



## Town of Lake Cowichan

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January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025

The Honorable Josie Osborne  
Minister of Health  
PO Box 9050 Stn Prov Govt  
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Honorable Minister:

**RE: Loss of Local Physicians in our Community**

On behalf of the Town of Lake Cowichan, its Council and its residents, I would like to draw attention to our community's dire need for local doctors, physicians and health care providers. We request a meeting with yourself and Ministry staff personnel to begin work on addressing the community's lack of provision of services related to health matters.

With the recent announcement of our local physician Dr. Froese's retirement for March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025 and the departure of Dr. Basily in June, 2025 that is causing a crisis within the Town and outlying communities health care needs. The waitlists are already overburdened and the travel that would be required could be in excess of 40 and 50 kms which would be an onerous burden on the majority of the Town's population which is over the age of 55.

The Town will not have an urgent care and primary care centre and we beseech your Ministry to assist us in finding new physicians as we spoke on this matter earlier this week.

We look forward to some fruitful discussions on this serious health matter that our residents and communities will be facing in the coming weeks and months.

Yours truly,

Mayor Tim McGonigle  
Town of Lake Cowichan

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### OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Mayor Tim McGonigle  
Executive Secretary

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