

What Should Healthcare on Mayne Island Look Like in 5 years?

That question was put to 30 Mayne Islanders who attended a 3-hour meeting in preparation for the launch of a MIHCA Community Advisory Committee, which is an important piece in our strategic plan. We are very grateful to those generous and thoughtful people who participated.

While we are excited to be actively engaged in recruiting for a new full time Nurse Practitioner as well as an additional primary care physician (see our November MayneLiner article), there is more to be done. This group helped identify many of the enhancements we wish to see on Mayne. A few highlights of the many ideas include:

- Walk-in clinic services;
- Additional mental health care services;
- Additional lab services, to shorten wait times / lessen the need to go 'off island'.
- Preventative dental care;
- Post surgery care;
- Pre and post maternal care.

Equally important are the actions that we, as health care users, take to protect and enhance our own health. This includes being active socially, emotionally, and physically. While there are a great many opportunities on Mayne to be involved (just look at the many articles and advertisements in any issue of the MayneLiner), and the Mayne Island Assisted Living Society volunteers do a great job, there are still those who struggle to be active and involved. A challenge to us all is how to 'find' and engage those who find themselves alone. A challenge to anyone wishing to be more active and involved, is to reach out to a group that interests you and ask how you could be involved with them.

... and what was healthcare like on Mayne in the past?



While we like to focus on the future, our history is important too. If you know where the attached Mayne Island photo was taken and who is in the picture, email admin@mihcaboard.ca We'll draw a name (from those who submit the correct answer) for a prize of a first aid kit. We'll reveal the correct answer in next month's article.

For many people, December is a time for annual giving. If you agree that MIHCA's ongoing work is important, please consider making a donation and/or becoming a member (\$10 individual or \$20 per family annually). We need your support. Visit www.mayneislandhealth.ca and click "Donations and Memberships" near the top right corner of the home page. Or you can send a cheque to MIHCA at #100 – 526 Felix Jack Road, Mayne Island V0N 2J2. Tax receipts are issued for all donations of \$20 or more.

Wishing you good health,
Rob McFarlane on behalf of the Mayne Island Health Centre Association

Other recent news

Recruiting additional medical resources for Mayne Island:

We are pleased to let you know that through the efforts of Dr. Juliana Losier's submission for a workload review of medical resources at the Health Centre, Island Health has approved her application to recruit another Family Physician — as well as the previously approved full time Nurse Practitioner position. While this is great news for our community, recruitment will take time.

In partnership with Dr. Losier, MIHCA has developed a recruitment strategy for both positions, including a video that will be distributed nationally through multiple outlets, organizations and agencies. We'll keep everyone up to date with progress.

November Vaccination Clinics:

Vaccination Clinics for Flu/COVID 19 were held on November 1st, 2nd and 29th. 550 Mayne Island residents rolled up their sleeves! What a turn out. Our thanks to the nursing teams from Island Health's Public Health unit for providing this on-site service to Mayne Islanders.