

January 28, 2009

City Evaluates VIHA Announcement for Two Hospitals

The announcement of Vancouver Island Health Authority's preferred option to establish two new hospitals, will be evaluated and considered with community input before the City formalizes an opinion, says Mayor Charlie Cornfield.

"This is a first step, and we are cautiously optimistic," Mayor Cornfield emphasized in reaction to a VIHA news release issued January 28 outlining plans to establish two new hospitals, one in Campbell River, one in the Courtenay area.

"We will look to local physicians, the Citizens for Quality Healthcare and the Campbell River Hospital Foundation for their reaction to inform our position," the Mayor explained.

"We are optimistic that working with VIHA and the Regional Hospital District we will find a suitable resolution to meeting the healthcare needs of our community and the North Island region," Mayor Cornfield confirmed.

VIHA has proposed an option that would build a new hospital in a location to be determined in the Comox Valley, replacing St. Joseph's for acute care and adding a variety of specialized services, and a new facility in Campbell River with 20 more beds.

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