

**Regina Robinson**

---

**From:** Doug & Elizabeth Latta [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Sunday, November 13, 2016 9:57 PM  
**To:** Kim Stockdill; Robert Kojima  
**Subject:** letter of support for Crystal Mtn. Application

RECEIVED  
NOV 13 2016  
ISLANDS TRUST

I support Crystal Mtn's application. I find many of the arguments against the application to be without merit-- such as -70 cars parked on Divina Drive and that people living along Divina will no longer be able to have their grand children roller skating or playing hop scotch on the pavement.

I see no problem having a retreat centre in this area-- I would welcome the retreat centre near our property. Retreat activities are quiet and non intrusive.

So long as the water and sewage problems have been addressed, with VIHA approval, and I believe they have been, and as long as they have organized a covenant to protect the forest and as long as they have included a donation to affordable housing, I completely support the Crystal Mountain application. This is a learning centre, both of the environment and of the human condition, a healing of the mind.

The economic and social benefits to Galiano go a long way to satisfy the community benefit OCP requirement. We must, of course, protect the OCP and Islands Trust mandate, but we must not allow the fear of change to affect the decisions we make.

The fear that this application will open the flood gates and allow the 'Forest Lot Owners' to get around our OCP and protection of the Islands Trust mandate of Preserve and Protect is unfounded. Each application is judged on its own merits. This application needs to be a divergence from the earlier Forest Lot solutions, since the Crystal Mountain society has a particular need for their forest lot. They are not asking for more permanent housing, no more than a single home could include in terms of square footage of dwelling.

Other forest lot owners are not interested in this type of application. They already have the right to have one large home on their land through a change to F 3 rezoning. Crystal Mountain is not after monetary gain; it is a non profit society.

To turn down the Crystal Mountain application makes no sense to me. We should support our local islanders who are personally involved in Crystal Mountain and whom we can trust to look after the forested areas much better than BC Parks or other far removed agencies which might be granted the right to look after community forest areas.

Thanks for your attention to this matter  
Doug Latta--Galiano Island

COPIED TO

- PLANNER
- LTC
- vcweb