



# Mayne Island Collective Progress Report (May 31, 2025)

*Building a resilient and age-friendly Mayne Island  
through synergy and shared action.*



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# Mayne Island Collective

## Progress Report (May 31, 2025)

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# Mayne Island Collective Progress Report (May 31, 2025)

## 1. Introduction

### Purpose of the Report

This report offers a snapshot of the Mayne Island Collective’s work as of May 31, 2025 representing 18 months of operation. It is intended to inform our sponsor organization, the SGI Neighbourhood House, our funders, nonprofit partners, collaborators across the Southern Gulf Islands, and the broader public about what we’ve accomplished, what we’re learning, and where we’re headed next. It highlights the many ways the Collective has begun to fulfill its mission of fostering self-sufficiency, sustainability, and belonging on Mayne Island—and increasingly, across the region—while building an age-friendly community that supports residents of all ages.

### Who We Are and What We Do

The Mayne Island Collective was created to weave together the strengths, talents, and ideas of local organizations and residents into a cohesive force for community transformation. Founded in 2023 under the sponsorship of the Mayne Island Assisted Living Society (MIALS), the Collective emerged from a shared desire to reduce duplication, coordinate community efforts, and help islanders thrive—regardless of age, background, or circumstance.

Our work is grounded in collaboration. With 17 local nonprofits (see Appendix A) now participating as members, the Collective creates a shared space where organizations can align efforts, support one another’s initiatives, and generate new ideas together. Just as importantly, the Collective also provides a platform to address challenges that fall outside the scope of any one organization—issues that nonetheless affect the island’s long-term resilience and social fabric.

In early 2025, the Collective transitioned to operate as a program of the Southern Gulf Islands Neighbourhood House (SGINH), a regional charity whose mission and values align closely with ours. This transition allows us to access broader funding opportunities, extend our impact across the Southern Gulf Islands, and deepen our role as both a local and regional catalyst for community-led change.



## 2. Our Mission in Action

The Mayne Island Collective was created to help our community become more self-sufficient, sustainable, inclusive, and age-friendly. From the beginning, we have been guided by two complementary frameworks: the eight domains of Age-Friendly Communities<sup>1</sup> (AFC), and continuous engagement with island residents and nonprofit organizations. These frameworks ensure that our actions reflect real needs and build meaningful solutions for people of all ages and circumstances.

### Guided by Community and Age-Friendly Principles

Our mission has always focused on tackling the real-life challenges faced by islanders—whether it’s aging in place, securing housing, staying connected socially, accessing health supports, or putting nutritious food on the table. The AFC framework provides a powerful structure for this work, guiding us across eight interconnected domains:

- **Outdoor spaces and buildings**
- **Transportation**
- **Housing**
- **Social participation**
- **Respect and social inclusion**
- **Civic participation and employment**
- **Communication and information**
- **Community support and health services**

Through public events, engagement with 17 nonprofit members, and one-on-one conversations with residents, we’ve identified gaps, opportunities, and projects that align with these domains. We also actively foster collaboration across organizations and work on cross-cutting issues that may not fit within any one nonprofit’s mandate—but are critical to community well-being.

### Strengthening Community Infrastructure and Access

Our early focus has been on improving access and inclusion—both physically and socially. Highlights include:

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<sup>1</sup>

<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/health-promotion/aging-seniors/friendly-communities.html>

- Accessibility upgrade projects at the Community Centre, Agricultural Hall, and Emma and Felix Jack Park
- Health-focused grant proposals (e.g., to Health Excellence Canada) to expand access to fitness, nutrition, and social connections for older adults and mobility-challenged residents
- Support for a new community bus to address wheelchair accessible transportation needs
- Advocacy with BC Ferries to improve terminal accessibility

These efforts create the foundation for a community where everyone can participate fully and with dignity.

## **A Growing Focus on Food Security**

As food prices rise and supply chains become less reliable, food security has emerged as a top priority. In response, the Collective has supported a range of collaborative efforts:

- Assisting the Farmers Market with its transition to Agricultural Society oversight
- Supporting the Community Pantry (Food Bank) through grant writing and exploration of new operational space
- Launching the Mayne Island CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) program
- Publishing a Concept Paper and co-hosting discussions with the Gulf Islands Food Co-op and the SGI Community Justice Program on local food resilience and regional food strategy
- Collaborating with the Agricultural Society to plan and fund a commercial kitchen to support food-safe processing for local food producers and the Pantry

Together, these initiatives aim to increase local food sovereignty and build lasting systems for resilient, community-based food access.

## Laying Foundations for Affordable Housing and Service Hubs

Housing remains one of Mayne Island's most pressing issues. The Collective has helped advance housing through:

- Grant writing support for the Mayne Island Housing Society (MIHS), including the launch of a Housing Navigator role
- Coordinating early-stage planning for a Community Hub that would co-locate essential services, health supports, youth programming, and nonprofit offices
- Partnering with the SGI Community Resource Centre to pilot the *Housing Now* homeshare initiative and explore policy changes to enable tiny homes and movable dwellings as affordable options
- Supporting a new affordable housing initiative on land offered by St. Mary Magdalene Church

These efforts represent the Collective's unique ability to coordinate across organizational boundaries and pursue solutions that require island-wide collaboration.

## Connecting Residents Through Events and Outreach

From its inception, the Collective has placed high value on direct engagement with residents. In the past year, we've facilitated:

- Two community engagement events (April and November 2024), where residents proposed, critiqued, and refined project ideas
- Monthly Nonprofit Roundtable gatherings that invite all island nonprofits — as well as interested residents — to share what they are working on, develop synergy, and create bridges across initiatives. Notes from these sessions are shared on social media to broaden awareness and foster connection.
- Neighbourhood Block Parties across the island in both 2024 and 2025 to promote connection, safety, and information sharing—especially regarding emergency preparedness
- Launch of the *Opportunity Fair* (June 14, 2025), designed to match local needs with local talents through job, volunteer, and mentorship opportunities, including a showcase of community projects
- Collaboration with the SGI Community Justice Program to promote Peace Circles and Restorative Justice as tools for healing, understanding, and non-colonial problem-solving

- Cultural enrichment through grant writing support for performances like *JS Bach's Long Walk in the Snow* and *Giambori* (Chris Redsell Music Productions)

These events and collaborations are not just activities—they are platforms for participation, mechanisms for cultivating trust, activating community wisdom, and shaping a future built on shared purpose. They offer residents a chance to share their ideas, lend their hands, and shape a more connected, caring, and resilient island.

### **3. What Makes the Mayne Island Collective Model Unique**

The Mayne Island Collective isn't just another organization—it's a model for how a small, rural community can think and act together. Rather than building new infrastructure from scratch, we leverage what already exists: the skills, mandates, and energy of our local nonprofits, and the lived experience and passion of island residents.

#### **Collaboration over Competition**

At its core, the Collective model is about working *together*. It brings our nonprofit member organizations around one table—not to compete for resources, but to coordinate efforts, identify shared priorities, and pool knowledge. This collaborative structure helps reduce duplication, align initiatives, and support one another in achieving broader, more integrated outcomes.

#### **Filling the Gaps**

The Collective also plays a unique role in tackling issues that don't fall neatly into any single organization's mission. Whether it's planning a multi-tenant nonprofit hub, piloting new housing models, or designing programs for people who feel left out, the Collective exists to move projects forward that otherwise might not happen. We connect the dots and build the bridges.

#### **Community-Driven by Design**

We don't just consult residents—we engage them in decision-making. Through public town halls, neighbourhood block parties, surveys, and participatory project design, we ensure that the community itself helps shape our direction. This grassroots engagement strengthens trust, ensures relevance, and makes the work more resilient over time.

#### **Powered by Local Capacity**

Instead of growing a large internal structure, we rely on distributed leadership. Project champions come from all corners of the island—young people, elders, local farmers, volunteers, nonprofit leaders. The Collective supports their vision, finds funding, and helps make their ideas a reality. This lean and adaptive model lets us respond to needs quickly and scale only when it makes sense.



## 4. Milestones Since Inception

Since its formal launch in November 2023, the Mayne Island Collective has made steady, meaningful progress in building a community-led, intergenerational, and resilient model for collaboration and action. What began as a shared idea among a handful of nonprofit leaders has quickly evolved into a vibrant network creating real-world impact. Below is a timeline of the key moments that have shaped our journey so far.

### Summer–Fall 2023: The Collective Begins

- Initial meetings between the boards of MIALS, the Mayne Island Community Pantry, the Health Centre Association, and others to explore shared aspirations and project possibilities.
- Grants from the Kw'umut Lelum Foundation (Community Services Recovery Fund) and the Victoria Foundation (Collaborative Grant Stream) lay the financial foundation for the Collective's launch.
- Seven founding nonprofits come together under the sponsorship of the Mayne Island Assisted Living Society (MIALS).
- The Collective's name, purpose, and values begin to take shape through nonprofit collaboration.

### Winter 2023–24: Organizing for Action

- Early projects are launched, including planning for the Health Excellence Canada grant, Community Hub, and Housing Navigator initiatives.
- Grant applications submitted to support MIALS' programs, accessibility improvements, and cultural programming.

### Spring–Summer 2024: Community Engagement Grows

- Monthly Nonprofit Roundtables begin in collaboration with the Montrose Local restaurant, offering an inclusive forum for sharing updates, identifying synergies, and fostering collaboration.
- The first round of Neighbourhood Block Parties takes place across the island, building connections at the hyper-local level.
- The Collective supports grant applications for accessibility upgrades at the Agricultural Hall and Emma and Felix Jack Park.

- The Collective's project roster grows to include reconciliation, youth mentorship, emergency preparedness, 2SLGBTQI+ community support, and early steps in environmental stewardship.
- An island-wide engagement session is held to map community assets and brainstorm possible projects to launch.
- The Collective receives a Collective Impact Grant from United Way Southern Vancouver Island in April 2024.

## Fall 2024: Formalizing Structure

- The Collective transitions to become a program of the Southern Gulf Islands Neighbourhood House (SGINH), enabling broader charitable access and regional integration.
- Membership expands over time to include 17 nonprofit organizations, reinforcing the strength and diversity of the Collective model.
- Planning begins for the first Opportunity Fair, with regional partnerships deepening in housing, food security, and transportation.
- Another island-wide engagement session is held to review existing projects, revisit priorities and assess collective progress.
- Work begins on a community website to highlight projects, encourage involvement, and support transparent communication.

## Winter–Spring 2025: Momentum Builds

- The Mayne Island CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) program enters the design phase following a productive growers' circle.
- The Collective contributes to regional food policy discussions in partnership with the Gulf Islands Food Co-op and the SGI Community Justice Program.
- Community outreach continues through events, digital tools, and targeted efforts to engage youth and newcomers.
- A second grant from the Kw'umut Lelum Foundation (Community Prosperity Fund) provides ongoing support for our work.

From foundational trust-building to active project implementation, the past year has laid the groundwork for lasting change. These milestones are a testament to the strength of the

Collective approach: many hands, working together, toward a shared vision for a thriving, inclusive, and resilient island community.

## 5. Highlights from Our Projects

The Collective's strength lies in the diversity of initiatives it supports. While each project is unique, they all reflect our shared commitment to resilience, inclusion, and local leadership. Below are some of the key focus areas that have shaped our work over the past year.

### Advancing Food Security

Food security has become one of the Collective's most active areas of work. We've supported:

- The launch of the Mayne Island CSA (Community Supported Agriculture), now entering its pilot phase.
- Grant writing for the Community Pantry, Mayne's local food bank.
- Planning for a commercial kitchen with the Agricultural Society to enable local food processing and improve capacity for the Pantry.
- Regional engagement and co-facilitation of food resilience discussions, in collaboration with the Gulf Islands Food Co-op and SGI Community Justice Program.
- Support for the Farmers Market as it transitioned to being hosted by the Agricultural Society.

### Supporting Housing Solutions

Recognizing the deepening housing crisis on the island, the Collective has helped advance:

- A new Housing Navigator role, managed by the Mayne Island Housing Society, to assist with suite development, tenant support, and permitting.
- The Housing Now homeshare program, in partnership with SGI Community Resource Centre.
- Collaboration on a feasibility study for tiny homes and movable dwellings, to explore affordable and flexible housing options.
- Support for a new housing project on land offered by St. Mary Magdalene Church, now in early planning stages.

## Community Infrastructure and Accessibility

Physical accessibility and inclusive community spaces are central to our work. Highlights include:

- Grant writing and coordination for accessibility improvements at the Agricultural Hall and Emma and Felix Jack Park.
- Participation in early planning for the Community Hub, which will co-locate nonprofit services, create space for community programming, and foster intergenerational connection.
- Preliminary research, engagement and grant application for a new Community Bus, to address transportation challenges for all ages and abilities.

## Cultural and Social Inclusion

Fostering belonging is a key component of the Collective's work. We've supported:

- Grant applications for cultural events such as the M.I. Little Theatre's *JS Bach's Long Walk in the Snow* and *Giambori*, which blend music, storytelling, and community learning.
- Reconciliation-focused grant writing in partnership with the Mayne Island Truth and Reconciliation Circle, including a planned community event.
- Support for Peace Circles and restorative justice practices in collaboration with the SGI Community Justice Program, offering tools for inclusive and non-colonial dialogue.

## Youth, Mentorship, and Neighbourhood Engagement

To ensure a thriving community for future generations, we've:

- Grant writing in support of the 2SLGBTQI+ community.
- Supported the design and planning of the Opportunity Fair (June 14, 2025), connecting residents with jobs, volunteer roles, and mentorship.
- Funded and coordinated Neighbourhood Block Parties, promoting resilience, connection, and emergency preparedness at the hyper-local level.

## Regional Collaboration and Shared Learning

As a Collective working within a regional framework, we've prioritized collaboration with:

- The Southern Gulf Islands Neighbourhood House, our current sponsor and regional ally.
- The Southern Gulf Islands Community Justice Program, replacing hierarchical / colonial decision making and governance with more consent-based conversations as a cultural shift.
- The Gulf Islands Food Co-op as a partner and lead in enacting food security strategies and education for the region.
- The Southern Gulf Island Community Resource Centre, which spearheads the Housing Now homeshare program at a regional level, as a ready solution to the need for affordable housing.
- Other island-based collectives and initiatives focused on food, housing, transportation, and aging-in-place.
- Research and dialogue around scaling replicable solutions, such as homesharing and shared infrastructure, to other Gulf Islands.

## 6. Community Engagement

Community engagement is both the foundation and the fuel of the Collective's work. We believe that building a thriving, inclusive island community requires more than consultation—it requires participation, listening, and shared ownership of ideas and action.

The Collective began not through a public campaign, but with a quiet, intentional gathering of nonprofit leaders. In the summer of 2023, the boards of several island organizations — including the Mayne Island Assisted Living Society, the Community Pantry, and the Health Centre Association — came together to explore how they might collaborate more effectively. That early spirit of partnership and shared purpose planted the seed for what would become the Mayne Island Collective.

### Island-Wide Engagement Events

In April and November 2024, the Collective hosted two major public gatherings. These events invited residents to reflect on community needs, propose new ideas, and help guide the Collective's evolving priorities. The outcomes helped shape emerging conversations about accessibility and climate resilience.

### Neighbourhood Block Parties

We supported a festival of Neighbourhood Block Parties across the island on June 15, 2024. Each gathering was organized by residents, tailored to neighbourhood dynamics, and

supported by micro-grants and event coordination. In 2025 we are repeating these parties, bringing neighbours together, supporting emergency preparedness awareness, and opening new channels of connection between residents and local nonprofits.

### **Monthly Nonprofit Roundtables**

Every month, the Collective convenes a Roundtable open to all island nonprofits and interested residents. These informal gatherings provide space for updates, collaboration, and shared problem-solving. Meeting notes are posted publicly to ensure transparency and amplify community knowledge.

### **Digital Communication and Transparency**

The Collective's presence on social media and the Mayneliner has grown steadily. We have a dedicated page in the MayneLiner called Community Lifelines where we develop topics of interest to the community, such as the value and rewards of volunteering, affordable housing options, water management, etc. We've used these channels to share project updates, highlight partner initiatives, and invite input. A new website (Mayhelps.ca), launching June 1, 2025, will provide even greater access to information, engagement tools, and opportunities to get involved.

### **Community-Led Design and Delivery**

Many of the Collective's initiatives were first proposed by residents or by organizations responding to community needs. From the grassroots design of the Opportunity Fair to the CSA grower survey to Neighbourhood Circles and Restorative Justice work, the spirit of "for the community, by the community" is present throughout.

## **7. Financial Overview**

The Mayne Island Collective has operated with a strong commitment to transparency and responsible stewardship of grant funds. We rely on targeted grants to fund specific projects, short-term initiatives, and essential operations.

To date, the Collective has received funding from the Victoria Foundation, United Way Southern Vancouver Island, and the Kw'umut Lelum Foundation (two grants). These grants have allowed us to:

- Launch and coordinate community projects (see Appendix B for a list of current projects)
- Provide seed money to initiate time-sensitive activities while awaiting grant outcomes—such as the Opportunity Fair, the CSA food security project, and the Neighbourhood Block Parties
- Conduct community engagement through town halls, surveys, and neighbourhood events

- Invest in planning efforts to support long-term solutions in food security, housing, and transportation
- Fund the remuneration of a part-time Executive Director and cover essential operational expenses, including subscriptions for grant research platforms, Zoom, website hosting, and communications

Each grant is managed in accordance with the financial and reporting requirements of its funder. Funds are tracked in dedicated accounts within the financial systems of the Collective's sponsoring organization—originally the Mayne Island Assisted Living Society (MIALS) until October 31, 2024, and, as of November 1, 2024, the Southern Gulf Islands Neighbourhood House (SGINH).

### **Supporting Community Projects Through Grant Services**

A key way the Collective brings value to the community is by helping local projects access funding. We actively support initiatives by researching grant opportunities and preparing applications that align with project goals.

- When a project is led by an existing nonprofit member organization, the grant application is submitted in that organization's name. If successful, the nonprofit administers the funds and reports to the funder in accordance with the grant terms.
- For projects that are not owned by a Collective member nonprofit, the Collective submits the application through SGINH. If awarded, the funds are managed through SGINH's financial systems, with the Collective overseeing implementation and reporting in partnership with the fiscal sponsor.

This approach ensures that good ideas can move forward, whether or not they originate within a formal organization. It also reduces administrative burden for grassroots groups and encourages innovation, collaboration, and shared ownership across the island.

To date we have applied for 31 grants of which 17 were funded for a total value of \$333,500. 11 applications were denied and 3 are awaiting award notification (hopefully).

## **8. Reflections: What We're Learning**

### **Challenges, Adaptations, and Key Takeaways**

Every phase of the Collective's work has offered insights—some anticipated, others surprising. We've learned a great deal about what it takes to support a collaborative, community-led initiative on a small island, and we continue to adapt as we grow.

### **Navigating Structure and Scope**

As the Collective evolved, one early challenge was finding the right organizational structure to support our growing list of cross-sector projects. We debated forming yet another nonprofit, but ultimately chose to become a program of the Southern Gulf Islands Neighbourhood House (SGINH). This decision made sense both practically and philosophically: SGINH is a registered charity with well-established administrative systems, which allows us to access funding restricted to charities and avoid spending energy on building new organizational infrastructure. Instead, we can focus our efforts on doing the work. The transition from MIALS to SGINH clarified our legal and financial footing and opened new opportunities for regional alignment.

### **Balancing Vision with Capacity**

There is no shortage of good ideas on Mayne Island—but bringing them to life requires consistent capacity. Many community members and nonprofit representatives are already stretched thin. Having a part-time Executive Director has helped immensely, but our experience has shown that community coordination and backbone support require more than volunteer energy alone. We've learned to prioritize based on impact, feasibility, and available resources. Mobilizing the so-called “silent majority” remains a challenge, but when people see their needs and concerns reflected in the work, they are more likely to engage and participate.

### **Getting Comfortable with Complexity**

The Collective exists to take on projects that don't always have a clear “owner” or easy path forward. These often involve complex relationships, policy constraints, or overlapping mandates. Rather than avoid that complexity, we've learned to lean into it—convening the right voices, facilitating shared planning, and accepting that some work must move slowly to move well. We live in a complex adaptive world, where competing interests, constraints, cross-impacts, and limited resources are the norm. Yet the potential for synergy between nonprofits, residents, and systems is equally powerful. Helping to unlock that synergy is one of the most important contributions the Collective brings to the table.

### **Staying Transparent and Inclusive**

Maintaining open communication—especially across a diverse network of organizations and residents—has been critical. Our monthly roundtables, Mayneliner updates, and social media help, but we've learned that transparency must be practiced, not just proclaimed. We've built trust by showing our work, naming tensions when they arise, and adjusting course based on input. We're also working to shift the conversation from reactive channels toward more generative engagement. The launch of the Collective website, [MayneHelps.ca](http://MayneHelps.ca), will provide a community-owned space where ideas can germinate, evolve into projects, and become vehicles for participation and funding—without the noise and division so often found on traditional social media platforms.

### **Letting the Community Lead**

Virtually all of our projects were sparked by community members. By focusing on facilitation rather than control, the Collective has learned to act as a platform for local initiative. This approach takes more coordination, but it yields greater ownership, relevance, and sustainability.

These reflections will continue to inform how we work—on Mayne Island and, we hope, as a model for other island communities seeking a more collaborative and resilient way forward.

## 9. Looking Ahead

As the Mayne Island Collective moves forward, we are guided by two intersecting frameworks:

- **The 8 Domains of Age-Friendly Communities**, which help ensure our island remains livable and inclusive across generations and abilities.
- **Climate Change Mitigation and Resilience**, which shape our long-term efforts to build local capacity, reduce vulnerability, and adapt sustainably.

In the year ahead, the Collective will focus on advancing the following areas:

### **Outdoor Spaces and Buildings**

We will continue work on the Emma and Felix Jack Park Accessibility Project, collaborating with the Mayne Island Parks and Recreation Commission and other partners to secure necessary authorizations and implement planned accessibility features. This project reflects our commitment to inclusive outdoor spaces where all residents can gather, connect, and enjoy nature.

### **Transportation**

Our Community Bus initiative remains a major priority. The vehicle we are seeking to acquire will be wheelchair accessible, helping to address mobility gaps for seniors, youth, and those without personal vehicles. We will also gather community input on transportation needs—particularly accessible transport—through our website to guide future planning and collaboration.

### **Housing**

We will continue supporting the Housing Navigator, the Housing Now homeshare program, and feasibility efforts for affordable housing on institutional lands such as the St. Mary Magdalene Church property. We are also interested in exploring regulatory and infrastructure requirements for alternative housing types like tiny homes on wheels and relocatable foundations, recognizing these as part of broader housing resilience.

### **Social Participation**

We will continue to organize island-wide Neighbourhood Block Parties to build relationships, increase preparedness, and foster local belonging. We will also support the Mayne Island Little Theatre and Giambori in their efforts to promote cultural engagement and celebrate the arts, recognizing their value in creating connection, joy, and participation across all age groups.



### **Respect and Social Inclusion**

We will continue our support for the Mayne Island Truth and Reconciliation Circle, working alongside Indigenous residents and partners to offer meaningful programming, ceremonies, and learning opportunities rooted in healing, relationship, and respect.

### **Civic Participation and Employment**

Our Monthly Nonprofit Roundtables and website tools will continue to provide ways for residents to connect with island initiatives, propose ideas, and join project teams. These channels offer an on-ramp to volunteering, co-creation, and leadership—no matter one's age or background.

### **Communication and Information**

We will continue to be active on social media and in the MayneLiner, using these platforms to draw people toward deeper engagement through our website. We are also planning community workshops — such as an upcoming forum on food security — using Peace Circle methodologies to guide constructive, inclusive conversations that lead to real action.

### **Community Support and Health Services**

We will support and encourage projects that improve quality of life, especially for older adults and residents with limited access to services. This includes:

- Nutritional workshops
- Fitness and wellness programs
- Food security and affordability initiatives

We will continue helping local nonprofits and informal groups access funding to deliver these supports.

### **Climate Change Mitigation and Resilience**

Our Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) initiative and planning for a community-accessible food processing kitchen are central to strengthening island food sovereignty.

We are actively engaged in regional food resilience and climate adaptation planning through collaboration with the Gulf Islands Food Co-op, the SGI Community Justice Program, the Southern Gulf Islands Neighbourhood House, and the SGI Community Resource Centre.

Together, these efforts support our core aim: a thriving Mayne Island, now and for future generations. Whether through food, housing, art, or transportation, the Collective seeks to build a future that is rooted in care, collaboration, and resilience.

## 10. An Invitation to Get Involved

The Mayne Island Collective thrives on the energy, creativity, and care of community members like you. Whether you're looking to volunteer, share an idea, join a project team, or simply stay informed—there are many ways to participate:

- **Attend a Collective event**, like our town halls, Block Parties, or the Opportunity Fair.
- **Join a project team** working on housing, food security, accessibility, or other local priorities.
- **Connect with us online** at [maynehelpt.ca](http://maynehelpt.ca), where you can read about current projects, share your ideas, and help shape new initiatives. Or email [info@maynehelpt.ca](mailto:info@maynehelpt.ca)
- **Sign up for email updates** or follow us on social media to stay in the loop.
- **Bring your nonprofit or informal group to a Roundtable meeting** (every third Tuesday at the Montrose Local, 7pm) to explore collaboration and synergy.

Everyone has something to offer. Together, we can build a resilient, age-friendly, and inclusive future for Mayne Island.

# Appendix A: List of Collective Member Organizations

## Appendix A: Collective Member Organizations

The Mayne Island Collective is made up of the following 17 member organizations, each contributing unique knowledge, capacity, and commitment to the well-being of the island community:

- **Giambori**  
Supports community cultural life through music education and performance, led by local musician Chris Redsell.
- **Mayne Island Agricultural Society**  
Promotes local agriculture and food systems, and manages the historic Agricultural Hall.
- **Mayne Island Assisted Living Society (MIALS)**  
Helps seniors age in place by providing volunteer-driven services, meals, and community programming.
- **Mayne Island Chamber of Commerce**  
Supports local businesses and economic development on the island.
- **Mayne Island Community Bus**  
Operates community-based transportation services for all islanders.
- **Mayne Island Community Centre**  
Offers accessible space for events, programs, fitness and social connection at the heart of the island.
- **Mayne Island Community Garden**  
Provides shared garden plots and promotes education in sustainable gardening and food production.
- **Mayne Island Emergency Program**  
Coordinates emergency preparedness and response for residents and visitors.
- **Mayne Island Farmers Market**  
Connects local growers, makers, and residents through weekly seasonal markets.
- **Mayne Island Food Bank (Community Pantry)**  
Addresses food insecurity by offering food support to those in need.

- **Mayne Island Housing Society**  
Works to develop and manage affordable housing options for island residents.
- **Mayne Island Library**  
Provides access to books, digital resources, and learning opportunities for all ages.
- **Mayne Island Lions Club**  
Supports a wide range of charitable causes and volunteer activities on the island.
- **Mayne Island Little Theatre**  
Enriches cultural life through community-based theatrical and musical productions and performances.
- **St. Mary Magdalene Church**  
A historic and inclusive faith community supporting social and housing initiatives.
- **Taking Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS)**  
Offers group-based support for healthy living and weight management.
- **Truth and Reconciliation Circle**  
Advances reconciliation and Indigenous-settler understanding through education, dialogue, and cultural programming.

## Appendix B: Roster of Current Collective Projects

Project Name	Description	Current Status	Next Steps
<b>Community Bus Initiative</b>	Acquire and operate a wheelchair accessible community bus for island transportation needs, including medical travel and events.	Bus selection and awaiting grant award.	Secure additional funding and finalize operating agreements (M.I. Assisted Living Society and M.I. Bus Society)
<b>M.I. Food Bank Tea House Renovation</b>	Renovate the "Tea House" building at the Ag Society to enable the Food Bank to move their operations there (Food storage, freezers, freeze dryer, distribution)	Cost estimates complete, half a dozen grant applications awaiting award. Some of the preparatory work done.	Await grant awards and complete the reconovation. Move the Food Bank freezers and storage to the Tea House.
<b>Mayne Island Food Security</b>	Development of a community supported agriculture model linking local farmers with residents. Promote regionally with the Gulf Islands Food Co-op.	CSA model introduced, grower and eater surveys in progress. SGI-wide engagement in planning with Food Co-op and Community Justice Program	Complete pilot season, assess outcomes, plan 2026: Grower coordination; logistics. Apply for funding for SGI-wide engagement.
<b>Opportunity Fair</b>	A local event to connect residents with volunteer, gig, and job opportunities, plus local business showcases.	Planning complete; event scheduled for June 14, 2025.	Host the event and collect participant feedback. Decide whether or not to repeat in 2026.
<b>Community Hub</b>	Creation of a shared space for nonprofits, service providers, and programming.	Building and leasehold terms under development.	Secure tenant commitments and complete the renovation by owner, .

<b>Reconciliation Programming</b>	Support for events and education through the Truth and Reconciliation Circle.	Grant applications submitted and partnerships maintained.	Continue to support events and capacity building.
<b>Housing Navigator Support</b>	Assist residents with secondary suites, rental matching, and housing navigation. (Housing Society)	One grant received, Navigator hired.	Explore permanent funding model and expand scope.
<b>Cultural Events Support</b>	Support local arts and music events such as MILT shows and Giambori concerts.	Grant writing provided; some applications unsuccessful.	Continue to support with visibility, collaboration, and new funding opportunities.
<b>Emma and Felix Jack Park Accessibility</b>	Improve access to the park so anyone can participate in Indigenous People's & reconciliation events and celebrations.	Park survey in progress, one grant (GIA) obtained.	Complete survey, geotech assessment, design, obtain permits and funding, implement.
<b>Neighbourhood Block Parties</b>	Organize "block parties" across the island to build community and neighbourhood protocols about looking out for each other.	Successful rollout in 2024; new round underway for 2025.	Evaluate impact and continue as annual engagement initiative.
<b>Peace Circles &amp; Restorative Practices</b>	Introduce non-colonial conflict resolution and dialogue tools to island life.	Outreach underway in partnership with SGI Community Justice Program.	Train facilitators and integrate into project and community meetings.
<b>Build Seniors Housing on Mayne Island</b>	Develop affordable housing on the 4 acre land adjacent to the St-Mary Magdalene Church.	Zoning supports up to 16 units. Diocese approval being sought.	Await Diocese approval to allow next stage planning.
<b>Community Centre Phase II Planning</b>	Planning for a Phase II addition to the Community Centre to better	Needs assessment in progress. A dozen potential grants identified.	Complete needs assessment and community

	accommodate community needs.		engagement to inform design.
<b>Build Seniors Housing on Mayne Island</b>	Develop affordable housing on the 4 acre land adjacent to the St-Mary Magdalene Church.	Zoning supports up to 16 units. Diocese approval being sought.	Await Diocese approval to allow next stage planning.
<b>Collective Web Platform - MayneHelps.ca</b>	Digital home for Collective communications, engagement, and project collaboration.	Site launched June 1, 2025; content development and public engagement ongoing.	Launch officially and promote as hub for ideas, teams, and participation.
<b>Accessibility Infrastructure</b>	Improvements at public facilities for inclusive access. (Ag Hall, Church driveway)	Grant research in progress.	Await design and funding.
<b>Non-profit Board Training</b>	To provide first tier Director training to Mayne Island newly elected nonprofit board members.	Needs assessment survey in progress.	Promote survey, assess results, create curriculum and plan training.

# Acknowledgements

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This work is only possible because we do it together.