

# Hazelburn Co-op's Mission, Vision and Values

Motion Zan Chandler  
2<sup>nd</sup> Mary Lea Serpell

I move that the Hazelburn Cooperative Homes of Toronto Inc. adopt the following *Mission Statement, Core Values and Vision Statement*.

## **Mission Statement**

Hazelburn Cooperative Homes of Toronto Inc. is a non-profit housing co-op that provides high quality and affordable residential accommodation to its members/community in keeping with our core values.

## **Core Values**

### SAFETY AND SECURITY

Located in downtown Toronto, our members understand that it is everyone's responsibility to ensure we have a safe and secure living environment for our members.

### ACTIVE AND DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION IN OUR COMMUNITY

We are deeply invested in the ongoing wellbeing of our co-op and actively participate in and openly communicate about the developments that affect the co-op and the neighbourhood around us.

### FISCAL SUSTAINABILITY

We are committed to maintaining a co-op that continually makes sound financial decisions about its future - under the Ontario Co-operative Corporations Act.

### ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

We conduct ourselves and co-op business in a manner that actively reduces our impact on the environment.

### FORESIGHT AND ADAPTABILITY

Our decision-making is rooted in long-term thinking and adapting to the evolving needs of our members and the building.

### RESPECT AND INCLUSION

We are a community that embraces diversity and treats each member with respect.

### COMMITMENT TO SUBSIDY

We believe it is important to continue to provide subsidy to eligible members.

**Vision Statement**

It is our vision that Hazelburn Co-op will be a diverse community of members who are deeply invested in maintaining a thriving co-op community.

**FISCAL**

We will commit to long term financial planning, adapting to our changing financial circumstances with a view to maintaining the physical plant and values of our community.

**BUILDING**

We will maintain and fund a reserve plan to ensure that we are capable of maintaining the structural integrity of the building. We will also incorporate more environmentally sustainable activities.

**PEOPLE**

We will adapt to the evolving needs of our community and neighbourhood.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD**

We will work with the co-op community to support co-op housing in Toronto. We will actively work with our neighbours to ensure that development in our neighbourhood is not detrimental to our community. We commit to participation in external community organizations.

**PARTICIPATION**

We will build and maintain an infrastructure to encourage and support members in meeting their commitment to actively participate in the co-op.

Approved by Board of Directors: March 18, 2015

Approved by Membership: April 15, 2015

Board Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Values of Canada's Co-operative Housing Movement International Cooperative Alliance

Motion Zan Chandler:  
2<sup>nd</sup> Judy Chan

I move that the Hazelburn Cooperative Homes of Toronto Inc. adopt the following *Values of Canada's Co-operative Housing Movement and International Cooperative Alliance*

## **The Values of Canada's Co-operative Housing Movement**

1. The international co-op principles guide the way we govern and manage our housing co-ops.
2. Continuing to operate our co-ops on a not-for-profit basis is fundamental to our future and to our promise to those in need of housing in Canada.
3. Co-ops strive to house members with a mix of incomes.
4. Housing co-ops treat their employees and other providers of management services fairly and value the contribution they make to their communities.
5. Housing co-ops are inclusive communities and embrace diversity by fostering a membership of differing backgrounds and abilities.
6. A commitment to environmental sustainability guides the operating practices of housing co-ops.
7. Co-ops aim to provide a high-quality living environment for their members and do their best to respond to their changing housing needs over time.
8. The right of members to live in their co-op is protected as long as they respect the rules that they have together agreed will govern their housing.

## **International Cooperative Alliance**

### **Principles**

#### **1. Voluntary and Open Membership**

Co-operatives are voluntary organisations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, racial, political or religious discrimination.

#### **2. Democratic Member Control**

Co-operatives are democratic organisations controlled by their members, who actively participate in setting their policies and making decisions. Men and women serving as elected representatives are accountable to the membership. In primary co-operatives members have equal voting rights (one member, one vote) and co-operatives at other levels are also organised in a democratic manner.

#### **3. Member Economic Participation**

Members contribute equitably to, and democratically control, the capital of their co-operative. At least part of that capital is usually the common property of the co-operative. Members usually receive limited compensation, if any, on capital subscribed as a condition of membership. Members allocate surpluses for any or all of the following purposes: developing their co-operative, possibly by setting up reserves, part of which at least would be indivisible; benefiting members in proportion to their transactions with the co-operative; and supporting other activities approved by the membership.

#### **4. Autonomy and Independence**

Co-operatives are autonomous, self-help organisations controlled by their members. If they enter into agreements with other organisations, including governments, or raise capital from external sources, they do so on terms that ensure democratic control by their members and maintain their co-operative autonomy.

#### **5. Education, Training and Information**

Co-operatives provide education and training for their members, elected representatives, managers, and employees so they can contribute effectively to the development of their co-operatives. They inform the general public - particularly young people and opinion leaders - about the nature and benefits of co-operation.

#### **6. Co-operation among Co-operatives**

Co-operatives serve their members most effectively and strengthen the co-operative movement by working together through local, national, regional and international structures.

## **7. Concern for Community**

Co-operatives work for the sustainable development of their communities through policies approved by their members.

Approved by Board of Directors: March 18, 2015

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