

Our 25th Birthday

©Vera Johnson

C G7 C C7 F G7

The co-op hous-ing pro-gram was born in six ty - eight, And it grew and spread and

Am D7 G C Am F

flour-ished at a most a-maz-ing rate. For its mak-ers had a vi-sion of a world they'd like to

Chorus
C F C G7 C7

see, Of neigh-bours liv-ing side by side in friend-ly a - mi - ty. And now we

F C C7 F Fm C F Fm

cel - e-brate our birth-day, this year we're twen-ty - five, Long years of hope and

Am D7 G7 C Am
strug-gle just to keep that dream a - live And al - though they axed the pro-gram and thought

F C G7 C A7 Dm Fm6
we'd be good as dead. The Co-op Housing Fed-er-ation of Canada is

C Am D7 G7 1,2,3 Cdim Dm7 G7 4 C F C
for ging straight head.

The co-op housing program was born in sixty-eight,
And it grew and spread and flourished at a most amazing rate,
For its makers had a vision of a world they'd like to see,
Of neighbours living side by side in friendly amity. *Chorus*

The things we want are basic: a secure community,
With a mix of age and incomes, and discrimination-free,
With security of tenure, and the members in control,
And co-ops working hand in hand to reach a common goal
Chorus

We want to house the homeless and the ones with special
needs,
Regardless of their colour or their culture or their creeds,
And to educate our members in the not-for-profit way,
To say with Rochdale pioneers, "The co-op's here to stay."
Chorus

We're looking for the future, we must devise a plan
For the funding of more co-ops, and we know we surely can;
We have roots in ev'ry province, we're a movement
countrywide,
The voice of Co-op Canada will be our trusty guide. *Chorus*

Chorus:

And now we celebrate our birthday,
This year we're twenty-five,
Long years of hope and struggle
Just to keep that dream alive,
And although they axed the program
And thought we'd be good as dead,
The Co-op Housing Federation of Canada
Is forging straight ahead.

A recent song from Vera, testimony to one of her major current activities.