



## **WESTWINDS coming soon.....**

### **Who is eligible to apply?**

*Westwinds provides housing for Seniors aged 55 and older. You must be a resident of BC for at least one year. Priority is given to seniors from Squamish and the Sea to Sky Corridor. Westwinds is Independent living, and applicants must be 100% independent as there are no support services for tenants.*

### **Is there an income cut-off?**

*Maximum gross household income for the Westwinds is \$51 000. There will also be a criterion for assets (ceiling to be determined).*

### **Are the units subsidized?**

*The units at Westwinds are not subsidized directly. Half of the rental rates (116 units) are set at the maximum threshold that the SAFER subsidy will subsidize (\$767 a month). The other half of the rental rates are at 80% of market, or \$980 per month. In order to be eligible for SAFER you need to be 60 or older, Canadian Citizen or landed immigrant not under sponsorship, and not receiving provincial transfer payments. Those on Income Assistance through the province would not be eligible for SAFER.*

### **What is SAFER?**

*SAFER is a provincial portable rent subsidy program offered through BC Housing, Shelter Aid for Elderly Renters. This rent subsidy program looks at the gap between 30% of your income and what you are spending on rent and subsidizes the difference up to a ceiling amount (\$767 for a one-bedroom unit). Payments are sent directly to the tenant's bank account.*

### **What types of units are offered?**

*The vast majority of the units are 1 bedroom just under 600 Sq Feet. There are limited numbers of one bedroom plus dens, and 8 fully wheelchair accessible units.*

**What is included in the rent?**

*Rent includes hot water. Residents are responsible for paying their own hydro and other services they may want to install (ie internet, cable, or phone). Limited number of parking spots will be available for \$40 per month (ground level, secure parking). Storage lockers are also available for \$20 per month. There will be laundry rooms on every floor for tenant use \$.*

**What are the ground level amenities?**

*The ground level amenities space will include the administration offices, lobby, lounge, multi-purpose room with a kitchen, exercise room, library, internet café hub, recycling area (indoors), dog and bike wash, bed bug sauna, foodbank storage room, outreach offices and the Men's Shed. There is ground level parking that is secure, as well as parking for bikes and scooters.*

**How do I apply?**

*You can get an application from the office at 38201 Third Avenue, corner of Pemberton and Third. The office is at the back near the gravel parking lot. You can also go online and download an application from [www.sschs.org](http://www.sschs.org). You can mail the application in or drop it through the mail slot on the office door.*

**What is the tenant selection process for units?**

*Selection is based on seniority on the waitlist as well as consideration for those who are precariously housed, or at risk for homelessness. Tenants must pass a screening process which examines tenancy history as well as reference checks. Tenants must also go through income testing to ensure eligibility. Having an application in for tenancy does not guarantee that you will be offered a suite.*

**How can I stay in touch while the new building is being constructed?**

*Feel free to contact the office at 604-892-3311 and ask to be put on the Westwinds email Distribution list. Emails are sent out regularly with updates. You can also follow the Squamish Senior Citizens Home Society on Facebook. Our website which will soon be updated is at [www.sschs.org](http://www.sschs.org). The office can be contacted through email at [sschs72@telus.net](mailto:sschs72@telus.net).*