

X-RAY SERVICES IN SOOKE

What are the facts?

- West Coast Medical Imaging operates the Sooke x-ray facility. Hours of operation are 9:00 am – 11 am, Wednesday and Thursday.
- The type of x-ray machine that is used at Sooke x-ray is called “analog”. “Digital” technology is preferred by many doctors.
- West Coast Medical Imaging is a private, for-profit company which operates independently of the Health Authority and the West Coast Family Medical Clinic.
- West Coast Medical Imaging operates a number of x-ray facilities including the one located at St. Anthony’s Hospital, 582 Goldstream Avenue. The hours of operation of this facility are 9 am – 5 am Monday to Friday.

Why can’t we have better x-ray facilities in Sooke?

- West Coast Medical Imaging holds a Certificate of Approval to provide x-ray services in Sooke. The Ministry of Health will not issue a new Certificate of Approval while West Coast Medical Imaging is offering services in Sooke.
- Even if West Coast Medical Imaging closed its Sooke facility, the Ministry may not grant another certificate to a new Sooke x-ray facility and may prefer to have only one facility in Langford.
- It is unlikely that West Coast Medical Imaging will close its Sooke facility, or extend its service hours.

Has anyone done anything to address this problem?

- The Mayor has worked with the Primary Health Care Services Working Group, local physicians and the South Island Division of Family Practice to do a major review of the services provided by Sooke X-ray facility. The aim of the review was to see if anything could be done to improve the services or create a new facility in Sooke.
- The study concluded that our hands are tied at the present time, but we will continue to track the issue. If there is any chance of making a change in this area, it will be vigorously pursued.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE MAYOR AT (250) 642-1634