

“Dear Coastal Neighbour”

What is Dear Coastal Neighbour?

Dear Coastal Neighbour is a letter-writing initiative that will provide a small, but personal gesture of non-digital connection to those on the Sunshine Coast, many of whom are facing increased isolation, stress, and uncertainty due to the Covid-19 Pandemic. Coast residents of all ages are invited to put pen to paper and share their stories, pictures, poems, and support.

Sunshine Coast Community Services (SCCSS) will deliver the letters to people on the Coast in need of some extra joy in their lives right now.

Through connection, we can fight isolation together!

How do I participate?

Follow these 3 simple steps:

1. **Create a letter, drawing, poem, or other handwritten communication.** Feel free to use our *Dear Coastal Neighbour* template or use your own paper and layout.

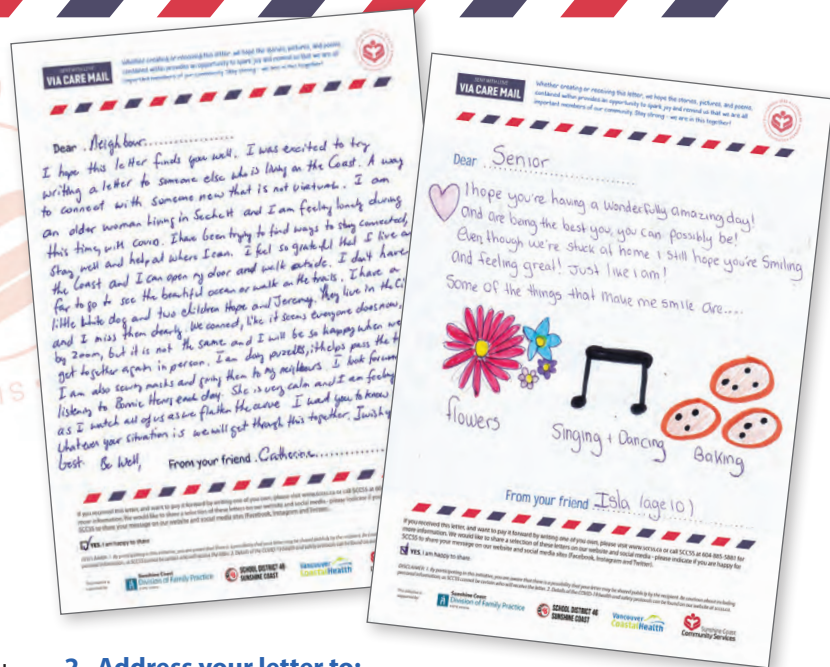
Not sure who to write to? You can focus your letter on a specific group you feel compelled to communicate with. For example:

- Seniors
- Frontline Workers
- Children & Youth
- New Mums

Or, just write a general letter to *Dear Neighbour* - the choice and opportunity are yours!

A few things to keep in mind are:

- a. Be kind and thoughtful
- b. Try to use legible handwriting
- c. Be creative



2. Address your letter to:

Dear Coastal Neighbour
Box 1069
Sechelt BC V0N 3A0

If your letter is for a specific group, please indicate so on the outside of your letter (E.g. *Dear Coastal Neighbour - Health Care Worker*).

3. a) Put your unstamped letter into one of the Dear Coastal Neighbour mailboxes at one of the following community drop-off locations:

- **Gibsons IGA** – 1100 Gibsons Way, Gibsons
- **Persephone Brewing Company** – 1053 Stewart, Gibsons
- **The Gumboot Restaurant** – 1041 Roberts Creek Road, Roberts Creek
- **Sunshine Coast Community Services Society** – 5638 Inlet Avenue, Sechelt

SCCSS will collect letters ahead of community distribution.

b) Put a stamped letter into the regular mail. All letters will be delivered to SCCSS, where they will be prepared for community delivery.

4. **Sit back and feel good!** Your special letter will be delivered to a lucky recipient on the Coast in the near future.

Do you know somebody who would like to receive a letter?

Please get in touch and let us know! Call us on 604-885-5881 or email reception@sccss.ca with *Dear Coastal Neighbour* in the subject line and we will do our best to get them a letter. For more information about this community initiative and to download our toolkit visit our website at sccss.ca

DISCLAIMER: 1. By participating in this initiative, you are aware that there is a possibility that your letter may be shared publicly by the recipient. Be cautious about including personal information, as SCCSS cannot be certain who will receive the letter. 2. Details of the COVID-19 health and safety protocols can be found on our website at sccss.ca.

This initiative is supported by:



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Not sure what to write? Here's a few samples to spark your imagination!

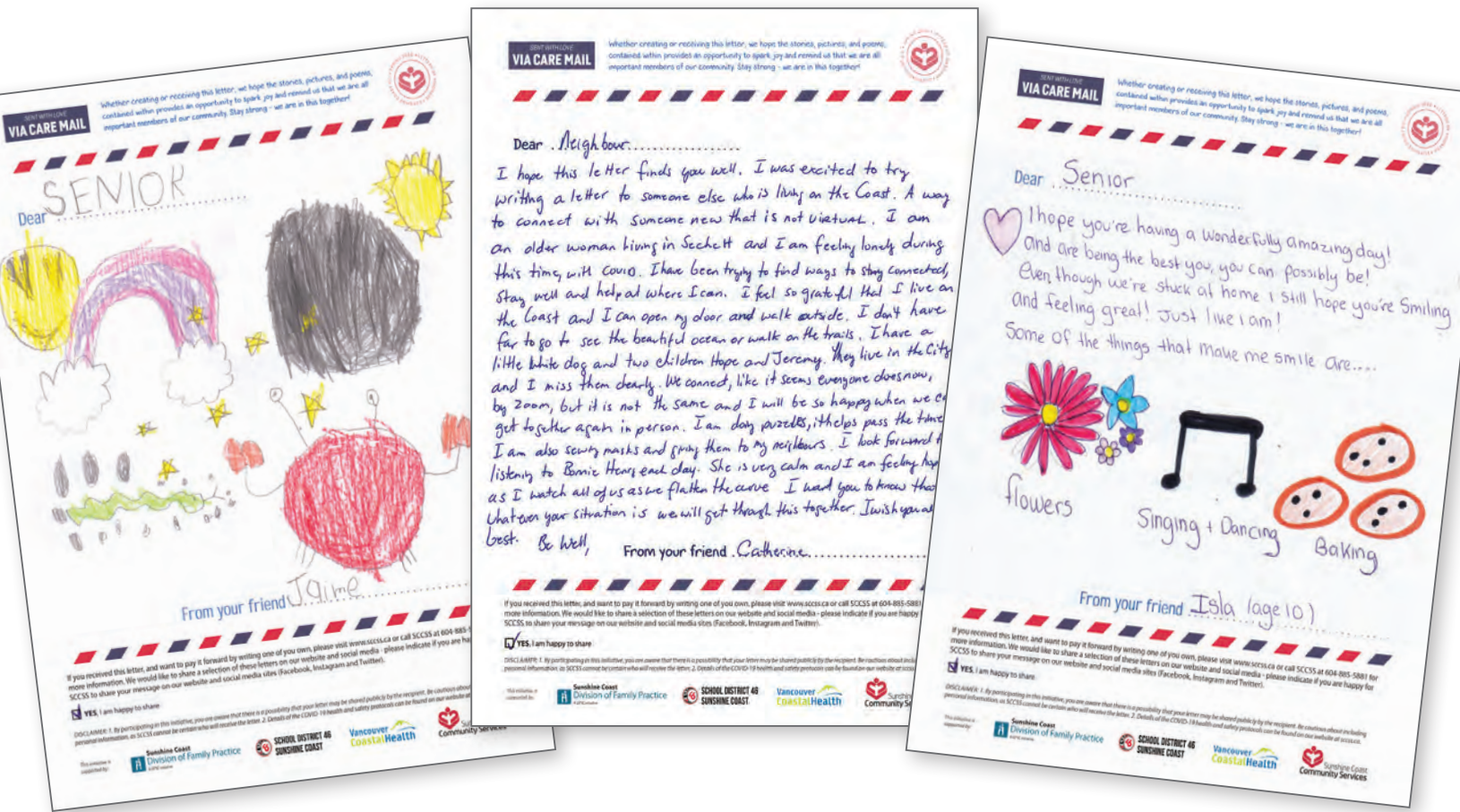
A few things to keep in mind are:

- Be kind and thoughtful
- Try to use legible handwriting
- Be creative and most of all - have fun!

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SENT WITH LOVE
VIA CARE MAIL

Whether creating or receiving this letter, we hope the stories, pictures, and poems, contained within provides an opportunity to spark joy and remind us that we are all important members of our community. Stay strong - we are in this together!



Dear

From your friend



If you received this letter, and want to pay it forward by writing one of you own, please visit www.sccss.ca or call SCCSS at 604-885-5881 for more information. We would like to share a selection of these letters on our website and social media - please indicate if you are happy for SCCSS to share your message on our website and social media sites (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter).

YES, I am happy to share

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