

# FROM THE DESK OF THE MAYOR

## Official Community Plan



June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017:

Since August of 2016, the District of Sooke has been conducting a “refresh” of our Official Community Plan (also known as the OCP). A variety of community engagement tools have been used to gather input from members of the public so far, and ongoing feedback by residents is essential to make sure this document meets the needs of our growing community.

The Official Community Plan is our community’s most important planning tool. It provides a broad vision for community development, shaping the way our community looks and feels. In conjunction with more specific development plans and the Zoning Bylaw, the OCP guides land use decisions and provides strategic direction for overall community and specific neighborhood growth.

Municipal staff are gathering feedback on “Land Use Designations” – which are general descriptions of how certain types of lands can be used in the future. Examples include “Rural Neighborhoods” vs. “Neighborhood Infill” – which have varying densities and permitted uses. A draft map outlines where these types of neighborhoods might be permitted to develop.

I would like to encourage all Sooke residents to participate in refreshing our Official Community Plan. There are several ways in which you can provide feedback – visit [www.sooke.ca/plansookenow](http://www.sooke.ca/plansookenow) to learn more.