

September 15, 2025

File: 0220-20

Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC)
New Horizons for Seniors Program – Western Canada and Territories Region
125 East 10th Ave
Vancouver BC V5T 1Z3

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: SOUTHERN GULF ISLANDS NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE SOCIETY – GRANT APPLICATION

As the Southern Gulf Islands Electoral Area Director, I am writing to express my support for the Southern Gulf Islands Neighbourhood House (SGINH) and their application for funding through the New Horizons for Seniors Program.

Living on a small island myself, I see firsthand how easily seniors can become isolated, particularly those with limited income, disabilities, or without nearby family. The Neighbourhood House's proposed project will directly address these challenges by offering:

- **Digital mentoring and workshops** that help seniors build confidence using technology safely and staying connected with friends, family, and essential services.
- **Weekly gatherings** that include hot meals, social activities, exercise opportunities, and creative workshops, fostering health, engagement, and community connection.
- **Zoom-enabled programming** that links seniors across all four Southern Gulf Islands, strengthening bonds and reducing isolation.

What makes this initiative especially meaningful is that it is seniors-led, with youth mentorship and community support. This approach not only ensures dignity and inclusion but also creates a model of sustainability for years to come.

I strongly support this application and believe these programs will bring lasting benefits to seniors across our region. I respectfully urge you to approve this funding so that these vital services can continue to expand and enrich the lives of our community members.

Best regards,



Paul Brent
CRD Electoral Area Director, Southern Gulf Islands