



**West Kootenay Building Attainable Housing Symposium**  
**Thursday, April 30, 2026 • 9:00 am - 4:00 pm**  
**Prestige Lakeside Resort Nelson**

## **AGENDA**

**9:00 – 9:30**    **Welcome & Introduction**

**9:30 – 10:15**    **The State of Housing in BC: Pressures and the Path Forward**

Erika Sagert of the BC Non-Profit Housing Association will provide an update on BC's non-profit housing system, unpacking affordability pressures, the ongoing loss of affordable stock, recent government policy changes, and what lies ahead for delivering and sustaining non-market housing.

10:15 – 10:30    Networking Break

**10:30 – 12:00**    **West Kootenay Housing Projects: Lessons from the Ground**

A panel featuring local housing leaders sharing insights, challenges, and lessons learned from projects across the West Kootenay region. *Facilitated by Sarah Bartlett of M'akola Development Services, panelists include Erika Bird of the Kaslo Housing Society, Peter Chipman of SHARE Housing, Sally Mackenzie of the Slocan Valley Housing Society, and Joanne Motta of Nelson Cares.*

12:00 – 1:00    Networking & Lunch

**1:00 – 2:30**    **Making Workforce Housing Happen Through Local Solutions**

A panel of leaders from community organizations who are advancing attainable housing solutions with less reliance on government funding. Through creative financing, employer partnerships, community-driven models, and innovative development approaches, these practitioners are unlocking new pathways to house the local workforce. *Panelists include Kevin Dorrius of Revy Own, Denise Dumas of the Creston Valley Housing Corporation, Leigha Horsfield of Murphy's Landing Workforce Housing, and Tom Thomson of the Railtown Housing Society.*

2:30 – 2:45    Networking Break

**2:45 – 3:45**    **Housing Solutions Café**

A facilitated discussion exploring how we work together to bring in the right financing partners, embrace innovation, strengthen both current and future housing development capacity and build a pipeline of projects for our region.

**3:45- 4:00**    **Next Steps & Closing**