

# Jean Crowder, MP

Nanaimo – Cowichan



April 14, 2010

Brenda Fowler, Chair Gabriola Health Care Society PO Box 295 Gabriola Island, BC V0R 1X0

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing this letter of support for the Gabriola Health Care Foundation's plans to construct a permanent, community-owned urgent health care facility on Gabriola Island.

Gabriola Island is in need of a new health care facility because the existing facility is too small and can no longer meet the needs of Gabriola's growing and aging community. The proposal for a new health care facility has considerable community support as was evidenced through the recent Aviva Community national fund-raising competition – the project made it to the list of 25 finalists out of an initial 2,007 entries.

I am pleased to offer my support for this worthwhile project. If you have any questions, please contact Alistair MacGregor in my office at 250-746-2352.

Sincerely,

Jean Crowder, MP Nanaimo-Cowichan

JC/am CEP 232

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Province of British Columbia Legislative Assembly



Leonard Krog, MLA (Nanaimo)

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January 23rd, 2007

Mr. Harvey Graham Gabriola Health Care Society Box 269 Gabriola Island, BC VOR 1XO

Dear Mr. Graham,

Thank you so much for your kind letter of January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2007. I was delighted with the quality of the presentation and thrilled with the turn out. I have every confidence that the goal will in time be achieved and anything I can do to help, I will do. Please feel free to post this and any correspondence I send you on your web site and advise that as the MLA for the area, I am in complete support of everything the Gabriola Health Care Society is doing to achieve this worthy public goal. I look forward to continuing to work with all of you.

Yours truly,

LEONARD KROG, MLA

NEW DEMOCRAT OFFICIAL OPPOSITION

NANAIMO

LK/pc

## Gabriola Seniors Citizens Association 695 North Road, Gabriola

To whom it may concern:

The Gabriola Seniors Citizens Association is an active Gabriola Island organization with approx. 150 members. We provide guidance to running the Rollo Seniors' Centre: a social meeting place for Gabriola Seniors and others.

Since the idea was first raised, the Gabriola Seniors Citizens have enthusiastically supported the concept of having a permanent, centralized emergency and after hours medical treatment facility on the island. A facility where urgent medical care can be obtained without having to go on a ferry to Nanaimo(or, sometimes, in a small open boat in the middle of the night when the ferry isn't running) would be of tremendous benefit for our members, many of whom are quite elderly.

We have a growing community on Gabriola, not only of seniors, but permanent residents. As a scenic artistic island, our population nearly doubles in the summer with part time residents, as well as casual visitors. All of these may need medical care, sometimes on an emergency basis.

The Gabriola Seniors Citizens Association heartily supports the application by the Gabriola Health Care Foundation for a grant towards establishing a permanent health care facility on Gabriola Island. We hope that this grant request is approved; due to our age we sincerely hope that the clinic can be built sooner rather later.

Yours sincerely,

Board Members dated February 21, 2010



## Gabriola Ambulance Society P.O. Box 162, Gabriola, BC VOR 1X0

February 17, 2010

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to support the application for a grant, which would help establish a permanent health care facility on Gabriola Island.

The Gabriola Ambulance Society is an organization with 500+ members, who represent approximately 25% of the population of Gabriola Island. Members come from all walks of life, all ages and all socio-economic levels. Our Society provides support for members who need short-term loans of medical equipment, and if members use the BC Ambulance Service, we pay that fee. We also provide an allowance to cover 20 hours of home help once annually if required as determined by a licensed physician.

The Ambulance Society has been very pleased with the service provided by the present, onisland emergency facility. The Society strongly supports the efforts of the Gabriola Health Care Foundation in securing funding for a permanent site for a medical clinic as we believe such a structure will enhance the community's ability to recruit and retain physicians, which has been a serious and long-standing problem.

Please contact us by email at gabriolaambulancesociety@shaw.ca or by telephone to 250-247-9882 if anything further is needed.

Sincerely,

Bev Godfrey

Director



## People for a Healthy Community Gabriola Society

Box 325, 675 North Road, Gabriola BC VOR 1X0 P: 250.247.7311 E: info@phc-gabriola.org www.phc-gabriola.org

February 10, 2010

To whom it may concern:

People for a Healthy Community is an island based organization that works to support the health and well being of our community: children, families and individuals on Gabriola. We actively pursue the vision of a community where the basic needs of safety, health, shelter, food security and connection are met.

Our clients include seniors, people with disabilities, young families, single parents and people with mental illness and addiction issues. Our programs include a food bank, Christmas bureau, community garden projects, employment counseling, affordable housing research & development and advocacy support.

We are very concerned about improving access to local medical services for our clients in a centralized health care facility on the Island, instead of trying to get our clients to programs on Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland. We are especially concerned about the provision of emergency care and mental health and addictions care.

People for a Healthy Community strongly supports the Gabriola Health Care Foundation in its goal of providing a health care facility on Gabriola Island. We believe a centralized health care facility that houses all these programs is vital to the future care of our growing population.

It is our fervent hope that the application by Gabriola Health Care Foundation for a grant towards establishing a permanent health care facility on Gabriola Island will be met with approval.

Sincerely,

Kathryn Molloy Executive Director



5 – 377 Berry Point Rd. Box 249, Gabriola, BC V0R 1X0

Phone/Fax: 250-247-9332 Toll Free: 1-888-284-9332

E-mail: info@gabriolaisland.org
Web: www.gabriolaisland.org

February 11, 2010

#### To whom it may concern:

The Gabriola Chamber of Commerce has 105 professional members representing many aspects of our business community. Our numbers have increased significantly in past years as a result of Gabriola's growing population, which continues to grow, particularly amongst retirees. With efforts being made by the community to develop more affordable housing we suspect this growth rate will continue. Families with small children are also relocating here at similar rates.

A quiet rural island in the off season, Gabriola's population of 5,000 can swell to 10,000 during the summer months and on long weekends year round. During these times our health care needs escalate and the absence of a centralized medical facility becomes even more pronounced.

The Gabriola Chamber of Commerce wholeheartedly supports the Gabriola Health Care Foundation in its goal of improving health care, particularly emergency health care, for the residents of Gabriola. A centralized medical facility and emergency treatment room that provides long-term solutions to the health care needs of Gabriola's population can only enhance the attraction of living and working in this community.

It is safe to say that all of our members have already and will continue to enthusiastically participate in fund-raising ventures in support of this endeavour. We hope that the application by Gabriola Health Care Foundation for a grant towards establishing a permanent health care facility here will be favorably received.

Yours sincerely,

Ken Wur, President

Gabriola Island Chamber of Commerce



# **Gabriola Lions Club**

P.O. Box 261 Gabriola, BC VOR 1X0



February 20, 2010

To whom it may concern,

The Lions Club of Gabriola, with <u>29</u> members, is a very active and integral part of the social and life programs that enhance the experience of living on Gabriola Island. The population of this dynamic and thriving community, comprised of singles, families and a large percentage of retirees is rapidly growing and we need services to keep pace with that growth.

The Lions Club enthusiastically supports the application by the Gabriola Health Care Foundation, GHCS, for a grant to build and operate a centralized health care centre for both residents and visitors to Gabriola Island. In our opinion, a proper medical clinic for all residents and visitors to the Island is one of the single most important requirements for the improvement of our community. This is especially important to seniors who are often forced to leave their homes to be near facilities not currently available on Gabriola.

The Gabriola Lions Club has been in existence for over 25 years. It has supported a large number of causes over that time including the students and programs of the Gabriola Elementary School, the Gabriola Public Library, Christmas dinners for the needy, the Boy Scouts & Girl Guides, and the Arts. Our major support however is for various forms of health care including the provision of medical equipment such as wheelchairs for the disabled and hearing aids for seniors. Financing is also offered to the Canadian Diabetes Foundation, the MS Society, BC Childrens' Hospital, Nanaimo General Hospital, and many others. The Lions Club was also instrumental in construction of the Island's main seniors' residence.

For the last few years the Gabriola Lions have supported the concept of the Health Clinic through the provisioning of the Emergency Care Room in the GHCS Clinic. Support to the Health Care Society has now totaled \$50,000 and we will continue to help when we can. The current small Clinic is not adequate for our community but we are thrilled that it has already resulted in the saving of lives and reduced suffering.

The Lions Club expressly hopes that the Gabriola Health Care Foundation application for a grant towards funding a health care centre on Gabriola will be approved.

Yours sincerely,

Taple.

Mike Phillips

Gabriola Lions Club

President: Mike Phillips 247-9045 Secretary: Bill Moisuik 247-9170



**N**EIGHBOURHOOD

**E**MERGENCY

PREPAREDNESS

GABRIOLA ISLAND

Emergency Coordinator Jani Drew

6300 Hammond Bay Rd. Nanaimo, BC V9T 6N2 Phone: 250-390-6526 E-mail: jdrew@rdn.bc.ca www.rdn.bc.ca

NEP on Gabriola Island Susan Marshall, NEP Coordinator

Ph: 250-247-7260 neppessgabriola@shaw.ca www.essgabriola.com

ESS Director Gabriola Nancy Rowan Ph: 250-247-8105

E-mail: nancy.rowan@shaw.ca

June 21, 2010

360 Calderview Place Gabriola, BC V0R 1X2

Sheila Malcolmson Islands Trust 200-1627 Fort St. Victoria BC V8R 1H8

Dear Sheila Malcolmson,

Re: Gabriola Health Care Foundation Subdivision (GHCF) and Rezoning Application

As Director of Emergency Social Services on Gabriola (GESS) I am writing on behalf of our team to support GHCF's to have property rezoned to facilitate the building of a clinic. I understand that this property is on North Road near the ferry doc and close to most of the Islands amenities.

GESS is part of the provincial Emergency Social Services program which provides short-term assistance to British Columbians who are forced to leave their homes because of fire, floods, earthquakes or other emergencies. This assistance includes food, lodging, clothing, emotional support, and family reunification. We carry out our mandate during a disaster by opening a Reception Centre where residents can gather for support, information, limited first aid and can register for services.

Not only is the proposed clinic site ideal for Gabriola residents due to its central location; it is also close to our primary Reception Centre. This centralization of services is ideal during a disaster facilitating cooperation among various emergency responders as well as access to the correct level of service by those in need.

We trust that this application will receive favorable consideration. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Respectfully yours,

Nancy Rowan

Director, Gabriola Emergency Social Services

cc: Ms Brenda Fowler Gabriola Health Care Society

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