



Frequently Asked Questions about Silverstone Care Centre

Volunteering - Donations - Hospice - Services

Will volunteers be able to assist at Silverstone?

Yes. Silverstone welcomes volunteers as it adds greatly to the quality of life for Residents. We believe strongly in growing caring communities and we know that these healthy connections are an important part of overall wellbeing; for the Resident, for the volunteer and for the community.

It is important to know that volunteer time does not reduce or change the responsibilities for Silverstone to deliver care services. The contract with VCH stipulates the staffing levels and if hours are not provided, the funding paid to Silverstone is reduced. Volunteers serve to enhance the living experience and help sustain strong connections for Residents with community.

What about donations?

Silverstone is a private company and therefore, Silverstone can not issue tax receipts and it is not a 'qualified expenditure' for donation purposes. In other communities, donations are made by non-profit groups to support individual Residents, generally with purchases of personal medical equipment. Any donated items remain the property of the individual Resident and/or the donating group and the private company is not involved. This will be the same at Silverstone.

It is also important to know that Trellis has received many donations of equipment and items from families over the years. People are aware that we can not issue a tax receipt and they still choose to donate it to us. This does not change our requirement for delivering the care services. It simply allows something to be shared and passed along out of kindness and appreciation.

Will there be hospice beds?

There is a specialty house of up to 8 beds as part of the plan that can accommodate hospice services, either temporarily or for the long term. Silverstone will continue to work with VCH to meet the community needs and we will adjust the services, as required. The current plan is for long term care to be provided in this specialty space with the flexibility for other services, such as hospice.

We also want to confirm that Silverstone (Trellis) recently received a letter from the Sunshine Coast Hospice Society indicating that after discussing 'a number of options for a future home for hospice with Vancouver Coastal Health', they have 'decided to move in a different direction'. There were a number of factors for this decision including the time frame. We strongly support hospice services in the community and the specialty house could accommodate these services for a short or longer term.



Will there be an Adult Day program?

Yes. There is a dedicated purpose-built space for an Adult Day program. The specifics of the program, including number of spaces, will be confirmed by VCH and will follow COVID safety requirements.

What about Respite Care Services?

Yes. The design of the home provides maximum flexibility for a variety of care and service needs, including respite care. While VCH has not confirmed the number of respite beds designated for Silverstone, the existing services are able to continue at the home.

How many Long Term Care beds will there be?

Silverstone will provide up to 136 long term care beds. The current beds at Totem Lodge and Shorncliffe Intermediate Care Home total 108.

How will residents access the centre of Sechelt?

Outings are possible and we invite the community in. The Residents of Silverstone will generally be at a clinically complex and very frail stage of life. As a result, very few if any would participate in outings and for those that can, a shuttle bus would be arranged. Our focus is to bring the community in to Silverstone for various events in compliance with COVID-restrictions. For example, we will offer meeting space to community groups so that the Residents can join and attend, if they are able.

How close is it to Downtown? And what is the elevation gain?

Silverstone is approx. 1.3km (a 20 min walk) to the Sechelt Library/Downtown and a 3 km drive to the Sechelt Hospital. The elevation gain from Downtown to the Silverstone site is 70 meters – 230 feet.

What economic benefits are provided by Silverstone?

There are a number of benefits to the Sunshine Coast community including:

- More **seniors housing** options;
- Increases **special needs housing** (including dementia and chronic care needs);
- Offers 125 beds as **affordable housing** as rates are controlled/set by the Ministry of Health;
- **Accessible housing** as all living areas are designed for mobility limitations;
- **Universal access** through VCH as part of the public healthcare system;
- **Community spaces** such as meeting rooms;
- **Adult Day program** and respite support for caregivers;
- **Local employment** during construction and with ongoing operations including continued employment terms for workers at Shorncliffe and Totem Lodge;
- **Development fees and taxes** as part of construction and operations;
- **Intergenerational** programs and **volunteer opportunities**;
- Support for **transit**, electric cars, car sharing and biking; and
- A **Gold level LEED building** (Leadership in Energy and Environment Design)