

# Robin Allison

B. Architecture

## Developing sustainable community



Robin Allison was the initiator and Development Co-ordinator of Earthsong Eco-Neighbourhood, an innovative community-based cohousing development of 32 homes and common facilities in Auckland, New Zealand. Earthsong combines leading-edge sustainable design with healthy connected community, and is an inspiring example of what can be achieved by a group of motivated citizens working together to build a neighbourhood that is both socially and environmentally sustainable.

Earthsong Eco-Neighbourhood is recognised internationally as a model of a thriving sustainable neighbourhood, and was a finalist in 2009 in both the World Habitat Awards and UN Habitat Awards.

Robin is a Fellow of the New Zealand Social Entrepreneur Fellowship. In 2008 she travelled to the US, UK, Germany and Denmark on a Winston Churchill Fellowship to study sustainable community and town centre regeneration projects.

Robin now lectures, writes and runs workshops based on her experience as an eco-architect and the driver of the development process of Earthsong, including tools for group effectiveness and community governance, project planning and development issues, and designing for community cohesion and environmental sustainability.



Robin Allison  
Earthsong Eco-Neighbourhood  
P.O. Box 70001, Ranui,  
Auckland 0655, New Zealand  
Phone +649 833 7784  
Cell 021 055 4067  
[robin.allison@earthsong.org.nz](mailto:robin.allison@earthsong.org.nz)  
[www.robinallison.co.nz](http://www.robinallison.co.nz)  
[www.earthsong.org.nz](http://www.earthsong.org.nz)

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