



Sea View Seniors Housing Society • Forest Glen

**Box 833, 1783 St. Jacques Blvd. Ucluelet BC V0R 3A0
forestglen@telus.net P 250-726-2789 F 250-726-2780**

October 7, 2020

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is to affirm our support for the continued designation of the Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere Region, established in 2000.

Our region has worked together for the past decade to advance the objectives of the UNESCO Biosphere Reserve program in our region. As a partner of the Clayoquot Biosphere Trust, our organization has been able to contribute to achieving the objectives of sustainable development, biodiversity conservation and reconciliation, through education, research and collaboration. Sea View Seniors Housing Society Board members and the Forest Glen administrative coordinator have participated extensively in networks to enhance communication and coordination.

The Sea View Seniors Housing Society was formed in July 2000 to build affordable housing for area seniors, enabling them to remain in the community, in familiar surroundings, near family and friends. Forest Glen, which officially opened in October 2006, offers a unique housing opportunity for our seniors, as well as a central meeting place for social and recreational activities. It is managed and operated by volunteer members of the Society, in partnership with BC Housing and Island Health Authority.

Until March 2020 our seniors housing society hosted monthly luncheons attended by 30 to 50 west coast community seniors. These events have given a platform to local service providers and non-profit societies to share their message and recruit volunteers. Speakers included West Coast Community Resource Society, Pacific Rim Arts Society, BC Ambulance and Community Nurse, Ucluelet Catch & Release Aquarium, our MP, Wild Pacific Trail Society, Ucluelet Historical Society, Teens for Seniors Technology. Our new tag line has become "Forest Glen – Seniors volunteering with Seniors". As soon as COVID-19 protocols allow, we will continue this program.



Sea View Seniors Housing Society • Forest Glen

Box 833, 1783 St. Jacques Blvd. Ucluelet BC V0R 3A0
forestglen@telus.net P 250-726-2789 F 250-726-2780

In addition to the Seniors Luncheons, Forest Glen hosted a chair yoga group, a tax, a blood pressure and a flu shot clinic, and two memoir writing workshops. A retired accountant volunteered to prepare tax returns for Forest Glen residents and other locals. The public health nurse administered 48 flu shots to area seniors. The Ucluelet paramedic took chair yogis' blood pressure. The Tofino author Joanna Streetly encouraged 15 Tofino, Ucluelet, and Hitacu budding authors in the art of memoir writing.

Our current project is to establish Forest Glen as an emergency gathering place and warming centre for our area's most vulnerable seniors. This effort has been made possible through a grant from the Emergency Community Support Fund coordinated by the Clayoquot Biosphere Trust. Ucluelet is isolated and vulnerable to extreme weather events and natural disasters. We are working with the Ucluelet Emergency Network in this endeavor.

We appreciate and have benefited from the many ways that CBT supports our west coast communities. We are proud to support the continued Clayoquot Sound UNESCO Biosphere designation, and look forward to participating in the next ten years of activities in our region.

Sincerely,

Diane Harskamp, secretary