Have no fear of the aging process

While I am watching out of the window into my garden with the abundance of flowers, birds and insects my mind wanders off to what the future has to offer when I will retire. Do I like to live alone in my home on a four acres property? How long will I be able to maintain my work with the seniors, animals and my gardens? I would love to see my grandchildren more often, have more freedom in my daily events. Visiting the Maritimes, biking, hiking, and skiing are also high on my bucket list. Volunteering in the community and having a purpose keeps me busy, connected, and healthy.

These are thoughts which come into my mind as I reach the third chapter of my life. There is still so much what life has to offer and to explore. I would love to enjoy the golden years and don't worry about the

next chapter in my life. I will have choices to make in order to feel good for the body. mind and spirit.

To start thinking about my future will give me options regarding my financial needs, my life style, and maintaining healthy relationships. I have come to the conclusion that I would like to share my home developing a respectful







living arrangement with likeminded people. Cooperative living is a creative idea for independent living; fostering friendships, socializing, supporting each other, and enjoying an affordable future. "Thriving better by living together".

We are social beings and living alone is not healthy for most people. Feeling lonely can lead to depression and giving up on life. It is important to engage with life as long as we can; to have friends and family to laugh with and to cry with, to share stories, and to support each other. Wisdom comes with life experience and as we get older our journey becomes more and more interesting.

There is no reason to fear the aging process. In our

senior years we have still so much to offer to others and the younger generation. As long as we recognize our limitations, be honest with ourselves and others. and accept life on life terms.

For more information or sharing your thoughts: Ria van Zeeland

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