

Pauline Brazier

From: jacqueline [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, March 23, 2016 10:51 AM
To: George Harris; Kim Stockdill; Laura Busheikin; Robert Kojima; Sandy Pottle
Subject: letter supporting Crystal Mountain rezoning application

I am writing this letter to show my support for the Crystal Mountain Rezoning Proposal.

I am a long term owner and part time resident of Galiano Island. In the past, I was a board member of the Galiano Conservancy. I am fully aware and in support of the Islands Trust Mandate to preserve and protect all land on the gulf islands, in this case, particularly Galiano Island. Currently, I work as an educator in a university.

I have become informed of the Crystal Mountain proposal and have been impressed by the amount of thought, and work that the Crystal Mountain people have put into it, including their consultation with certified professionals.

It clearly meets the mandate to preserve and protect the land. It preserves a mature forest, will not subdivide, and is committed to implementing the recommendations in the Ecosystem-based Land Use Plan. It is completing a Sustainable Forest Management Plan that will be registered by a covenant on the land. Their proposal includes low impact buildings and infrastructure with less square footage than would be allowed under the Heritage Forest Model. The approval of this proposal would create a new zone in the Land Use Bylaws, allowing other innovative proposals to come forth and develop.

It's purpose to "promote the development of the wholesome, clear, interested mind through study, meditation and compassion work" offers benefits to both the individuals involved in Crystal mountain, the local community and the larger public community. It's plan to offer a spiritual retreat center for interested parties is more than a valid use of forest zoned land.

I urge the trustees to move forward with this proposal.

Sincerely,

Dr. Jacqueline Walters

