



Josie Osborne

14h · 🌐



DYK? The very first Energy Step Code 4 affordable housing development in BC was built right here in Port Alberni!

Thanks to the [Alberni Low Energy Housing Society](#)'s Mike Ruttan and Bonnie Ruttan, two of the ALEHS board members who toured me around last week with so much knowledge and obvious pride.

Maitland Street Village is first and foremost a community, with 46 homes for families and people who share an amenity room, a playground, and a common garden and bbq area. But you just have to consider the fact that the average BC Hydro bill for tenants is \$20 to realize it is a highly efficient and comfortable building, and these low energy bills provide serious cost savings for people.

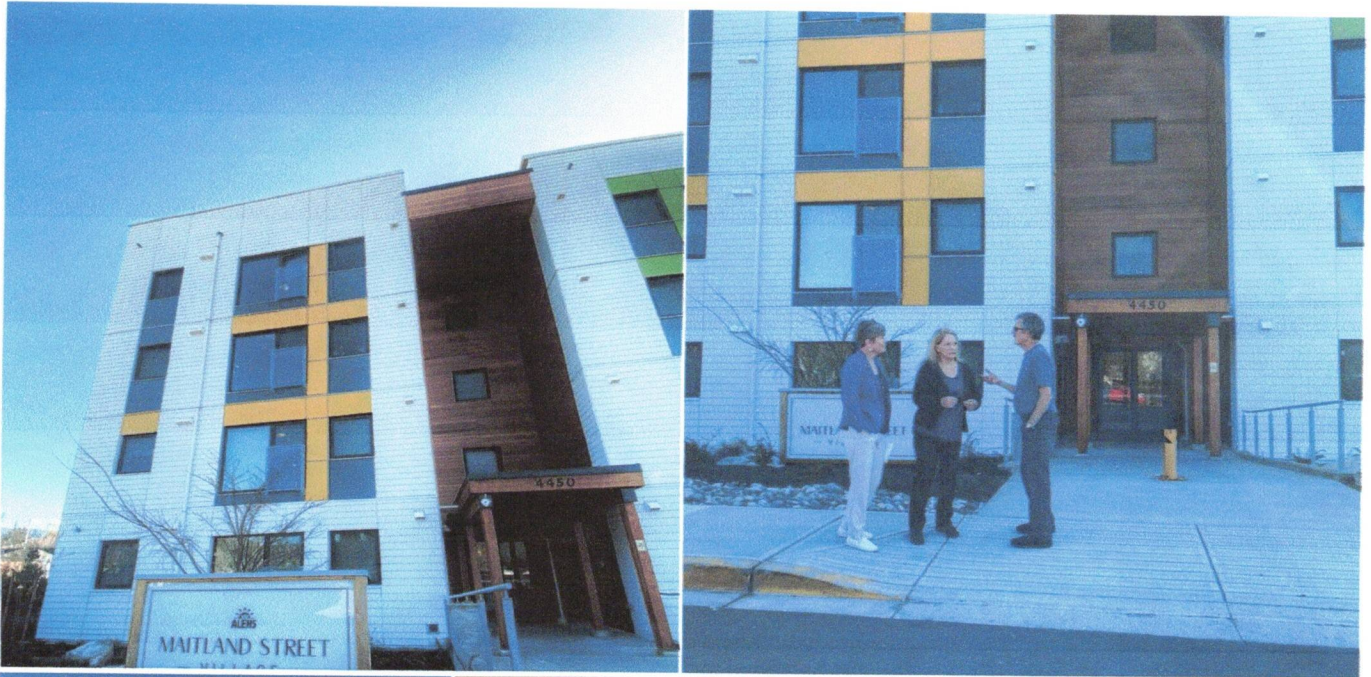
How did they do it? A highly efficient building design with careful material selection - like triple glazed windows and window overhangs, high-performance roof and exterior insulation, and an efficient HVAC system. Each unit is heated and cooled with mini-split heat pumps, and the building is ready for future solar power conversion.

Outside, the parking lot has two EV chargers and is pre-wired for more, and all water runoff from the parking lot is filtered through a bioswale before entering the City's storm water system.

It is inspiring to see how energy efficiency and affordability can be combined, and it's clear these 46 homes means a lot to the people who live there. The highlight of my visit was meeting many tenants (it's a busy place on a Friday afternoon!), one of whom moved in last year, and described to me how being part of the building's community has literally changed his life.

Amazing to see these homes - 46 of the 470 new homes that the Province has been able to deliver in Port Alberni since we formed government in 2017. More evidence that Port Alberni is indeed a "YIMBY" town!





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**Cathy Hunsbedt Burgess**

Josie please stop adding EV charger, you are a SMART WOMEN ,we need someone who stands up and says stop with solar, it is not green and we know that electric cars, well you know.

16h Like Reply 4



**K Marie Swanson**

I feel very blessed to live in one of these units with my husband and our son

3h Like Reply