



June 20, 2022

via email: HLTH.Minister@gov.bc.ca

The Honourable Adrian Dix, M.L.A.
Minister of Health
PO Box 9050 Stn Prov Govt
Victoria, BC V8W 9E2

Dear Minister Dix:

Re: Family Physician Crisis

On June 13, 2022, Saanich Council considered a Notice of Motion and resolved as follows:

“That Council:

1. *“Endorse the following resolution from the District of Central Saanich and forward a letter of support to the Union of British Columbia Municipalities.”*

“Whereas British Columbia’s system of family physicians is in crisis and it is estimated that close to one million British Columbians – 20 percent of the population – is without a family doctor and, therefore, without longitudinal care;”

“And whereas many senior citizens, people with chronic health concerns, and those requiring prescription refills and regular health check-ups are without a reliable means of care as doctors leave their practices through retirement and for other health care opportunities, walk-in clinics close, and hospital emergency rooms are overwhelmed;”

“Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to address this crisis with the urgency of any state of emergency and work with Doctors of BC and Divisions of Family Practitioners throughout British Columbia for a solution that will rebuild the family practice system so that citizens of British Columbia can be confident of having a doctor to call their own.”

2. *“Direct Mayor Haynes to write to the Provincial Minister of Health requesting the Minister provide feedback to the District of Saanich on the role that local governments can assist with in addressing the primary care issue.”*

Thank you for your consideration on this matter. A copy of the Notice of Motion is attached for reference. A link to the June 13 meeting minutes can [be found here](#).

Sincerely,



Fred Haynes
Mayor

Encl.

c: Saanich Council
Brent Reems, CAO



Notice of Motion

To: Mayor & Council
From: Mayor Fred Haynes and Councillor Susan Brice
Date: Tuesday, May 24, 2022
Subject: UBCM Resolution Endorsement – Family Physician Crisis

To request Saanich Council to endorse the Notice of Motion from the District of Central Saanich and to forward its support to UBCM:

RESOLUTION FAMILY PHYSICIAN CRISIS

“Whereas British Columbia’s system of family physicians is in crisis and it is estimated that close to one million British Columbians – 20 percent of the population – is without a family doctor and, therefore, without longitudinal care;

And whereas many senior citizens, people with chronic health concerns, and those requiring prescription refills and regular health check-ups are without a reliable means of care as doctors leave their practices through retirement and for other health care opportunities, walk-in clinics close, and hospital emergency rooms are overwhelmed;

Therefore be it resolved that UBCM call on the Province of British Columbia to address this crisis with the urgency of any state of emergency and work with Doctors of BC and Divisions of Family Practitioners throughout British Columbia for a solution that will rebuild the family practice system so that citizens of British Columbia can be confident of having a doctor to call their own.”