



People with and without disabilities sharing life together in community

A CAPITAL CAMPAIGN TO BUILD A PLACE TO LIVE, GATHER AND GROW...

After 46 years, the time has come to replace our current building with a new and expanded L'Arche that will address the urgent need for full accessibility and expanded capacity.

This new modern 52,000 sq. ft. building will allow us to meet the needs of more adults with developmental disabilities. L'Arche Greater Vancouver is one of 154 L'Arche communities around the world, including 31 in Canada. At L'Arche, every person is valued for the unique gifts they contribute to society.

UNIQUE MODEL OF CARING

L'Arche Greater Vancouver is an intentional community - a group of people who have chosen to be together in pursuit of a common ideal - where adults with developmental disabilities, along with those who assist them, share life together in family-like settings and work environments.

L'Arche is an example of a compassionate community that cares for some of society's most vulnerable citizens and celebrates each person and their gifts. Our commitment to intentional community deepens relationships, strengthens belonging and invites the contribution of everyone.





FINDING BELONGING

Everyone needs a place of belonging. As a society, we have come a long way in supporting vulnerable individuals. However, people with developmental disabilities are still at risk of being marginalized and isolated.

Children with disabilities are included in our daycares and schools. The question is, what happens when these children reach adulthood? For many parents the challenge is having the emotional and physical strength to continue supporting their adult children as they age or want more independence.

We know that living conditions are crucial to health. If adults with developmental disabilities want or need to leave their family home, where do they go? When people become isolated or alone, they are especially vulnerable.

WE ALL BELONG

OUR HOMES AND PROGRAMS

Home life is the foundation of L'Arche. It is in the home that mutual relationships come to life with each person contributing as they are able. Meaningful work and day time activities are essential to a person's dignity and self-worth and are the focus of our community inclusion programs.

L'Arche Greater Vancouver operates six homes and two community inclusion programs.

Unique to the L'Arche model is that assistants come to live, work and participate in the community, building meaningful, mutual friendships with members with developmental disabilities. During their stay of one or more years, these assistants, who are often young people, discover their gifts and the gifts of others.

"As I witness the social isolation and loneliness that so many experience in our city, I believe there is a pressing need for compassionate caring communities such as L'Arche that can serve as an anchor in our neighbourhoods."

Kathi Bentall—A Board Member of the Co:Here Foundation that helped create the vision for a unique model of social housing in Vancouver. Co:Here was influenced by the example of L'Arche.

OUR CHALLENGE

People who live at L'Arche are aging and many have mobility issues, requiring a fully accessible building. Our building on Sussex Avenue in Burnaby is nearly 50 years old, has become costly to operate and needs extensive upgrades.

At the same time there is an urgent need to support younger individuals with developmental disabilities with a variety of housing options and support models. This would require significant changes and our existing building does not allow us to expand our residential capacity or our community inclusion programs.

One consideration was moving, however, we are ideally located close to transit and community amenities and our other three L'Arche homes are located nearby.

Renovating was also considered. After extensive consultations, it became clear that the most practical option is to re-develop our Sussex Avenue property.





OUR PLAN

Our plan is to build a new three-storey, concrete structure that takes full advantage of our existing property. Through innovative design, we will address the urgent need for accessibility, allow community members to age in place, and provide the ability to expand both our residential and community inclusion programs.

Our plan also includes the addition of non-market rental accommodation that will create options for those who would like to live in close proximity to L'Arche in order to participate in and contribute to our life together.

MAJOR COMPONENTS

- Replace three existing, aging homes with three fully accessible homes for people with developmental disabilities and those who assist them.
- Provide expanded space for community inclusion programs in order to welcome additional people into these programs.
- Provide 10 units of housing as new models of support for adults with developmental disabilities who can live more independently.
- Provide 29 units of non-market rental housing for those who wish to be a part of our intentional community.
- Provide fully accessible meeting spaces that can adapt to various groups.

The plans also include space for a small coffee lounge that will provide meaningful work for adults with developmental disabilities in the future.

OUR PARTNERS

TL Housing Solutions and CitySpaces Consulting Ltd. are our key partners in the design, development and construction of our new building. Both companies bring expertise in assisting non-profits to develop creative housing solutions and navigate through all stages of this complex process.

OUR CAMPAIGN

The L'Arche redevelopment project has a projected cost of \$22 million. Local and provincial governments have been extremely supportive of this project with provisional commitments of about \$7.1 million. Thanks to our many generous and loyal donors, we are excited to announce that, as of May 2020 - through our **We All Belong Capital Campaign** - we have secured more than \$3 million in donations and pledges toward our campaign goal of \$6 million.* Reaching this goal, together with long-term financing of about \$9 million, allows us to make our project viable.

**Increased by \$1 million since campaign launch in April 2019 due to changes in design and construction costs.*

For more information about our redevelopment project and the **We All Belong Campaign**, please visit www.larchevancouver.org.





Pre-Demolition

Spring 2020
Summer 2020
Fall 2020

Building permit submission
3rd Reading by City Council
Relocation of residents and staff

Demolition and Tendering

Fall 2020
Winter 2020

Hazmat abatement and demolition
4th and final reading by City Council
Tendering, final costing and building permit issuance

Construction

2021-2022
Spring/Summer 2022

Construction phase (18 months)
Move in/Building Occupancy

FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND CAMPAIGN CHAIR

It has long been our dream to create an expanded community resource that more fully realizes the importance of belonging. The time has come for the biggest dream in our history!

Our vision comes from our commitment to respond to the the changing needs of our aging members and the growing need and desire for younger people to be part of an intentional, supportive community.

As society and people's needs continue to change, L'Arche must diversify the way in which we support people. There is an urgent need for individuals with developmental disabilities to have a broader choice of affordable housing and support models.

L'Arche will continue to provide homes and community inclusion

programs for people with and without developmental disabilities.

One of the most exciting features of this project is that it will provide options for individuals to live more independently in a supportive community. In addition, it will offer much needed non-market housing.

In a large city where many people feel isolated and alone, L'Arche will continue to be a valuable resource by being a place of belonging.



Denise Haskett
Executive Director



Ted Kuntz
Campaign Chair

Honourary Campaign Committee

The Most Reverend J. Michael Miller, CSB

Archbishop, Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Vancouver

The Most Reverend Melissa M. Skelton

Archbishop, Diocese of New Westminster Anglican Church of Canada

Richard Cheng

Senior Vice President, BMO Nesbitt Burns

Kathi Bentall

A Founder of the Rivendell Retreat Centre Board member, Co:Here Foundation

Sister Marie Zarowny

Province Co-leader, Sisters of St. Ann

Hugh Ker

Architect



“The greatest disabling condition comes from loneliness and isolation.”

—Vancouver Foundation [from 2011 poll of community leaders]



FOR MORE INFORMATION

L'Arche Foundation of Greater Vancouver
7401 Sussex Avenue Burnaby BC V5J 3V6

604.435.9544 • larchevancouver.org

capitalcampaign@larchevancouver.org

Charitable Registration Number
137648671RR0001