

From: Jacqueline Suzanne <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Tuesday, October 26, 2021 10:12 AM
To: information; SSIIInfo
Subject: Salt Spring Island Daycare closing

Dear Islands Trust Executives and Trustees,

<https://saltspringexchange.com/list/treefrog-daycare-closing/>



TreeFrog Daycare Closing - Salt Spring Exchange

It is with great sadness that we are letting our community know that TreeFrog Daycare has not been able to secure sufficient staff to maintain operations in the foreseeable future, and will be closing its doors indefinitely after November 30, 2021.

saltspringexchange.com

This is the most unfortunate news about one of our Daycares on Salt Spring Island closing due to shortage of qualified ECEs on island that also coincides with the scarcity of affordable housing on Salt Spring and in the province of BC.

Tree Frog has been a staple Daycare on Salt Spring Island for over 25 years where it has raised hundreds if not thousands of Salt Spring Island children over the last two decades.

To have them close, affects so many families all scrambling to find other childcare options which are few or none due to the lack of Daycares/Preschools/Childcare on island. But it not only affects the families, it affects the current employees who work there and most importantly the children who love going there every day. Without adequate Childcare on the island, children will be hindered in their development and socialization skills as their parents try to string together appropriate childcare.

It's wonderful that the CRD approved more childcare programs on the island by adding the new centers at the Rainbow Road Aquatic Centre, The Heron's Nest and the soon to be infant/toddler program to alleviate the shortfall of Childcare on Salt Spring. But who will work at them if there is no qualified Educators or no housing?

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I truly believe that it takes a village to raise a child. As a community and province, we should be striving to keep our Daycare and Childcare centres open to support the employees, young children and families.

Thanks kindly,

Jacqueline Suzanne