Monthly Newsletter

PROMESSE PUBLICATIONS





Your Co-ownership Blueprint – How to Buy a Home with a Partner (That Isn't Your Spouse)

** The Unconventional Key to Homeownership (No Marriage Certificate Required)

Dear Reader,

What if I told you the biggest barrier to homeownership—the down payment—could be cut in half, not by magic, but by partnership?

For years, we've been sold a single story: save, qualify, and buy alone or with a spouse. But for many, especially single women, seniors, and low-to-moderate income earners, that story is a fantasy.

It's time to rewrite the script. Welcome to Co-ownership: The Smart, Strategic Path to Your Sanctuary.

What is Co-ownership, Really? (It's Not Just for Couples)

Co-ownership is a formal, legal agreement where two or more people jointly purchase a property. Think of it less like a romantic partnership and more like a business partnership for What to Expect in Future Issues

The Power Of Partnership

Hidden Programs That Can Help

Negotiation Secrets

Reader Spotlights

Q&A Deep Dives housing. Your business? Creating a safe, stable, and affordable home.

Your Potential Co-owner Could Be:

- · A family member (a sibling, an adult child)
- · A trusted friend
- · Another single parent in a similar situation
- · An investor partner

The 5-Part Blueprint to a Successful Co-ownership

Before you start browsing listings with a friend, you need a rock-solid foundation. Here's your blueprint.

- 1. The Partnership Pact: Choose Your Person Wisely This is the most important step. This isn't just about who you like; it's about shared goals and financial habits.
- · Ask the hard questions upfront: What are our 5-year and 10-year plans? What happens if one of us wants to sell? How will we handle monthly bills and unexpected repairs?
- · Get financially naked: Run credit checks for each other. Be transparent about debt, income, and savings. Surprises are for birthdays, not mortgages.
- **2.** The Legal Backbone: The Co-ownership Agreement This is non-negotiable. A handshake won't cut it. You need a legally binding document, drafted by a real estate lawyer or notary (in Québec), that covers:
- · Financial Contributions: Who pays what, and when? (Down payment, mortgage, taxes, repairs).
- Exit Strategies: What happens if someone wants out, can't pay, passes away, or gets a job offer in another city? (Hint: Include a "right of first refusal" so the other co-owner gets the first chance to buy the share).
- Dispute Resolution: How will you handle disagreements without destroying the partnership?
- 3. The Mortgage Maze: How to Qualify Together: Lenders will assess both of your financial profiles.
 - The Good: Your combined incomes may qualify you for a larger mortgage than you could get alone.
 - The Consideration: Both of your credit scores and debts will be taken into account. Work with a mortgage broker who has experience with co-ownership applications.
- **4. The "Living Agreement":** The Day-to-Day Rules How will you share the space? This is especially important if you'll both be living there.
- · Create a simple agreement on quiet hours, guest policies, cleaning schedules, and shared grocery costs.
 · Pro Tip: Open a joint bank account just for housing expenses. Each person contributes their share monthly, and all bills are paid from this account.
 - **5. The Future-Proofing Plan, Life happens.** The best agreements are designed to be flexible.
 - · Schedule an annual "State of the Union" meeting to discuss the partnership, the property, and your lives.
 · Revisit your agreement every few years to ensure it still works for everyone.

A Story from the Dreaming of Home Community



"After my divorce, I thought I'd be a renter forever. My sister and I, both in our 50s, used a co-ownership agreement to buy a duplex. We live side-by-side, have built incredible equity, and have a built-in support system. The legal agreement gave us the confidence to take the leap. We're not just sisters; we're successful business partners in our own futures." - Marie-Claude, Montreal

Your Next Step: The Co-ownership Conversation Starter

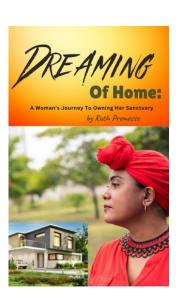
Feeling overwhelmed? Start small. Use this script to broach the topic with a potential partner:

"I've been exploring creative paths to homeownership and came across the concept of co-ownership. It's a formal way for people to buy together, with a legal agreement to protect everyone. It got me thinking about our goals. Would you be open to grabbing a coffee/tea sometime to chat about the idea, no pressure?"

In My Book, Dreaming of Home: A Woman's Journey To Owning Her Sanctuary:

Chapter 5: "Co-Ownership" dives deep into the co-ownership models available in Canada. I break down a real-life co-ownership agreement, clause by clause, so you know exactly what to ask your notary for.

Grab your copy of the book here.



We Want to Hear from You!

What's your biggest question or fear about coownership? Hit reply to this email and let me know. I'll answer the most common questions in a future issue.

Until next time, remember: your sanctuary might not be a solo journey, but a partnership waiting to be formed.

To your home,

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P.S. Know two people who are struggling to buy on their own? Forward this email to them. You might be the one who helps them see a new path.

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