like us to share this with potential members, call **JoAnn Rogers** at 423-7119 (or e-mail [jrogers@chfc.ca](mailto:jrogers@chfc.ca)) with your contact information.

### Bursary program a huge success

Thanks to bursaries provided by the Housing Services Division of the Department of Community Services, more than 40 housing co-ops from Nova Scotia were able to attend this year's AGM. That's more than five times the number that attended in previous years.

### Great job!

Thanks to the many Nova Scotia volunteers who hosted a successful AGM in Halifax. We couldn't have done it without you!



### Get ready for next year

Next year's AGM will take place in Quebec City, June 9-12, 2004. For information about Quebec City visit [www.quebecregion.com](http://www.quebecregion.com) or call (418) 641-6654.

## Questions about your co-op?

Get answers at CHF Canada's education events

**E**ducation is the key to running a successful housing co-operative. CHF Canada has planned education events so members in different parts of Nova Scotia can get answers to those questions about running a housing co-op. Register now for the day-long event closest to you:

- Saturday, October 4  
Delta Halifax Hotel  
Halifax
- Saturday, November 8  
Rodd Colony Harbour Inn  
Yarmouth

Each event promises to be an exciting day for housing co-op members. Not only will it help members to brush up on their knowledge on how to run a successful co-op, it will provide an opportunity to meet members from other housing co-operatives, build some bridges and make friends. Find out about the new federal law protecting the privacy of personal information. Your housing co-op will have to comply with the legislation by next year, so get prepared. Register as many members from your co-op as possible. Mark your calendars and plan to come. 🏠

## Join the Nova Scotia Advisory Committee

Our Nova Scotia Advisory Committee was formed last spring to be a sounding board for CHF Canada's regional office in Halifax. We will be calling for new volunteers during the Education/Co-op Day on October 4. Joining the committee is a great chance to have your say and help co-op housing at the same time. The committee meets about four times a year, usually by conference call. To serve on the committee, you must be in good standing at your co-op, with no arrears. For more information, please call **JoAnn Rogers**, Member Services Co-ordinator, at 423-7119 or (toll free) 1-866-213-2667. 🏠

# Newsbriefs

FOR NOVA SCOTIA HOUSING CO-OPS



## Meet your director John MacDonnell

**John MacDonnell**, CHF Canada's new Nova Scotia regional director, was elected at the AGM in June. John and his wife Sherri have been members of **Kabuki Housing Co-op** in Halifax since January 1995. Kabuki has always been home for their young daughter and infant son.



Born and raised in Nova Scotia, John spent many years living in different places in Canada and across the globe. In addition to living in Ontario, Quebec and Germany, John lived on a kibbutz in Israel's Negev desert as a volunteer worker. He was also a volunteer English teacher in Thailand for a year before coming home and moving into Kabuki. "We had just moved back to Halifax and saw an ad for Kabuki," he says. "Moving into the co-op gave us an instant sense of community." John also recognized the chance to learn new co-op sector skills as an added benefit.

John ran for the CHF Canada Board to make sure Nova Scotia co-ops continue to have the services they need and the strong representation they deserve. "It's important that our co-ops' voices are heard at CHF Canada," John says. "We all benefit when we work together rather than struggling with our problems on our own."

Make sure your co-op's voice is heard. E-mail John at [jmacdonnell@chfc.ca](mailto:jmacdonnell@chfc.ca) or call him at (902) 423-2924 (evenings and weekends).

## Member profile

### Rocky Road Housing Co-op

**R**ocky Road is a housing co-op in the north end of Halifax, near the MacKay Bridge. The co-op consists of 20 townhouses and eight duplexes, which are in Kline Heights. Rocky Road is one of the most successful co-operatives in the Halifax area. The members are dedicated and their individual units and the grounds surrounding them are well kept, with flowers and shrubs and landscaping.

**Carol Jollymore**, president of the co-op, says they started planning the co-op in 1982 and moved into it in the fall of 1984. When they moved into the co-op, there were no retaining walls, no walkways or stairs between the buildings and they didn't have a storage shed. The co-op members did all this work themselves.

The name of the street that Carol lives on is Imo Lane. When the co-op was built, she says, they had a contest to decide what to call the laneway. Carol suggested Imo because the ship "Imo" was involved in the Halifax Explosion. The explosion site is almost directly in front of the co-op. The co-op is very close to the waterfront.

Carol, who has lived there since the beginning says the co-op runs smoothly. "Most problems are handled collectively." She adds that they have very low turnover. Most people who move out do so in order to buy their own homes. The co-op also socializes together, hosting such events as a Halloween party for the children. They regularly hold an event to mark the end of summer. This year's event was a family picnic. 🏠

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