



Making a difference...together

Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area
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Community Gaming Grants Branch
PO Box 9892 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9T6

To Whom it may concern:

RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE SOUTHERN GULF ISLANDS NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE GAMING GRANTS

I fully support the Southern Gulf Islands Neighbourhood House Society (SGINH) in their application for the gaming grant. They provide valuable services and programs to the residents of Saturna, Galiano, Mayne, and Pender Islands, focusing on reducing poverty and addressing social needs. The grants they seek cover programs for Seniors, Food Security, Youth, and After School Programs. SGINH is dedicated to building bridges within our island communities and values diversity, inclusion, equity, and belonging.

The senior's program is crucial, as over 62% of the Southern Gulf Islands' population is 55 years or older. This initiative will enhance the well-being and resiliency of the community, addressing the isolation of seniors.

SGINH's food security programs ensure that every community member has access to safe and nutritious food, promoting dignity. All programs include free or low-cost meals.

Their youth programs have been operating for over seven years and cater to the unique needs of young people aged 11 to 29. These programs equip them with leadership and life skills, enhancing employment opportunities in a rural and remote location.

The after-school programs on Pender Island provide essential support to working families, offering care from Monday to Thursday and full-day care on Fridays. This is particularly important as children in School District 64 do not have school on Fridays.

Having worked with SGINH before, I can attest to the quality and impact of their projects. I wholeheartedly support awarding the grant to the SGI Neighbourhood House. Feel free to contact me if you need further assistance.

Yours truly,

Paul Brent
Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area Director, CRD