



## Alternative Housing Frameworks

*There were several home matching/ homestay services that we discovered in our research, many of which may work for your personal accommodation opportunity, and we encourage you to visit the website links provided to discover more detail about each organization's services. Although we are providing these resources to the public it is up to you as an individual to conduct your own due diligence to ensure that any framework, housing or otherwise, conforms with your particular jurisdiction(s) whether that be the CRD, municipality, the Islands Trust, or any other governing body.*

### [Happipad](#)

- Offers support & resources throughout the arrangement to help with concerns & conflicts
- Rental contracts (to establish terms, conditions & house rules)
- Payment processing through online pay portal

*ID verification and international background screening for Hosts & Guests*

*Guests get to choose the length of rental term that they want, depending on the availability of the room. Stay a few months or a few years.*

### **HOST**

Industry-leading background checks and identity verification ensure a safe, secure rental experience for both Host & Guest.

### **Includes**

- **contract creation**
- **rental applications**
- **automatic rent transfer**
- **booking calendar**

### **Unlimited room listings & messaging**

List as many rooms as available.

Connect with renters in the area through an interactive messaging platform

### **Compatibility matching with guests.**

Personality assessments and profile matching

### **Receive unlimited guest applications**

**Access to Guest screening reports**

*\*Hosts must provide accommodation fully furnished and include utilities; however, food is not normally provided.*

## **GUEST**

Services included rental fee

- **Detailed Profiles** - Compare lifestyle, personality assessment & habits
- **Rent Contract Generator** - legal contracts
- **Security** - Hosts screened & verified
- **Rent & Deposit Payments** - online payment options & deposit returns
- **Support Services** - professional support if conflicts or disputes arise
- **Damage Claims** - simple facilitation of damage claims from your stay

## **Companion Housing Option for Older Adults**

Housing companions are responsible and healthy older adults looking for a home they can share and help contribute. Join as a homeowner or as a renter to meet others wanting to form a companion home.

### **Eligibility**

Home providers: Families, couples, or individuals with a stable home and a spare bedroom or in-law suite

Housing companions: 55+, healthy and independent, comfortable sharing and helping around the home.

*Note: All housing companions must pass a background and criminal record check.*

## **HOMESTAYS**

*On the first view of the website and documents, this program seems geared a bit more to tourism/student stays, although they do suggest long-term stay opportunities are available. (Limited location destinations listed on the website)*

### **Affiliate Program**

- No cost to join
- An opportunity to gain up to 30% commissions based on booking volume and performance revenue
- Ease of online integration with already existing website
- Experienced team to answer queries related to bookings
- Reporting and tracking
- Partner support to optimize online conversion

**This model would work well with:**

Travel Websites  
Blogs  
Meta Search Sites  
Education Partners  
Study Abroad Sites  
Destination Guides  
Gap Year Websites  
OTAs  
Universities  
Agents  
Language Schools  
Homestay Providers

**WWOOF** (Worldwide Opportunities on Organic Farms)

WWOOF Canada® is part of the Federation of WWOOF Organizations (FoWO), a worldwide community that promotes organic agriculture and sustainable lifestyles. The program runs in more than 132 countries across the globe.

WWOOFing is a cultural, educational, and non-monetary experience and encourages a partnership based on trust and respect

WWOOFers can provide help to HOSTS with many different activities - gardening and making compost, animal care, chopping wood, farm infrastructure maintenance and repair, helping with eco-construction projects, etc. In return they are expected to offer their assistance with daily living as any other house member.

It was clear in our research that there are no security systems in place with this model. The onus is on the HOST or WWOOFer to verify the credibility of either party.

*From the website "WWOOF Canada is a small organization, and unable to screen all host and volunteer applications. You are strongly encouraged to do your own background and reference checks prior to entering into any situation with strangers. There are many resources (some are free) on the internet to help investigate strangers. As with all WWOOF arrangements, be sure to have clear and open communication between all parties before finalizing arrangements. WWOOFing is an amazing opportunity to make new friends, but please take safety issues seriously and contact us immediately if you have any safety issues."*

**Membership Benefits**

Access to the directory of 657 host farms in Canada

**Membership Fee**

The Host Membership price is on a sliding scale between \$20 and \$50.

This membership provides the display of the HOST profile in the directory and access to the online WWOOFer directory for one year

[Young Agrarians Land matching](#) The B.C. Land Matching Program is funded by the Province of British Columbia, with support from Columbia Basin Trust, Cowichan Valley Regional District, Real Estate Foundation of B.C., Bullitt Foundation, and Patagonia.

- Online and searchable inventory of B.C. land opportunities
- Personalized, regional matchmaking services for farmers and landholders, including support to develop land use agreements
- Referrals to business and technical support services
- Educational events and resources to increase knowledge and facilitate matches between new farmers and landholders

### [Senior Home Shares](#)

- an online housemate service specifically for older adults.
- Matching service for elders who have extra room in their homes with elders on a fixed income who are looking for safe, affordable housing
- Online FAQs and help pages. Related links to tools for HOST or GUEST
- Phone support
- Live chat (staffed by experts 55+)
- Email

*A unique dynamic of the program for those registrants who may be uncomfortable with technology - Users may include a "helper" for their account – perhaps a friend or family member – who becomes a co-user, and can assist them with filling out the profile, receiving messages. etc.*

### [Canada HomeShare](#)

Canada HomeShare™ is facilitated by a team of Social Workers who prioritize safety and security. All participants complete a Vulnerable Sector Screening, and all homes undergo safety checks. Social workers provide ongoing support by conducting regular follow-ups and mediation.

In exchange for reduced rent of \$400-\$600 per month, the guest provides up to seven hours of companionship and/or assistance with completing light household tasks, such as preparing and sharing meals, tidying up, carrying groceries, or walking a pet.

There is NO CHARGE for this service to either host or guest (student)

**Host Requirement: 55+**

*Must Haves:* Private bedroom, kitchen, food storage, bath access.

*Optional:* Furnishings, laundry, internet.