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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWS RELEASE  
[Sooke, BC]

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### **Proving Partnerships Work Together We Can! Building the Sooke Region Health Care Facility**

Mayor Maja Tait met with officials from Island Health on Friday to further advance plans for a Sooke Region Health Care Facility.

Following a positive meeting with Provincial Health Minister Adrian Dix in late September, Mayor Tait and representatives of the Sooke Region Primary Health Care Services Working Group (PHCSWG) travelled to Victoria to meet with regional health officials.

“Today’s meeting represents another step forward in bringing together all of the stakeholders necessary to make the vision of improved health care a reality for our community”, said Mayor Tait.

Discussions regarding the need for a regional health facility in Sooke have been ongoing for some time, with preliminary plans being drafted as early as 2005. As the chair of the PHCSWG since 2014, Mayor Tait has advocated for a Sooke Region Health Care Facility, and the initiative has continued to gain support.

“Island Health will be working closely with our local working group to create an action plan that outlines preliminary models for a Sooke Region Health Care Facility”, said Mayor Tait. “I am very encouraged by the spirit of collaboration I have seen from both Provincial and Regional officials recently, and the partnerships that are forming are essential to the success of the project”.

As plans for the facility start to take shape, an in-depth analysis of regional health statistics will help to project public demand, and inform planning that will account for future community growth. Community engagement, and opportunities for public feedback will allow for residents to join the discussion and help to form the future of health care in the Sooke Region.

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