

## MIHCA Update May 2024

How is recruitment going for an additional family practice physician and full-time nurse practitioner for the Mayne Island health centre? We have placed print ads in professional journals, listings on health professional recruitment sites and have sponsored a booth at an upcoming medical conference in May where Dr. Losier will showcase the family practice at the health centre and beautiful Mayne Island.

We'd like to sincerely thank Mayne Islander Robin Cleator and professional editor Pamela Leier for their extensive time and effort to produce a recruitment video. And a big thank you to Dr. Losier and Colleen Proctor as well!

The recruitment video can be viewed here: <https://tinyurl.com/b3fvxusd>

For more information on the recruitment, check out the MIHCA website under the careers section and feel free to forward the information link to your contacts. It's crucial we continue to actively promote these positions during this time of health human resource shortages. Your help will add to all our efforts.

Until we have the additional health team members joining us on the island, the health team is working very hard to provide as much care and coverage as they can. Our primary care health systems in BC and in Canada have never been under such pressure. Please be patient and kind with the team; they are working very hard.

Not having access to a family practice provider is unnerving when a medical issue arises, especially in a remote setting like ours. What should you do if you need care and don't have a designated family practice provider and can't book an appointment at the health centre? Always call 911 if you have an emergency. But how do you access care for less urgent or preventative health needs?

We have a small group of people working on a project to gather as much access-to-care information as possible. Everything from how to book an online Telus Health medical appointment, arranging a mammogram, ordering routine blood work, or accessing follow-up appointments.

We are calling this comprehensive "how to" guide of tips, work-arounds and options the **Access to Care RoadMap**. We'll launch the first edition at the upcoming Health Fair on May 25th at the Ag Hall. It will be available online as well. We plan to update the RoadMap every three months and have a group of people willing to be contacted for "how to access care" if you need additional help or are unable to book appointments yourself.

We'd also like to hear about your experiences, both good and frustrating, so we can translate them into learned experiences to share with others within the **Access to Care RoadMap**. In the future with additional health team members on the island, perhaps we won't need this guide as

much, but in the meantime, we want to find ways to actively “figure out the system” so people can feel empowered to take care of their health.

Finally, MIHCA has been working with “Wheely Clean” about the possibility of a mobile dental hygienist unit coming to Mayne Island. Would you use this service? To make the option viable for the company, they need to know they would have a minimum number of clients. Let us know you would like this service on Mayne here <https://tinyurl.com/384zki8n>

Abbie Hain, MIHCA