

**Regina Robinson**

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**From:** Mark Webber [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Saturday, October 29, 2016 1:59 AM  
**To:** Sandy Pottle; George Harris; Laura Busheikin  
**Cc:** Kim Stockdill; Robert Kojima  
**Subject:** Letter of support for Crystal Mountain Society's re-zoning application  
**Attachments:** Letter in support of CMS re-zoning application-Oct 23-2016\_2\_2.pdf; ATT00001.htm



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Hello Galiano Island Trustees,

Attached, please find a letter of support for Crystal Mountain Society's re-zoning application. As you can see, as a neighbour and longstanding participant of CMS, I am very enthusiastic about it.

Sincerely and warm regards,

Mark Webber



Galiano Island,  
BC. V0N 1P0  
Canada



October 23, 2016

To: Local Trust Committee members, Sandy Pottle, George Harris and Laura Busheikin

cc: Kim Stockdill, Robert Kojima

I am a long term neighbour and a resident living [REDACTED] Crystal Mountain Society's retreat property on Galiano Island. I am writing to you to express my profound support for the rezoning proposal presented by Crystal Mountain Society (CMS).

I have been part of CMS and its activities for over thirty years. My first retreat on CMS was in 1982 for a month. It was a wonderful retreat and had a deep and lasting effect for all subsequent retreats and studies. Re-zoning these lands for the purpose of conducting short and long term retreats is so worthwhile to those in retreat, but additionally positive effects to their family, friends, where they live and work and others on Galiano Island. As a teacher of meditation and Buddhist studies for forty years I have seen the evidence of this positive process so many times. And today, there are so many medical studies confirming the positive effects of meditation.

The proposal I have read is without a doubt centred in ecosystem preservation and management. It is in harmony with the Islands Trust preserve and protect mandate and supports the low impact use of forest land.

The CM society has been part of our Island community for decades. By CMS running and supporting isolated contemplative activities, CMS has demonstrated respect for the natural qualities and values of our neighbourhood. I feel that it would also be in the interest of the Society that these environmental values remain unchanged.

As a neighbour, I feel confident that the proposal respects the environment and the neighbouring community, by having licensed professionals conduct studies concerning ecosystem management, water usage and sewage treatment. This proposal respects the environment and our neighbouring community.

This proposal has been shaped with great respect for the OCP and is responsive to the values important to the community.

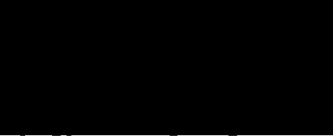
In addition, I am confident and pleased, that when CMS registers a covenant on title, along with the majority of the land being rezoned to the Nature Protection designation, it will provide protection of forest ecosystems for generations to come.

Further, that by drafting bylaws that define site specific designations and limitations as a Health and Wellness zone for the smaller retreat area, it will greatly limit the retreatants effect on the forest .

Finally, this proposal is aware of our sensitivities on Galiano Island. It preserves the character of island life and is an important financial and healthful asset to our Galiano community.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Webber



Galiano Island,  
B.C.

