



## Invitation to the *International Collaborative Housing Conference* Stockholm, 5-9 May 2010

The last 20 years have seen a growing interest in cohousing and other alternative forms of living in Sweden as well as internationally. The search for a sense of community remains an important driving force behind demands for cohousing. During the last ten years new aspects have been added, such as housing for the “second half of life” and planning for more sustainable lifestyles.

Collaborative housing networks in a number of countries have taken an interest in the Swedish cohousing model, which is characterized by a strong involvement by municipal housing companies and by political initiatives combined with efforts from independent non-government organizations. The fact that these companies offer rental housing means that cohousing is accessible also to low-income households such as single parents and poor retired people.

Towards this background, the association *Kollektivhus NU* (Co-housing NOW) in collaboration with the Division of Urban and Regional Studies of The Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) is happy to convene an international conference on collaborative housing, to take place in **Stockholm 5-9 May 2010**. The conference will provide a forum for researchers, housing companies, politicians and activists to meet and discuss experiences of different models of collaborative living. The conference is intended to give an overview of current international praxis and knowledge and to strengthen existing international cooperation.

### Venue

The conference will take place at the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), Stockholm.

### Program schedule

Wed 5 May	Thur 6 May	Fri 7 May	Sat 8 May	Sun 9 May
Arrival  Registration	Study tours to cohousing units	Welcome address	Keynote lectures	Workshop reports
		Keynote lectures		Keynote lectures
		Keynote lectures	Keynote lectures	Summary Closing session
	Lunch en route	Lunch + mingle	Lunch + mingle	
Study tours to cohousing units	Study tours to cohousing units	Parallel workshops	Parallel workshops	
Dinner in selected co-housing units	Dinner in selected co-housing units	Exhibitions, poster sessions	Exhibitions, poster sessions	
		Reception	Joint conference dinner	

The conference will be documented in a report to be disseminated electronically. It will consist of keynote lectures and conclusions from workshops. After the conference, additional study visits to co-

housing units and eco-villages in West Sweden, Scania and Denmark will be offered to interested participants.

### **Keynote speakers:**

*Göran Cars*, Professor, Urban Planning, the Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm

*Tarja Cronberg*, Finnish researcher on “the new everyday life”

*Charles Durrett*, McCamant & Durrett Architects, The Cohousing Co, USA

*Graham Meltzer*, Dr, Findhorn Foundation, Scotland

*Inga-Lisa Sangregorio*, publicist and member of the research group ‘Living in Community’

*Kosha Anja Joubert*, President of Global Ecovillage Network - Europe

*Margarethe Kähler*, Director of Aeldresagen, Denmark

*Eva Sandstedt*, Assoc Prof, the Institute for Housing and Urban Research, Uppsala

*Bertil Egerö*, Assoc Prof, Dept of Sociology, University of Lund, activist in Kollektivhus NU

*Kerstin Kärnekull*, architect and activist in *Kollektivhus NU*

*Dick Urban Vestbro*, Prof, Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm and Chair of *Kollektivhus NU*

### **Proposed workshops**

Participants are invited to take part in two different workshops during the conference. Each workshop will have a moderator and a secretary, who are to manage the workshop and make sure that the deliberations are well documented. The following workshops are proposed.

1. *Demands for collaborative housing in the future*
2. *From "wishful thinking" to final cohousing unit, the steering and planning process*
3. *Shared meals – the hub of cohousing and how to strengthen it*
4. *Design of cohousing units; technical issues*
5. *Strategies for mobilisation and recruitment*
6. *Children and youth in cohousing*
7. *Senior Cohousing*
8. *Gender, cohousing and quality of life*
9. *Conflicts in cohousing, and antidotes*
10. *Saving by sharing, how to promote sustainable lifestyles*
11. *Self-administration in tenant projects*
12. *Initiatives from below – the role of civil society*
13. *Ownership/tenure, economy, legal issues*
14. *The role of housing companies, public/private partnership*
15. *How to finance cohousing*
16. *Promoting international cooperation*
17. *Multiple ways to do cohousing: concepts from around the world*

### **Registration**

Registration for the conference is to be made **before 1 March 2010**. For instructions, see website. Recommendations for accommodation and invitations to workshops will be sent out upon registration.

### **Conference fee**

The conference fee is **Eur 200**. This includes access to all keynote lectures and workshops, snacks in coffee breaks, lunches, a reception, and a conference package. The dinner Saturday night and the study tours are to be paid separately. For payment details and further information, see the website of *Kollektivhus NU*, <http://www.kollektivhus.nu/eng/index.html>.

### **Address**

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