

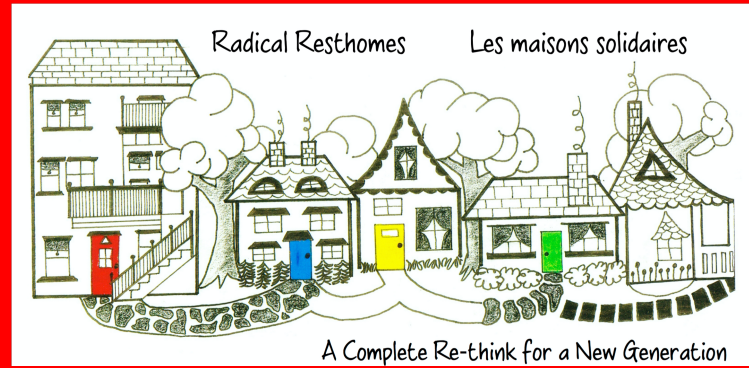
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RADICAL RESTHOMES

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SEASON'S GREETINGS!

Last year we focused our spare time identifying and meeting people in the housing sector. Here are the most current events and activities:

WORKSHOPS

2019 IN REVIEW

We organized 2 workshops this fall: one in town and one on the West Island. If you know people who want to figure out what they will do for their Next Chapter, have them contact us at info@radicalresthomes.com. The workshop is still a hit whenever we do them.

PARTNERSHIPS

We've been meeting with community leaders who can help get the first prototype off the ground: PME Montreal, CMHC, Milton Parc, YMCA Quebec, SVX, Jewish Federation, etc. Everyone we meet is impressed with the idea of "Houses with Purpose" and we expect lots of support when we get closer to the start-up funds we need.

FUNDING APPLICATIONS

The CMHC (Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation) program – Solutions Lab – has offered us a consulting firm to make sure our project is chosen for spring funding. In January, we will apply to the Community Innovation Fund to research successful multi-generation projects around the world. We also applied last September for funds from New Horizons (a Canadian Heritage program) for our ASAP (A Solution for Aging in Place) project – helping seniors who live together in small apartment buildings to organize themselves for informal care taking.

One thing we're learning about "innovative projects" is that, if they are really innovative, they don't fit the standard guidelines. With a little bit of nudging from us, some funders are beginning to realize that requirements might have to be adjusted for projects that are breaking new ground. There's hope here... and we're happy to play a small part in changing some of the funding criteria.

USER COMMITTEE

In the spring, we will be looking to form a User Committee to provide feedback on program details as the project develops. The focus of this committee be general concepts of co-living, informal care and group dynamics. Please contact us if you're interested in getting involved.

EDMONTON CONFERENCE

Janet headed off to Edmonton in November to present our project to a national conference on housing called: ***Aging in the Right Place***. People from across the country were there representing Canadians considered “vulnerable” vis a vis housing: homeless, disabled, seniors, those with mental illness. There were 1500 people present, so it was a little bit like shouting to someone in the middle of a snowstorm. But there was a big round of applause for our idea.

MEDIA & SPEECHES

In case you didn't see the recent article in LaPresse, here it is: <https://www.lapresse.ca/affaires/entreprises/201909/07/01-5240292-residences-pour-aines-vieillir-autrement.php>. We've received a lot of interest from it and some important new contacts within the French community. All good.

FRANCOPHONE PARTNER

We are getting more and more interest about our project from francophone organizations. Although we speak French, we would like to work with someone who has deeper ties within the francophone community. If you know of anyone who would like to join us and has experience in launching community projects, please send them our way.

You can see we're still alive and kicking.

Sometimes it feels like we're in the middle of a complex jigsaw puzzle; other times it feels like we're about to take flight. Our energy and interest are still high and we are confident that Radical Resthomes will soon be a real thing, with real houses and real nice people living there.

Until the next gathering* or newsletter... we thank you for your constant support.

Happy New Year,
Janet and Louise
(Torge and Quinn)



*Sorry we missed the summer reunion. It won't happen again.