

Let's Talk Housing:

Although this article relates to my submission to the Canadian government as part of their housing consultancy initiative, many countries are facing similar situations. It is my hope that this commentary will

be seen as a contribution to the discussion of ways and means available to encourage effective and timely "visitor" student development in conjunction with seniors' well-being.



G⁴Habitat

**An Educultural
Student Homestay & Seniors' Home**

Summary:

We have a tendency to think of housing as a single purpose accommodation. But the reality is that housing is multi-use, with doctors' private practice offices and SoHos being the first publicly visible, but not the only indicators of this trend.

S.E.I's G4Habitat is a pilot project proposal to research two phenomenons in today's societies, that of "visitor" student needs versus traditional offered services, and seniors' valorization and well-being. S.E.I's research clearly shows a strong relationship between students' lives and the impact of a seniors' presence, something that is not currently provided in most "developed" countries on a scale other than in close-nit family environments. We will prove the benefits of such an intergenerational environment, specifically for students living away from home, whether domestic or international in origin, as well as seniors wishing to continue contributing to society, but from a secure sharing environment that also includes luxurious amenities that they could not afford on their own, all at an easily affordable price.

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Commentary:

S.E.I's and others' research on the links between educational and cultural "preferences" shows that there is a very close relationship between students and their family elders that has a direct impact on these students' growth, whether academic, personal development or social behaviour, and on the well-being of the involved seniors. Regrettably, developed cultures have "evolved" to the point where they "put aside" their seniors as so much "useless" cohorts.

S.E.I's G4Habitat is a pilot project proposal to research this phenomenon in depth and prove that we can rectify that situation, specifically by providing a living environment that facilitates both a seniors' and students' intergenerational participation.

S.E.I's G4Habitat is a pilot project proposal to research the phenomenon of "visitor" students', whether domestic or international in origin, needs versus traditional offered services. S.E.I's research clearly shows a strong relationship between students' lives and the impact of a seniors' presence, something that is not currently provided in western markets. We will prove the benefits of such an intergenerational environment, specifically for these visitors wishing to ensure a successful education, as well as seniors wishing to continue contributing to society, but from a secure sharing environment that also includes luxurious amenities that they could not afford on their own, all at an easily affordable price.

S.E.I's G4Habitat will eventually serve as a model for other seniors' housing projects by showcasing the health, both mental and physical, and emotional benefits of participation in a quality environment that is not only intergenerational in nature, but also emphasizes activities, and valorization, worthy of their efforts... proving that they are not a "useless" cohort, but rather a "fountain of knowledge and experience".

The G4Habitat is part of the 3rd phase of S.E.I's research into this phenomenon. It will be a follow-up to our Chairman's personal involvement in our 2nd phase "Educultural Family Homestay" initiative (reference: www.educultural.institute/en/efh_en.htm) and a precursor to a 4th phase, a major project titled "Villa Alfred Xavier" (reference: villas3wave.starlight.ca/villa_ax_e.htm) that will see the building of a self-sustaining environment that provides not only affordable housing for seniors, but will also incorporate numerous aspects and activities not currently offered in senior's housing.

The G4Habitat will welcome some 20 to 40 students as well as 10 to 20 seniors. Its services and activities will promote interaction between the 2 cohorts as well as other partnering generations.

The first G4Habitat is planned to be built in the Ottawa Region in Canada.

Dr. J.L. St-Arnaud
Chairman

Founded in 2015 and based in HongKong, the Starlight Educultural Institute advocates a truly caring Global Village Mindset (GVM) by promoting "Global Village" activities through educational & cultural research.

S.E.I 's philosophy is simple:

Look at the world not just as it is, but also as how you want it to be, then make it so.

